

Eccles, Natalie

De: Carol Canning [carol.canning59@gmail.com]
Envoyé: 27 novembre 2016 00:35
À: Greffe; Jean Hudon
Objet: Observation de citoyen: Demande relative à la modification des conditions de service d'électricité et des frais afférents d'Hydro - Québec. Votre dossier : R - 3964 - 2016/

Dear trustees,

Please accept my apology for my choice of language, it proves to be much easier for me to express complex ideas in my native language. However, I will quote from passages written in french.

I have become cognisant to the fact that two (2) interveners in this file, RAPLIQ and SÉ-AQLPA, have posed a motion before the Régie requesting the safekeeping of the remaining stock of mechanical analogue meters in the Distributor's possession. I fully support RAPLIQ in this request and as a meaningful intervener at this time because I understand that the actions taken by the Distributor to date in restructuring the manner in which it delivers electricity to residential customers has been drastic and has contributed substantially to profound changes which our social fabric has sustained in only a few years time. It is imperative therefore in my view, that RAPLIQ in it's role as representative of minority rights be given audience if the very core principles underlying our society are to survive.

In the letter sent to Monsieur Pierre Métté, directeur des affaires institutionnelles, on the 23 of November, 2016 by Me Jean Olivier Trembley for Hydro-Quebec, the following is stated:

<< 1. *La demande est irrevable*

(c) (..) le Distributeur offre à ces clients une option de compteur non-communicant (...) et n'emet pas de radio-fréquences. >>

These assertions follow:

<<2.La Demande est mal fondée

(c) i) Les inconvinients sont plus importants pour le Distributeur, qui devra encourir des coûts, que pour RAPLIQ et SÉ-AQLPA qui ne subissent aucun préjudice.

ii) Le compteur non communicant installé par le Distributeur n'émettant pas de radio-fréquences même les personnes que dit représenter RAPLIQ ne peuvent subirent de préjudice. >>

Concerning the statement at 1.(c), it would be very helpful if the Distributor could elaborate on whether or not the digital non-communicating meter resembles the R-F emitting digital meter in that it uses a carrier system which would allow simultaneous independent communications over the same circuit; whether or not the non-communicating meter would aggravate a situation of surface leakage, that is the passage of current beyond the wires due to insufficient insulating material; whether or not the non-communicating digital meter is more susceptible than the analogue mechanical meter to produce electrostatic charges and electromagnetic fields in homes.

My experience with a non-communicative digital meter:

I lived in a newly renovated flat in Montreal from January 1st, 2010 until May 1st 2010. Each of the 6 units of this duplex was equipped with a non-communicating digital meter installed in the bedroom. After

one month I realized that I would have to vacate quickly because the place was unusually radiant with an artificially induced electro-magnetic field and the current in the wiring was unstable, in particular over the weekend. Within this 3 month time frame, I kept a few the brackers shut in order to 'cool down' the place and slept in the living room. For the first time in my life, I experienced a deep sense of sadness and I didn't feel particularly well and energetic. I managed to sublet the place and move into another flat which had analogue meters and I immediately returned to my regular state of being.

Concerning the assertions 2. (c) i and ii :

In California, a decision was taken with the public utilities commission to offer an all-analogue meter as the sole opt-out option for people who didn't want smart meters. The intervenors were well aware that R-F sensitivity would be an issue with the installation of smart meters and therefore took precautions to safeguard themselves against eventual disability lawsuits with a genuinely environmentally <clean> opt-out option. (May this be regarded as a 'gamble'?) We find in the document that irrespective of the costs incurred by the roll-out of smart meters, these cost would be absorbed by the 'majority' meanwhile opt-out cutomers would be charged. The distributors expressed an intent to have the public accept the 'smart meter infrastructure' as the stardard service.

<<The scoping memo asked parties to brief whether more than one opt-out option (eg. offering both an analogue meter and a digital, non-communicating meter) should be offered. In a rare sow of unanimity, all IOUs and the intervenors agree that the only opt-out option should be an all-analogue meter. We see no reason to require the IOUs to offer multiple meter types. Expanding the range of options would only increase program costs while providing a service in which no one seems interested (..) >>1.

My comment: Irrespective of the meter being used by Hydro-Quebec, costs will be incurred. The all-analogue model such as I have in my home location has been evaluated by the Distributor as having a very long life, for example, 40 years; is surge resistant and is mechanically sound. It also allows the inhabitants of buildings to which they are attached to retain an environmental quality which is much less detrimental to their health. I suspect that the use of all-analogue meters ultimately prevents the burgeoning telecommunication and electricity industries from realizing specific goals based on highly questionable ideologies, over the heads and backs of the people. The digital meters are very costlly and have low 'life' expectancy; they can be fire-prone and they potentially cause serious harm to the health of inhabitants and they open up people's homes to unknown parties operating telecommunication systems and networks.

In my case, digital meters prevent me from exercising my most fundamental absolute rights. My body just like all others, is filled with electrolytes which is a conductive medium. It is my conscious choice to keep myself away from harmful electric and magnetic charges and radio-frequency pulses as a measure of self-preservation of the first order. I now live in a rural region yet I am currently extremely limited in my ability to interact with the world around me and this is a direct result of the proliferation of mast towers, the smart grid and Bell's sattelite TV service which all have been achieved by industrialists over the past few years with little or no regard to the fundamental rights of human beings.

I wish that the 'regisseurs' will take the time to understand the underlying risks to human health and well-being associated with both the smart grid and the digital non-communicating meters in combination with all other sources of radio-frequency implanted around us in such a short period of time. Please take action to allow some of us an easier means to 'keep our heads above water'....

Thank you kindly,

Ms.Carolyn Canning

Waterloo, Qc.

1. Decision 14-12-078 December 18, 2014 Before the public utilities commission of the state of California, Decision regarding smart meter opt-out provisions. 4.6 *Number of opt-out options* pp. 37-8

<http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M143/K904/143904205.PDF>