Dec. 1, 2014

Dear Legislators,

Many thanks for holding this public hearing on the detrimental effects of smart meters. I highly regret being unable to attend in person. Illness in the family prevents me from attending.

I have a son on the autism spectrum. Up until recently, he has had no trouble sleeping through the night, as many persons on the autism spectrum do. At the end of 2012, I received notice from DTE that my gas meter would be replaced. I knew that I did not want that to happen, but my brother had just been released from the hospital after a very critical bout of congestive heart failure, and my daughter was hospitalized within 10 days of his coming to recuperate at our home, and I did not have the emotional energy to deal with one more thing.

I'm not sure exactly when the meter was installed, but a tag on it says 2013 (maybe this is the manufacture date). Since I started receiving notices from DTE about how all my neighbors use less energy than I do, my son no longer sleeps through the night. His bedroom is inside the wall where the smart gas meter is located. He wanders the house at night and is not getting good rest. As a result, his immune system, which was not good to begin with, has been compromised. He has had 3 major illnesses this school year, and has missed 6 weeks of school. Every medical practitioner we have seen has emphasized

that he needs to get good rest.

Another effect of smart meter technology that I have seen online is the loosening of dental fillings. My bedroom is on the same wall as my sons room, and I suddenly had a dental crown come out. I do not have the money to replace it. Because some time has passed since the crown has been out, I would need to have additional work to cut away the gum which is growing over it.

I would also like you to know that my friend who has been in declining health for some time with lupus, inflammatory disease, and degenerating discs, had a horrible winter last year. She lives in Dearborn Heights and she experienced 5 straight months of vertigo. She also developed cataracts on both eyes. Because of her inflammatory disease, she has not recovered her sight following the cataract surgery, and is now legally blind. Glasses do not help her, and she can only see about 12 inches in front of her face. On my last visit I looked at her electric meter - she has 2 smart meters, a separate one for air conditioning. Because her home is for sale, I don't know if she is in a position to replace the smart meters with analog meters.

I would like the legislature to consider the human cost of these health effects as well as the dollar cost. If I homeschool my son to protect his compromised immune system from contagions at school, will the

radio frequency of the gas smart meter have more effect because of the longer time he will spend at home? If my friend moves to a home with no smart meters, will she ever regain her sight? Can DTE be held accountable for the havoc this technology is having on our health?

Regarding the privacy issues at stake with smart meters, my brother made an excellent point. We hear every day in the news about the security breaches happening everywhere to online information. Why would we want to allow DTE to make it easy for any hacker with malintent to remotely shut off our power? If DTE can shut it off remotely, why couldn't ISIS terrorists who hack into the system also shut it off remotely? Why make your constituents sitting ducks? How long can you stay in a cold house without power if we have another winter like last year?

Please consider banning further installation of smart meters as other states and European countries have done.

Sincerely,
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