

Date: Thu, 20 Feb 2014 8:53:06 PM (UTC)
Sent: Thu, 20 Feb 2014 8:53:05 PM (UTC)
Subject: FW: MA DPU Hearings: Health issues related to smart meters
From: Lackey, Alison (DPU)
Topalian, Alan (DPU) <Alan.Topalian@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Pinto, Jonathan (DPU) <Jonathan.Pinto@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Davis, Benjamin (DPU) <Benjamin.Davis@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Brant, Justin (DPU) <Justin.Brant@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Bhatnagar, Dhruv (DPU) <Dhruv.Bhatnagar@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Begue, Yvette (DPU) <Yvette.Begue@MassMail.State.MA.US >; Cope-Flanagan, John (DPU) <John.Cope-Flanagan@MassMail.State.MA.US >;

FYI- I will call him tomorrow.

From: Peter Valberg [mailto:PVALBERG@gradientcorp.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2014 3:45 PM
To: Bhatnagar, Dhruv (DPU)
Cc: Lackey, Alison (DPU); Peter Valberg
Subject: RE: MA DPU Hearings: Health issues related to smart meters

Dhruv and Alison --

I've been able to clear the time slot next Thursday [2/27] (2:00 to 5:00 PM) on my calendar, and I can attend. Please let me know where the hearings will be held, and what the specific agenda is for the Thursday afternoon session. Yes, I'd be available for a conf. call tomorrow [Friday (2/21)]. Most times are OK except for noon to 2:00 PM. My direct dial number here at my Gradient office is 617-395-5570.

~ Peter ~

Peter A. Valberg, Ph.D. | Gradient

From: Bhatnagar, Dhruv (DPU) [mailto:dhruv.bhatnagar@state.ma.us]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 6:18 PM
To: Peter Valberg
Cc: Lackey, Alison (DPU)
Subject: RE: MA DPU Hearings: Health issues related to smart meters

Peter,

Thanks for your email. I really do appreciate your willingness to help out. Unfortunately, our panels are already set and it is not possible to change which dates each of the topics will be covered. If you are able to adjust your schedule and attend on the afternoon of the 27th (2:00 to 5:00 PM), we would really appreciate it, but of course understand if that is not a possibility.

Attached are the general guidelines for the panel, it is basically a 3-hour panel, with each panelist asked to present for 5 minutes before questions by DPU commissioners and staff on their presentations, comments they have submitted in the proceeding and the general topic.

Please let me know if you are able to participate and perhaps we can arrange a quick call on Friday to fill you in further. Copied here is Alison Lackey, the hearing officer on this proceeding if you have any questions. You can also reach her on her direct line at 617-305-3694.

Thanks,
Dhruv

617.305.3735

From: Peter Valberg [<mailto:PVALBERG@gradientcorp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 4:31 PM
To: Bhatnagar, Dhruv (DPU)
Cc: Peter Valberg
Subject: RE: MA DPU Hearings: Health issues related to smart meters

Hello Dhruv –

Thanks for your note. Yes, I'm familiar with the radiofrequency (RF) health concerns that are sometimes voiced having to do with "smart meter" implementation, and would be willing to help out.

A few months ago I made a presentation on "Smart Meter" health-effect issues to the Eugene [Oregon] Water & Electric Board. My lecture was prepared in response to specific questions, concerns, and comments that EWEB had received, but I can address AMI health concerns in a general way, as they relate to the potential for public health impact. I've attached a short resume for myself as to my background and experience in the "non-ionizing" radiation arena. So, I would be happy to help out, but in the interest of full disclosure, DPU should realize that I've also helped private utilities address these questions as well. I don't consider presentation of the science in different arenas to be a conflict-of-interest issue, but I just wanted DPU to know of my activities.

Of the four days you mention (Mon., Feb. 24 to Thurs. Feb. 27), Feb. 26 and 27 (Wed. and Thurs.) are unfortunately the busiest on my calendar, so I would prefer either Feb. 24 or 25. I know you state in your email that Feb. 27 is targeted for health effects, and I could attempt to move the conflicts, but would rather not go that route.

-- Regards,

~ Peter ~

Peter A. Valberg, Ph.D. | Gradient

From: Bhatnagar, Dhruv (DPU) [<mailto:dhruv.bhatnagar@state.ma.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2014 1:02 PM
To: Peter Valberg
Subject: MA DPU Hearings: Health issues related to smart meters

Hello Dr. Valberg,

I hope you are well. I am with the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. Currently we have a proceeding looking into grid modernization for the state's distribution utilities (<http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/electric-power/grid-mod/grid-modernization.html>). As part of the straw proposal that we released, we are proposing to require that utilities deploy advanced metering infrastructure (smart meters) across their customer base. There has been a push back from some vocal ratepayers concerned about health effects of the meters.

We have hearings scheduled across the range of topics for the end of the month (2/24-2/27) with the health concerns hearing on the last day 2/27. Would you (or someone else you might suggest), be willing to present testimony on the health issue related to smart meters? Currently, all participants are voicing concerns against AMI and we do not have someone to provide an impartial, scientific viewpoint.

Please let me know if you are available and interested. I do realize it is short notice, and I appreciate any help you can provide.

Thanks,
Dhruv

Dhruv Bhatnagar

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