

From: Theresa Shay [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 2, 2025 10:52 AM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Smart Meters

RE: Docket EL23-025

Commissioners:

Xcel Energy has notified us that a smart meter will soon be installed at our home in Sioux Falls. We are disappointed that the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission has allowed this program to proceed without receiving public input or ensuring provision for an opt-out.

Regardless of whether Xcel Energy is using 'smart meters' to collect unnecessary information, track users' personal behavior patterns, or any other invasion of citizens' privacy, it is an absolute fact that smart meters CAN be used in such ways. It is also a fact that smart meters give off RF radiation. This is not something insignificant, and it is NOT something we want increased in our home. Another fact is that smart meters can be hacked. Though such occurrences may be rare or unlikely, they are still possible.

For all of these reasons, we object to the smart meter installation. If indeed it is truly necessary to replace the existing meter, then it should be replaced with an analog meter that will not collect any information other than the amount of power used.

We urge you to take a deeper look into this issue.

Pat & Theresa Shay

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