

THE NEW SMART METERS ARE WATCHING YOU. THEY SENSE ALL KINDS OF GOINGS ON. THEY SEE WHEN YOU TURN SOMETHING ON OR OFF. THEY SEE HOW MANY WATTS YOUR TOOTHBRUSH PULLS. THEY SEND THE RECORD OF THAT LITTLE EVENT OVER WIRELESS NETWORKS, BOUNCING THROUGH YOUR NEIGHBORS' SMART METERS ALL THE WAY TO THE POWER COMPANY WHERE THEY KEEP A RECORD OF YOUR POWER CONSUMPTION VOLUMES AND PATTERNS EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY AND STORE THAT DATA ON COMPUTERS THAT YOU WILL NEVER GET TO SEE.

THAT DATA SHOWS WHEN YOU ARE AT HOME, SHOWS WHEN YOU ARE SLEEPING, SHOWS WHEN YOU ARE ON VACATION, WHEN YOU HAVE VISITORS, WHEN YOU USE A LAMP, A POWER TOOL, SOME EXTRA COMPUTERS, AND IF YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING A BUSINESS OUT OF YOUR HOME. IT EVEN SENSES WHEN YOU BOOTLEG ENERGY OFF THE GRID.

YOUR SMART METER SHOWS A VIVID PROFILE OF YOUR PERSONAL LIVING PATTERNS AND IF YOU WERE HOME ON THE NIGHT OF THE MURDER.

THIS IS NOT ELECTRICAL METERING. THIS IS PERSONAL SURVEILLANCE. THIS IS A SEARCH WITHOUT A WARRANT EVERY DAY. THIS IS YOUR PERSONAL PRIVATE LIFE GOING STRAIGHT OUT THROUGH YOUR ELECTRIC METER TO YOUR POWER COMPANY, TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, TO THE POLICE, TO THE INSURANCE COMPANY... TO ANYONE WHO CUTS A DEAL WITH YOUR POWER COMPANY TO LOOK AT YOUR LIFE UNDER A MICROSCOPE.

SORRY, IT'S ACTUALLY WORSE THAN THAT. PEOPLE WHO DON'T CUT A DEAL CAN GET YOUR INFORMATION TOO, BY SIMPLY INTERCEPTING THE WIRELESS SPEWING FROM THE SIDE OF YOUR HOUSE. YES, SMART METERS ARE RADIO TRANSMITTERS LICENSED BY THE FCC. ON THIS ALL-NEWS RADIO STATION, EVERY DETAIL OF YOUR ELECTRICAL LIFE IS SHOOTING OFF TO SOME INSTITUTIONAL DATA CENTER SOMEWHERE. ALREADY, THE POLICE IN OHIO, TEXAS, BRITISH COLUMBIA, AND PLACES I DON'T KNOW ABOUT, ARE REGULARLY USING SMART METER DATA TO PINPOINT MARIJUANA GROW HOUSES, ENFORCE BUSINESS LICENSES, AND PUNISH PEOPLE FOR DOING THINGS IN THE PRIVACY OF THEIR OWN HOMES, THAT YOU ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO DO, THAT THEY WOULD NOT EVEN KNOW THAT YOU WERE DOING, IF THEY WERE NOT SPYING ON YOU.

YOUR POWER COMPANY GETS TO SELL YOUR LIFE STORY TO WHOMEVER IT WANTS. ANY UNUSUAL POWER CONSUMPTION PATTERN IS CONSIDERED PROBABLE CAUSE TO RAID YOU FOR GROWING MARIJUANA OR RUNNING A COMPUTER SERVER WITHOUT A BUSINESS LICENSE.

THIS IS ABOUT AS BIG BROTHER AS IT GETS. THOSE FRIENDLY MEN WITH THEIR TRUCKLOAD OF SMART METERS ARE GOING DOOR-TO-DOOR WITH SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT THAN A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

MY PERSONAL OPINION IS THAT YOU AND I NEED TO DEMAND THESE THINGS BE TAKEN OFF OUR HOMES. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR YOUR POWER COMPANY TO CLAIM THAT THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO INSTALL A SURVEILLANCE DEVICE ON YOUR HOUSE. SMART METERS ARE NO DIFFERENT THAN WIRE-TAPPING DEVICES. AND, IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW, WIRE-TAPPING IS ILLEGAL IN ALL FIFTY OF THE STATES AND FEDERAL TERRITORIES.

IF YOU LET YOUR POWER COMPANY PUT A SMART METER ON YOUR HOUSE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL WALK AROUND ALL DAY WITH A FACEBOOK HELMET WEBCAM POINTED AT YOURSELF. THEY HAVE CONVINCED THEMSELVES THAT INSTALLING SMART METERS IS LAWFUL BY SOME REACHING-TO-THE-MOON JIVE CALLED "IMPLIED CONSENT." IF YOU SAY THEY CAN CHANGE YOUR METER, THEY CONTEND THAT YOU CONSENT, EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T KNOW REALLY WHAT THEY'RE DOING.

TELL THEM THAT THEY CAN'T CHANGE YOUR METER. THEY HAD NO TROUBLE BILLING YOU WITH YOUR OLD METER. IF YOU SEND THEM A NOTICE BY CERTIFIED MAIL THAT THEY MAY NOT INSTALL A SMART METER OR ANY OTHER SURVEILLANCE DEVICE ON YOUR HOUSE, THEIR IMPLIED CONSENT GOES OUT THE WINDOW. I WOULD DO THAT IF I WERE YOU. IN FACT, I DID THAT, AND I'M NOT EVEN YOU. YOU CAN SEE THAT LETTER BELOW. YOU CAN COPY AND PASTE THAT INTO YOUR WORD PROCESSOR... THE POST OFFICE WILL GIVE YOU THE CERTIFIED MAIL SLIP.

THOSE FRIENDLY GUYS ON THE SIDEWALK TOLD ME THAT THEY PLAN TO PUT A SMART METER ON EVERY HOUSE IN AMERICA. IF THEY DO THAT, IT WILL NO LONGER BE AMERICA.