

Gwen O'Mahony, MLA

Chilliwack-Hope Constituency Office

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Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly



Gwen O'Mahony, MLA
(Chilliwack-Hope)

January 14, 2013

Hon. Rich Coleman, Minister of Energy, Mines and
Natural Resources, Minister Responsible for Housing

Room 128

Parliament Buildings

Victoria, BC

V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Coleman:

Re: BC Hydro – Smart Meter Installation

I am writing to advise you that my office has been in receipt of a number of emails and letters, in the wake of BC Hydro's January 08 advisory to customers, expressing opposition to the smart meters programme.

We are enclosing the correspondence for your attention, in the hope that you will act on them as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gwen O'Mahony, MLA
Chilliwack-Hope

GO:jw

encl.

cc: Official Opposition critic

MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES	
REFERRAL NUMBER _____	
REFER TO: _____	
DRAFT REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/>
RECEIVED JAN 16 2013	
REMARKS: _____	

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES	
RECEIVED	
FEB 04 2013	
DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE	
LOG# 75535	

Woodroff, Jennifer

From: s.22
Sent: January-10-13 2:20 PM
To: O'Mahony.MLA, Gwen
Subject: Smart Meter Issue



To the all parties concerned;

s.22

s.22 I am someone who enjoys my right to privacy, and the new smart meter that BC Hydro is insisting be installed on my home violates this right to privacy.

The new meter isn't just a Hydro meter. A meter is defined by Websters Dictionary as "one that measures; especially : an official measurer of commodities"

Our current analog hydro meter does exactly that, it measures, and displays usage. The analog meter maintains my right to privacy.

The new digital "smart" meters do more than just measure usage. They also have the ability to transmit data, receive data, as well as meter usage. These meters are Zigbee compliant which opens up a whole spectrum of control as well as violating my right to privacy.

Here a few tiny of examples of what a Zigbee "smart" meter can be used with:

- 1) It can be used with the A&D-UC321 bathroom weight scale, and automatically transmit a person's body weight to a telemedicine access point.
- 2) It can be used with the Continua Certified Pill Dispenser to send compliance data to a telemedicine access point.
- 3) It can be used to shut off my "smart" air conditioner during peak periods of summer for 15 minutes in order for them to resell that surplus of power down to California or elsewhere.
- 4) It can identify when I am home, based on the types of "smart" devices active in my home.
- 5) It can force me to do laundry before 7pm, whenever BC Hydro decides to increase the rate tier during peak periods

Whether BC Hydro plans in it's future to activate these types of controls and advanced monitoring capabilities or not, I do not wish to have the smart meter in my home. I do not want to "hope" they haven't turned on any of these functions without my knowledge or consent.

My relationship to BC Hydro is quite simple. They provide electricity, and I pay for that electricity. They should only be limited to charging me for my consumption of that electricity and nothing more.

They have absolutely no right to install a device capable of violating my right to privacy whether or not the claim that it will be used for that purpose.

Also, California State and other states have implemented a program for people who have opted out of the Smart Meter installation. They are given the option to purchase the old meter for \$99 and then pay a \$10 monthly fee to pay for manual readings. I believe we should be given the same option.

You view these articles here:

BC HYDRO - Legally allowed to refuse?

CTV News

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVte2vDUEA8>

CALIFORNIA

<http://www.pge.com/en/myhome/customerservice/smartmeter/optout/index.page>

MICHIGAN

www.annarbor.com/news/ann-arbor-residents-detroit-edison-smart-meters/

NEVADA

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada agreed to a one-time opt-out fee of \$108 recurring monthly charges of about \$8.

<http://citizenreviewonline.org/proposal-would-lower-smart-meter-opt-out-fee/>

TEXAS

Texas Public Utility Commission approves writing rules for Texas smart meter opt-out

<http://www.dallasnews.com/business/headlines/20121214-public-utility-commission-approves-writing-rules-for-texas-smart-meter-opt-out.ece>

MARYLAND

Maryland's Public Service Commission has decided ratepayers of three utilities can potentially opt-out of installing smart meters

<http://washington.cbslocal.com/2013/01/07/psc-to-conduct-further-hearings-on-smart-meters/>

I therefore reject the new BC Hydro "smart" meter / receiver / transmitter and demand that our elected Government ensure my rights that I am involving are protected.

