

Smart Meters

What your electricity provider
DOESN'T want you to know.



- **Smart meters increase energy bills**

Smart meters are much more expensive than analogue meters and need to be replaced more than twice as often. Smart grids require substantial investment in IT networks, software and hardware. *These costs are paid for by consumers.*

Costs of more than **2.4 billion dollars** are being levied on Victorian electricity customers to pay for smart meters in return for marginal benefits. In Australia, as elsewhere, energy bills have also increased for unexplained reasons following installation of a smart meter, **some doubling**.

- **Smart meters do not lead to energy efficiency**

Claims that smart meters will lead to a reduction in peak demand are **unproven**.

"The Smart Metering Initiative has spent nearly \$2 billion of electricity ratepayers' money, but the intended outcomes of significantly reducing electricity peak demand usage using smart meters and time-of-use pricing (TOU) rates, and of reducing the need for new sources of power generation, have not yet been achieved." Auditor General of Ontario's 2014 Report.

- **Wireless smart meters damage health**

Pulsed 24/7 microwave radiation increases electro-smog. *Over 5000 published scientific studies have shown serious harmful effects to people, animals and plants from this type of radiation.*

Effects such as headaches, insomnia, heart palpitations, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, dizziness, ringing in the ears and concentration impairment have been widely reported. *There is no independent scientific study of any kind proving that smart meters are safe.*

- **Smart meters enable surveillance**

"Detailed information about electricity customers' power usage, which gives insights into when a house is occupied, is being shared with third parties including mail houses, debt collectors, data processing analysts and government agencies" *The Age*, 25th September 2012. This fact, coupled with the vulnerability of smart meters to hacking, raises grave security concerns.

You have the **Right** to refuse a smart meter.

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