Debra Howland, Executive Director NH PUC 21 South Fruit St/ Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301-2429

Dear Executive Director Howland,

Joan E. Wirth
348 Hundred Acre Wood
Bristol, NH 03222
July 22, 2012

NH PUBLIC
UTILITIES
COMMISSION

As a NHEC member, I was one of the petitioners who testified at the Grafton County Superior Court about the NHEC AMI program with <u>required</u> installation of smart meters on every one of nearly 82,0000 NH homes without exception. That court case has now been closed without any decision made by the Judge on our petition, except for his "dismissal without prejudice."

NHEC members were given a one week notice that meter installations would occur in our area sometime after July 25.^{t.h} I sent NHEC notification that the new law RSA 374.62 requires that a utility company must obtain a signed consent form from the property owner before installation of a wireless smart meter. This is particularly imperative given exposure to RF and EMF radiation has now been classified by IARC as a 2B carcinogen. Over 2000 expert scientific studies agree that the RF EMF radiation penetrates the human body, causing damage at the cellular level. Children are particularly vulnerable. This is a very critical issue in light of the current scientific evidence for potential serious public health impacts on NH citizens, especially with long-term exposure.

Other important issues are: 1) The Energy Act of 2005 does NOT mandate the installation of wireless smart meters on homes, 2) There have been instances in other states about these meters causing home fires, and appliance burn out, therefore raising safety concerns as the meters are not UL tested or certified, 3) Since the meter collects electrical use data, and transmits it wirelessly, there is concern regarding privacy invasion, security, and violation of 4th Amendment rights. The SB 266 Bill was developed to protect the public against privacy invasion and misuse of electrical use data. It is the Smart Meter that collects the data and transmits it wirelessly that leads to privacy/ security risks, and 4) Electrical utility companies in other states (such as Vermont and Maine) have been required to provide Opt In or Opt Out programs as a reasonable and responsible resolution for consumer protection and choice.

Your Mission statement reads in part "to provide necessary customer protection" and "safe electrical service" for NH consumers. I am requesting the Commissioners consider this request for a hearing on NHEC smart meter installations that are being done <u>without</u> signed consent from the homeowner, and without regard for the occupants most vulnerable to unknown and untested levels of the radiation fields within and around the home. I would also request that NHEC be asked by NH PUC to delay further installations until the RSA 374.62 required consent form issue is resolved. Thank you for your attention to this request,

Joan & Wirth

Joan E. Wirth

cc. Amanda Noonan, Director of Consumer Affairs