Thank you for your time.

s.22

BC Hydro
c/o Gary Murphy
6911 Southpoint Drive
Burnaby, B.C., V3N 4X8

COPY

re: BC Hydro Account Number s.22

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Mr. Murphy;

We are in receipt of your letter dated Jan 4, 2013 which claims that you can no longer delay the installation of a new meter at our home.

You are hereby advised that we are refusing installation of the any smart meter on the grounds that it is not simply a meter, but also a receiver and transmitter device that makes use of Zigbee technology.

Any attempt by BC Hydro or persons acting on it's behalf to install a smart meter at our residence without my written authorization will harm my right to privacy. s.22

s.22

If you have a legal right to violate my right to privacy, then please provide written proof of claim within 10 working days after this notice has been received.

Dated at Chilliwack, B.C., this 10th day of January, 2013.

s.22

I certify this to be a true copy of the original document shown to me at the City of Chilliwack, Province of British Columbia, This 10 day of January A.D.. 2013

Reference: BC Hydro Customer # s.22

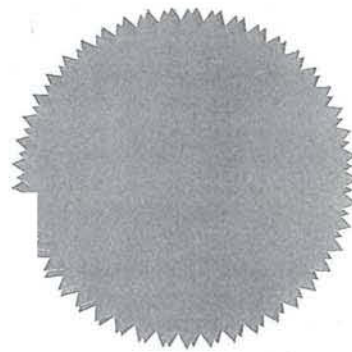
s.22

Cc: John Les, MLA Chilliwack

DECLARED BEFORE ME AT
CITY OF CHILLIWACK
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THIS 10 DAY OF January 2013

s.22



Gwen O'Mahony, MLA

Chilliwack-Hope Constituency Office

101A-8615 Young Road

Chilliwack, B.C. V2P 4P3

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(Chilliwack-Hope)

January 14, 2013

Hon. Rich Coleman, Minister of Energy, Mines and
Natural Resources, Minister Responsible for Housing
Room 128
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Coleman:

Re: BC Hydro – Smart Meter Installation

I am writing to advise you that my office has been in receipt of a number of emails and letters, in the wake of BC Hydro's January 08 advisory to customers, expressing opposition to the smart meters programme.

We are enclosing the correspondence for your attention, in the hope that you will act on them as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gwen O'Mahony, MLA
Chilliwack-Hope

GO:jw

encl.

cc: Official Opposition critic

MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES	
REFERRAL NUMBER	_____
REFER TO:	_____
DRAFT REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/>
RECEIVED	JAN 16 2013
REMARKS:	_____ _____ _____

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES	
RECEIVED	
FEB 04 2013	
DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE	
LOG#	75531

January 10, 2013

Gwen O'Mahoney, MLA
Suite 101a
8615 Young rd
Chilliwack, B.C.



Hello:

I have recently (today) received a letter from Greg Murphy, Chief Project Officer, Smart Metering Program, B.C. Hydro. The letter states that, we as the customer, are responsible for the relocation of our Hydro meter. Our present meter is located inside our home and we do not wish the smart meter placed there (the old meter was inside when we bought the place). We have tried to talk to B.C. Hydro representatives on numerous occasions and have failed to express our concerns about having the smart meter within the house. On many occasions Gary Murphy, B.C. Hydro's Chief Project officer, smart metering program and Greg Reimer, B.C. Hydro's executive vice-president of transmission and distribution have stated that B.C. Hydro will move a customer's meter for them. We have all the news paper articles in which these statements were made and these Hydro representatives are named in them. We would be pleased to supply copies of all these articles.

According a short article of Dec 28, 2012 in the Vancouver Sun news paper, B.C. Hydro has been granted a one year extension to their installation program by the government. I have included the letter I just received from Gary Murphy and my letter to him.

Thank you for your help

Mr. Gary Murphy
Chief Project Officer
Smart Metering Program
PO Box 9530
Stn. Terminal
Vancouver B.C.
V6B 4G8

January 10, 2013

Sir:

Thank you for your reminder of your Smart Meter Installation Program. As you already know from our file s.22 our standard old meter is located inside our home. So installing the new meter in the present location is not an option.

In the Vancouver Sun newspaper, the week of Sept 26, 2011, at the Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention, you (Gary Murphy) were quoted "He said B.C. residents won't be allowed to opt out of the program or use non smart meter equipment, **although B.C. Hydro is willing to consider moving the meters elsewhere on a property.**"

In the Vancouver Sun newspaper, Oct 12, 2011, Greg Reimer, B.C. Hydro's Executive Vice-President of Transmission and Distribution, was quoted, "for those people who do have concerns, **Hydro is willing to work with them, perhaps installing the smart meter farther from their homes.**"

In the Vancouver Province, Oct 28/29, 2011 **"If they don't want us to install a smart meter, we're not installing a smart meter,"** said Hydro vice president Greg Reimer, adding that the corporation will **"talk"** (?????) to those customers instead.

