

Re: FCC Docket No. ET 10-120
FDA Docket No. FDA-2010-N-0291

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to Hold Public Meeting on Regulatory Issues Arising from Health Care Devices that Incorporate Radio Technology Wireless Communications Networks

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Beyond creating documented interference problems with implanted medical devices and wireless critical-care equipment, the new wireless smart grid that is now in the process of being "rolled out" presents a threat to health of unprecedented proportions and is a terrible idea because it simply is unsafe for living beings.

The FCC standard that determines the so-called safety of wireless technologies is based on "industry's science" and limited to thermal effects and ignores the plentiful independent studies, from decades-old up to present-day, that go beyond thermal effects. Also the effects of digital versus analog technology have not been taken into account. The FCC standard is therefore completely inadequate and needs to be scrapped in favor of something much more precautionary.

Independent tests of wireless smart-meters operating "in the field" show that they transmit much more frequently than the utility says they do.

No studies have been done that demonstrate that long-term, 24/7 continuous exposure is safe, nor has it even been attempted to prove that the additive effect of all the RF and ELF exposures that are constantly growing in type and strength will not cause harm. Independent studies, going back decades but ignored and suppressed, show serious risks to human, animal, and environmental health.

These are early days still for the so-called "Smart Grid" but already some people have been made sick by smartmeters installed on the other side of a wall from their living quarters, before having any awareness of the smartmeters. We know this because some of them were subsequently lucky enough to be able to identify the smartmeters as the cause of their illnesses and distress, and to obtain relief by getting away from these meters. Some of these people were not previously electrosensitive but now, after their exposure to smartmeters, find that they do suffer from this condition.

Other countries have much more stringent standards, and some also acknowledge electrosensitivity (aka radio frequency illness) as a legitimate health concern. Recognized by the WHO or not, electrosensitivity is a disability and the Americans with Disabilities Act should protect the electrosensitive from being "suffocated" by wireless signals. Standards should be set that protect the ill, the elderly, children, and pregnant women, as well as people with medical implants. The dangers are too great to ignore. Anyone can become ill, and most of us hope to have the chance to become elderly. If we do not change tactics and begin following the Precautionary Principle, fewer of us will get there.

For those to whom risks to public health are not sufficient motivators for change, then the risk of the costs involved should be.