

Utility Commission Rules against 3 Women Who Can't Afford Smart Meter "Opt- Out" Fees

How many people do you know who would refuse smart meters but they can't afford the "opt out" fees?

Three women in Ohio filed legal complaints with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO). They have cited health reasons for not wanting smart meters installed on their homes but they can't afford the PUCO-approved "opt out" fees. Now their cases are all being dismissed ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)).

Smart meter "opt-out" fees are unlawful for EMF-disabled persons and violate ADA because they are a surcharge. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) [refunded one California consumer's opt-out fees](#) when she filed a claim into their bankruptcy court proceeding. A [court waived "opt-out" fees](#) for another California consumer by virtue of his disabling medical condition.

In 2017 a letter signed by 3 doctors was [submitted to PUCO](#) asking that there be no "opt-out" fees approved for Ohio consumers who refuse of smart meters.

The Ohio companies rejecting the women's requests to drop the "opt out" fees are subsidiaries of FirstEnergy which has been under federal investigation for an ongoing scandal that has included offering bribes to Ohio officials ([1](#), [2](#)). PUCO staff has been investigated in this scandal as well.

Ohioans concerned about smart meters may email the following groups and join their Facebook pages.

[Children's Health Defense Ohio Chapter](#), on [Facebook](#), email oh.chd@childrenshealthdefense.org

[Citizens for 5G Awareness, NE Ohio](#), email NEOSafeTech@gmail.com

[SWORT](#) (SW Ohio for Responsible Technology), email swo4responsibletech@fuse.net and swort_group@fuse.net

[SWORT Dayton](#)

[ORT](#) (Ohioans for Responsible Technology)

[CORT](#) (Central Ohio for Responsible Technology)

[Toledo Smart Meter Dangers](#)

[Stop Smart Meters Ohio](#)