

From: "ingenium"
To: <complaints@oeb.gov.on.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2004 2:48 PM
Subject: perhaps this address may work!

Comments re: smart meter use Residential Customers

The OEB website and PDF files are just too long to download and not Succinct > for customer reading. I will be surprised if you get many individual residential comments. Ever hear of "keep it simple stupid"? Obviously you > don't really want any comments otherwise you would have made it very easy to > read this document and reply online.

Smartmeters will not curtail electricity use or promote conservation and are just another stupid bureaucratic "white elephant". Common sense, astute financial analysis and sound electricity planning in Ontario escapes this government and especially the OEB.

The total and ongoing costs of smartmeters do not support the contention Of energy savings in the long run. Just look at other jurisdictions that have had experience with smartmeters. (Perth, WA, Australia). Where is any form of professional financial analysis?

For customers who uses the minimum, 60% of their bill is a fixed cost. I have already lowered usage to an absolute minimum and a time of use meter will increase my electricity cost by 10% because of any monthly fee associated with the smartmeter. Even if it where possible to shift some usage to a lower rate period the savings would never cover the cost of the meter. Those are the facts(based of a meter cost of \$ 3 a month) and not just speculation.

Reducing demand through incentives in purchasing efficient appliances and building R2000 homes make much more sense. I have paid about 5 % more for A R2000 home but feel good about using used material and have a house that uses very little energy. My appliances are all new and "energy wise". In concern for our environment my needs don't demand lots of energy and I plan energy use off peak naturally. Energy over-use is systemic in North America and education and "values" must be changed before any reduction will take place. Price(cost) is just not enough!

I suggest that an organization that has professional ability in this area be utilized; for example Energy Probe, has much more knowledge that OEB.

The OEB be required to prove the financial benefit of smartmeters with third party professional done analysis that clearly and simply state the real and not fictitious facts.

The government develop an overall electricity strategy before jumping on something that sounds okay but has not been properly examined.

I am tired of paying too much for everything the government deems is "right". The real lack of knowledge in any type of financial analysis in government functions is fact; after all, taxes are up and all services cost us more!

Taxpayers continue to fund too many organizations like the OEB that do not serve taxpayers in any respect (well..except these individuals have a spin-off effect from high salaries and purchasing services that bear no relationship to their tasks, such as racing boats).

I ask that smartmeters be re-examined using common sense and "real" financial analysis.

My comments also represent the views of my neighbours.

Ross Howard
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