

Testimonial • Worcester Resident

To Whom it May Concern:

One day last spring, a National Grid worker came to my door saying that the utility would be installing new electrical meters in my neighborhood. It sounded benign so I was fine with it (although as I now understand it, I had actually opted in to the SmartMeter program). A new meter was installed on May 29th 2012 and I never thought another thing about it.

Very shortly thereafter, I began experiencing dizziness. By July 3rd, it was so intense that I was taken by ambulance to a local hospital with a severe attack of vertigo; I was admitted and held overnight for observation and testing. In an attempt to identify the cause of my symptoms a series of tests including a brain scan, blood work and hearing tests were carried out then and later. The tests were inconclusive and I continued to suffer from bouts of vertigo and a fairly constant tinnitus. No connection was suggested to the new smart meter on my house either by me or by anyone else.

A little over a year later, on June 8, 2013, I had a chance meeting with someone working to halt smart meter deployment; this was the first time I realized that this was what I had agreed to have installed at my home. I began to research the issue further after she returned with a colleague to measure the electromagnetic radiation from my meter. I still was not connecting the meter to my health issues.

Shortly after this encounter I called National Grid and arranged to have the Smart Meter removed from my home. My vertigo seemed to go away but, again, I made no connection with the Smart Meter removal. I continued to do research into the Smart Meter program and, on a whim, decided to look back at my hospital records and National Grid bills to see if the dates of meter installation and my health problems coincided, I was shocked to find that they coincided very closely indeed.

I understand that there is no scientific evidence to prove a correlation between the installation of the Smart Meter and the onset of my symptoms or the relief from the vertigo after removal of the meter; my experiences are anecdotal. However, there is plenty of credible evidence calling the Smart Meters into question. The UK, where National Grid happens to be headquartered, and Switzerland are just two of the countries that have taken a position on pulsed microwave radiation, which is what the Smart Meters emit. Their position is that these meters may be harmful and, based on that, they have opted to place a moratorium on using them until more research is undertaken.

Given my experience, I am convinced that there is more than sufficient doubt about the safety of Smart Meters, especially since, as I've discovered, my experience is not an isolated example. At the very least I feel the public should be informed about the possibility of negative effects and that a moratorium be imposed by local, state and federal agencies until a thorough examination can be made of the scientific studies that do indeed raise safety concerns concerning Smart Meter deployment.

SR
Worcester, MA
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