

Eddie Sleeper

From: Christine Zatell-Holden <czatell1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Eddie Sleeper
Subject: Testimony for January 30, 2018 Energy Committee Meeting

January 28, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I had my electric meter locked for approximately three years. I received several letters through the years telling me that DTE wanted to replace my analog meter. I received the final two letters from DTE - dated October 10th, and 17th - telling me that if I did not accept their meter by October 23rd, 2017, they would turn off my power.

On October 15th, I wrote and sent a certified letter to them explaining that I wanted to wait until the courts determined whether forcing me to give up my analog meter AND charging me additional monies to keep the radio off was constitutional. I told them I would participate in the opt-out program and pay the associated fees until the case went through the court system. I have a copy of the letter and the certified receipt. I also asked for a written reply to my correspondence - and never heard another word until Sunday, November 5th.

On November 5th, DTE sent three different trucks to my house - looking for me as I am the one on the bill - and threatened my husband with shutting off the power right then and there. My husband was honest with them and told them I was up north - unreachable by phone. The woman who spoke to my husband continued to get even more nasty and bullied him - telling him that he had better get in touch with me or they would take my meter - right then and there. Eventually, after standing around in front of our house for about thirty minutes they left. My husband felt VERY intimidated by the whole situation.

The next day, Monday, November 6th, they came back at approximately 3:30pm - as was evidenced by our Ring Doorbell - and shut off the power while we were not home. I called, and called, and called that evening. I was passed around to several departments. They told me someone would reconnect it by 9pm that same day. Nothing happened and departments were closed. Thus, no power and an extremely cold house.

Tuesday, I called several departments again and was passed from one to the next. (I still have a list of the phone numbers too which I am providing below.) Someone in one of the departments told me that it could be 4-5 days before it was turned on. I even called channel 4 and 7, to try and get the power turned on - but to no avail. Tuesday night after dark, DTE changed out the meter, but STILL did not turn on the power. So again, no power and an extremely cold house. Finally, Wednesday during the day the power was turned on while we were at work.

Here is a list of the phone numbers I called repeatedly:

1-800-477-4747

1-800-441-6698

1-313-235-4009

1-313-235-5677

1-313-235-0606 - A direct line to the supervisor on call that was accidentally given to me - and who FINALLY helped me get things rolling.

I have paid my bill religiously, and I resent being bullied into accepting something that is not providing a benefit to my family. The opt-out meter provides no benefit to us, and is not a legal alternative to the radio-on smart meter. I have a fundamental right to shield my family and my home against a known harm - and the World Health Organization has deemed these meters toxic to our health.

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christine Zatell-Holden
16124 Colorado Dr.
Macomb, MI 48042
586-909-0434