And in the Vancouver Province Oct 30, 2011, Greg Reimer, B.C. Hydro's Vice President of Transmission and Distribution talking to the CBC, was quoted **"we will work with the customer on an individual basis to address any concerns the customer has with the infrastructure upgrade. We will also present opportunity to have the meter moved to a different location on the property."**

These are direct quotes taken from our local news papers and state if the customer would like their meter moved to another location, B.C. Hydro will move it.

December 28, 2012, the Vancouver Sun's short article, "B.C. Hydro has been given another year to finish installing smart meters in homes and businesses. And further in the same article "The government says Hydro wasn't able to do all the work before the original deadline because of labour and equipment shortages, plus concerns raised by customers"

On many occasions, as B.C. Hydro's representatives, you have quoted that B.C. Hydro will move our meter and now you have until Dec this year to comply.

s.22

s.22

cc Gwen O'Mahony, MLA

Bruce Ralston, MLA
Surrey-Whalley
Room 201
Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Constituency Office:
10574 King George Blvd.
Surrey BC V3T 2X3



**Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly**



Bruce Ralston, MLA
(Surrey-Whalley)

Honourable Rich Coleman
Minister for Energy, Mines *and* Natural Gas
Minister Responsible *for* Housing
Deputy Premier
Parliament Buildings Room 128
501 Belleville St
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

January 29, 2013

Dear Minister Coleman,

RE: Smart Meter

s.22

I write on behalf of my constituent

s.22

s.22 case is unique. Currently her analogue meter is located inside her home. She is not refusing the installation of the smart meter only that it is installed outside. This is not an unreasonable request. I am asking BC Hydro to carry the cost of relocation.

Quoting from the BC Hydro website "*Smart meters are installed outside and the power density reduces exponentially with distance.*" And "*Existing meter boxes, the socket where smart meters are installed, act like a shield that directs smart meter radio frequency signals away from the home.*" This is not possible if the meter is located inside the home rather than outside.

It should not be expected that s.22 carry the cost of relocating a device that, your own information states, should be located outside of the home.

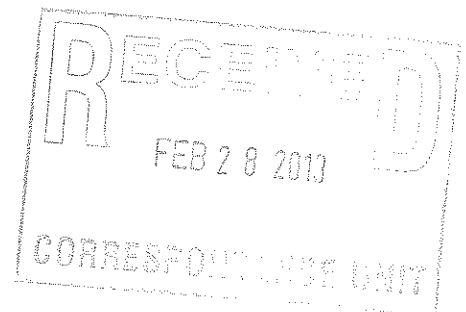
I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Bruce Ralston, MLA
Surrey-Whalley

s.22

MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES	
REFERRAL NUMBER	76381
REFER TO:	
DRAFT REPLY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE <input type="checkbox"/> REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/>
RECEIVED	FEB 13 2013
REMARKS:	

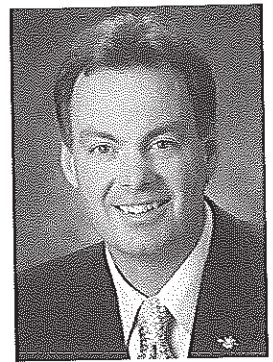


NORM MACDONALD, M.L.A.
COLUMBIA RIVER-REVELSTOKE

CONSTITUENCY OFFICE:
104-806 — 9TH STREET NORTH
BOX 2052
GOLDEN, B.C. V0A 1H0
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FACSIMILE: 250 344-4815
TOLL-FREE: 1 866 870-4188



PROVINCE OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



NORM MACDONALD, MLA
(COLUMBIA RIVER-REVELSTOKE)

February 13 2013

Hon. Rich Coleman
Minister of Energy and Mines
Box 9060, Stn Prov Gov
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES		
REFERRAL NUMBER		
REFER TO:		
DRAFT REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	INFO/FILE <input type="checkbox"/>	REPLY DIRECT <input type="checkbox"/>
RECEIVED	FEB 19 2013	
REMARKS:		

Re: LiveSmart

Dear Minister Coleman:

