

**For Immediate Release 7/16/12**

## **American Academy of Environmental Medicine Recommends Smart Meter Removals**

Smart Meter Opponents Call for PUC & CMP to Cease & Desist Meter Program

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On Saturday the American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM) issued a statement detailing medical conditions and disabilities likely to persist or worsen from exposure to smart meter radiofrequency (RF) radiation and electromagnetic (EMF) fields.

In light of both the AAEM statement and last week's Maine Supreme Court decision that the PUC had not determined smart meters were safe before ordering their statewide deployment, Dianne Wilkins of the Maine Smart Meter Safety Coalition called on CMP to:

"Do the right thing and immediately cease and desist smart meter operations and the charging of associated fees. Utilities have known for years of the ill effects caused by RF exposure, effects that hit hardest our most sensitive populations; children, pregnant women and the disabled", she said. "It's inexcusable for CMP to hide behind a PUC order while harming all Mainers. This is no different than had the PUC ordered CMP to go out and expose all ratepayers to a deadly virus and the utility complied; both parties would be guilty."

In their statement, the Academy specifically targeted smart meters, writing:

*"Because Smart Meters produce Radiofrequency emissions; it is recommended that patients with the above conditions and disabilities be accommodated to protect their health. The AAEM recommends that no Smart Meters be on these patients' homes, that Smart Meters be removed within a reasonable distance of patients' homes depending on the patients' perception and/or symptoms, and that no collection meters be placed near patients' homes depending on patients' perception and/or symptoms."*

Saturday's statement follows a January AAEM letter to the California PUC calling for an immediate moratorium on smart meter installations.

Because of issues such as theft and or sale of personal data, ease of hacking and breaking and entering all facilitated by smart meter data collection, opponents found safety issues inseparable from the constitutional fourth and fifth amendment claims the Maine court refused to address. Despite their partial victory last week, meter opponents thought the Court hypocritical in requiring the PUC to address their statutory mandate to ensure safety while they the Court, avoided their own duty to address the constitutional issues brought forward as part of the appellants complaint. According to the Supreme Court website: "The Court's major job is to decide appeals on *questions of law* that arise in civil actions and criminal trials."

In their decision, the Supreme Court noted since the PUC had never determined the safety of smart meters, the Commission could not deny opt fees might be unreasonable or unjustly discriminatory or that a claim raising these issues should be summarily dismissed. Complainants called on the PUC to schedule full public adjudicated evidentiary hearings on safety and to issue an immediate order staying opt out fees until the matter was resolved.

Lead complainant in the case Ed Friedman said:

“The new American Academy statement is the latest in a skyrocketing body of evidence backing our claims on the acute problems with smart meters. The PUC’s careless actions in refusing to adequately vet meters *before* their deployment have put all Mainers in jeopardy. They got us into this mess and now we call on them to immediately halt the program. With thousands of peer reviewed studies documenting the biological effects of low level **non-thermal** RF there is simply no way the Commission can ensure safety as state law mandates they do. If they continue to hang their hat on inapplicable and obsolete 1996 FCC guidelines for **thermal** radiation exposure, they can kiss any residual ratepayer credibility they might have, goodbye forever.”

\* \* \*

**Based on double-blinded, placebo controlled research in humans, medical conditions and disabilities that would more than likely benefit from avoiding electromagnetic and radiofrequency exposure include, but are not limited to:**

- Neurological conditions such as paresthesias, somnolence, cephalgia, dizziness, unconsciousness, depression.
- Musculoskeletal effects including pain, muscle tightness, spasm, fibrillation.
- Heart disease and vascular effects including arrhythmia, tachycardia, flushing, Edema.
- Pulmonary conditions including chest tightness, dyspnea, decreased pulmonary Function.
- Gastrointestinal conditions including nausea, belching.
- Ocular (burning).
- Oral (pressure in ears, tooth pain).
- Dermal (itching, burning, pain).
- Autonomic nervous system dysfunction (dysautonomia).

**Based on numerous studies showing harmful biological effects from EMF and RF exposure, medical conditions and disabilities that would more than likely benefit from avoiding exposure include, but are not limited to:**

- Neurodegenerative diseases (Parkinson’s Disease, Alzheimer’s Disease, and Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.
- Neurological conditions (Headaches, depression, sleep disruption, fatigue, dizziness, tremors, autonomic nervous system dysfunction, decreased memory, attention deficit disorder, anxiety, visual disruption).
- Fetal abnormalities and pregnancy.
- Genetic defects and cancer.
- Liver disease and genitourinary disease.

**The American Academy of Environmental Medicine was founded in 1965, and is an international association of physicians and other professionals interested in the clinical aspects of humans and their environment.**

**The Academy is interested in expanding the knowledge of interactions between human individuals and their environment, as these may be demonstrated to be reflected in their total health. The AAEM provides research and education in the recognition, treatment and prevention of illnesses induced by exposures to biological and chemical agents encountered in air, food and water.**