

6/11/2012 - GG Mtg.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTION #12134

BY: Commissioners Jim Runestad, District #6

IN RE: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – SUPPORT FOR ELECTRIC UTILITY CUSTOMERS TO OPT OUT OF SMART METER INSTALLATIONS WITHOUT PENALTY

To the Oakland County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson, Ladies and Gentlemen:

WHEREAS Detroit Edison Company, Consumers Energy Company and other energy providers have been deploying “smart meters” in Michigan; and

WHEREAS the Michigan Public Service Commission, in an order dated January 12, 2012 directed electric utilities to provide information on several topics including “whether the electric utility intends to allow customers to opt out of having a smart meter” and “how the utility intends to recover the cost of an opt out program if one will exist.”; and

WHEREAS Michigan Attorney General Schuette, in his comments to the January 12, 2012 order dated April 16, 2012, identifies two issues that must be addressed before the MPSC approves further deployment of smart meters and recovery by the utilities of costs from ratepayers. “First there must be a sufficient demonstration that implementation of the smart meter programs will actually produce a net economic benefit to customers. Second, customers just be afforded a meaningful and fair opportunity to opt out of smart meter installation without being penalized by unwarranted and excessive costs”; and

WHEREAS there has been concern expressed by some electric customers that the smart meters are overly intrusive into their energy usage; and

WHEREAS some electric customers have alleged that emissions from the smart meters are actually dangerous to their health.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland County Board of Commissioners supports the ability of customers to opt out of the smart meter program on their homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oakland Board of Commissioners agrees with Attorney General Schuette that utility customers who opt out of the smart meter program should be able to opt out with no economic or any other penalty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Snyder, the Oakland County delegation of the Michigan Legislature, the Michigan Attorney General, the Michigan Public Services Commission, the Michigan Association of Counties and the Oakland County Board of Commissioners’ Lobbyist.

Chairperson, I move the foregoing resolution.

JIM RUNESTAD, MIKE BOSNIC, MATTIE HATCHETT, BOB GOSSELIN, ANGELA RIVER, CRAIG COVEY, PHILIP WEIPERT, BETH NUCCIO