I received the attached letter from [REDACTED] s.22
[REDACTED] s.22

[REDACTED] s.22 replaced his furnace with the understanding that he would be eligible for the LiveSmart program. During the time period it took to get his heat recovery unit installed, the program changed the criteria and he was no longer eligible for the rebate. He feels that the process was not clear and he may have made a different decision if he knew in advance that he would not be receiving the grant.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Norm Macdonald MLA
Columbia River – Revelstoke

enclosure

[REDACTED] s.22

From: s.22
Sent: February-04-13 10:25 PM
To: Minister, EMH EMH:EX
Cc: Macdonald.MLA, Norm
Subject: LiveSmart Efficiency Incentive Program

COPY

Dear Sir,

I am seeking your unbiased opinion of the administration of the LiveSmart Efficiency Incentive Program.

It became necessary for me to replace my existing heating system due to continual breakdowns of the heat pump and electrically operated furnace. In early October, 2012, I contacted the constituency office of Norm MacDonald, MLA - Columbia River, Revelstoke to inquire about potential provincial grants and was supplied with the LiveSmart Program pamphlet. Following the requirements outlined in the program, Building Insight Technologies Inc. (B.I.T.), were hired to perform on site energy evaluations on October 12, 2012.

Two quotations were obtained from local mechanical contractors, highly recommended by their peers, and the contract was awarded to Country Heating and Air Conditioning Ltd. (C.H.A.C).

Energy Efficiency Evaluation Report: File No. s.22 completed October 27, 2012 by B.I.T. field representative, s.22 Certified Energy Adviser. A strong recommendation to install a heat recovery ventilator (HRV) was encouraged to overcome the home's relatively low natural air change. This recommendation was added to the initial quote by Country Heating and Air Conditioning and contracted for installation.

Country Heating completed installation of all mechanical upgrades including air source heat pump and variable speed electric furnace components on November 6, 2012.

On November 15, 2012, the second energy assessment, E-Visit file number s.22 was completed and submitted by s.22 of B.I.T. to their head office and to Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) grant under ecoEnergy Retrofit - Homes Application form.

Both Country Heating and Air Conditioning Ltd. and Building Insight Technologies Ltd. were fully paid for their services. At this time, I anticipated a rebate as per the LiveSmart Program on all the mechanical upgrades performed by our contractor and recommended by s.22 of B.I.T..

On December 7, 2012, I received a telephone call from s.22 Building Insight Technologies Ltd., informing me that the labeled Energy Star HRV unit (Greentek model PH10.22) did not qualify for the rebate. At this time, I felt I had been "Pearl Harbored". The verbal news was followed up by an E-Mail s.22 on December 14, 2012, referring me to a website where approved lists for HRV units could be found. My unit was on a list dated May 12, 2012. The current approval list was posted December 7, 2012 did not include my unit which would have to have been installed before June 30, 2012 to qualify for that portion of the rebate.

Between December 17 through December 28, 2012, telephone calls and E-mails were exchanged with representatives of Fortis BC. s.22 and LiveSmart (Christina Ross EMNG:EX) which concluded in the inadmissibility of the HRV unit PH10.22. At that time I questioned Ms. Ross as to whether there had been any postings in between those two dates and she advised me they were not kept.

Country Heating and Air Conditioning was E-mailed January 12, 2013 re the installation of a redundant unit after repeated telephone messages were not answered until January 21, 2013, when s.22 called professing no knowledge of the changes to the admissibility of the unit he provided and had done several installations with no problems. He was prepared to exchange the HRV unit with a qualified ESTAR HRV unit which was currently on a posted list dated January 10, 2013. The unit is HRV Solace PH1.5 by Greentek.

On contacting s.22 the field representative of B.I.T., I was encouraged to contact LiveSmart to determine if an addendum to my file with all details to be confirmed by s.22 was an acceptable method that would qualify the new HRV unit for rebate.

On January 22, 2013, I contacted LiveSmart's Ms. Joy Beauchamp who had replaced Ms. Christina Ross, our previous contact, and asked if an addendum correcting the HRV installation was acceptable. Ms. Beauchamp was of the opinion that it had been an acceptable practice to allow correction. Within another fifteen minutes of our conversation, LiveSmart reneged on that opinion advising us that the practice of an addendum was no longer available - it was now a one shot deal.

I have experienced many highs and lows in my participation in this LiveSmart program and I would have expected a level of fairness in the outcome. It seems that the left hand did not know what the right hand was doing!

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Yours very truly,



s.22

Attachments.