

# In-Home Surveillance Using Smart Meters. Privacy, Data Mining and Health Impacts

By [Josh del Sol](#)  
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[takebackyourpower.net](http://takebackyourpower.net)

Region: [USA](#)  
Theme: [Science and Medicine](#)

A look at what utility companies, PUCs, and the former CIA director have to say about the ‘smart’ meters, data-mining, and surveillance — sans propaganda.



It’s always a drag to find out when a friend is saying one thing to your face, and another to your back. As uncovered in our film [Take Back Your Power](#), the way in which most utilities are now delivering the lies and propaganda — with your individual rights, security, and potentially health on the line — is elevating the trait of “two-faced” to a completely new level.

It’s important to note that the first 4 of these references have to do with the smart meters / grid infrastructure capabilities as of this time. According to the sum of my research over the past 3 years, the plan involves achieving a greater and greater level of granularity and extraction of in-home data over time — see #5 and #6 below as examples (as well as my [article on Google’s Nest acquisition](#)). So as far as privacy and surveillance go, according to utilities’ own documentation and writings, ‘smart’ meters are effectively a trojan horse.

1) US Congressional Research Service report,  
“Smart Meter Data: Privacy and Cybersecurity” (February 2012) –

“With smart meters, police will have access to data that might be used to track residents’ daily lives and routines while in their homes, including their eating, sleeping, and showering habits, what appliances they use and when, and whether they prefer the television to the treadmill, among a host of other details.”

Source: <https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R42338.pdf> – see page 7 (page 10 of the PDF)

2) Colorado Power Utility Commission report,  
“Smart Metering & Privacy: Existing Law and Competing Policies” (Spring 2009) –

“First, the privacy concerns are real, and should be addressed proactively in order to protect consumers. Second and related, a salient privacy invasion—were it to happen and get press—could create significant opposition to smart grid deployment efforts.”

Source:  
<http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/DocketsDecisions/DocketFilings/09I-593EG/09I>

3) California Public Utility Commission press release,

“California Commission Adopts Rules to Protect the Privacy and Security of Customer Electricity Usage Data” (July 2011) –

“Our action today will protect the privacy and security of customer usage data while enabling utilities and authorized third-parties to use the information to provide useful energy management and conservation services to customers.”

“I support today’s decision because it adopts reasonable privacy and security rules and expands consumer and third-party access to electricity usage and pricing information. I hope this decision stimulates market interest”

Source:

<http://smartenergyportal.net/article/california-commission-adopts-rules-protect-privacy-and-security-customer-electricity-usage-d>

4) SF Chronicle article, “California Utilities Yield Energy Use Data” (July 2013) –

California’s electric utilities last year disclosed the energy-use records and other personal information of thousands of customers, according to reports the companies filed with state regulators.

The vast majority of those disclosures – 4,062 – were made by one utility, San Diego Gas and Electric Co. In 4,000 of those cases, the information was subpoenaed by government agencies.

New digital smart meters being installed throughout the state can measure a home’s energy use hour by hour, showing when residents leave for work, go to sleep or travel on vacation. Older analog meters, which measured cumulative energy use over the course of a month, couldn’t do that.

“Before smart meters, what happened inside houses couldn’t be revealed unless there was a police officer inside with a warrant,” Ozer said.

Source:

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/business/article/Calif-utilities-yield-energy-use-data-4611159.php>

5) Raab & Associates, Steering Committee report (February 2013) –

Under the heading “Strategic (3-10 years)”:

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Under the heading “Transformational (10+ years)”:

“Centralized intel combined with widespread local/distributed intel”  
and  
“Data mining and analytics becomes core competency”

Source:

<http://magrid.raabassociates.org/articles/raab%20subcommittee%20update%20draft.ppt>

View slide 17 only (PDF):  
<http://www.takebackyourpower.net/documents/RaabDraft-17.pdf>

6) Wired.com, “CIA Chief: We’ll Spy on You Through Your Dishwasher” (15 Mar 2012) –

“‘Items of interest will be located, identified, monitored, and remotely controlled through technologies such as radio-frequency identification, sensor networks, tiny embedded servers, and energy harvesters — all connected to the next-generation internet using abundant, low-cost, and high-power computing,’ Petraeus said, ‘the latter now going to cloud computing, in many areas greater and greater supercomputing, and, ultimately, heading to quantum computing.

“Petraeus allowed that these household spy devices “change our notions of secrecy” and prompt a rethink of “our notions of identity and secrecy.” All of which is true — if convenient for a CIA director.”

Source: <http://www.wired.com/2012/03/petraeus-tv-remote/>

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Did we really think that the technocratic oligarchy would stop at collecting information about how we use our phones, who we call, and where we’re located? If we did, we were naive. Plainly, there is a corporate intention to effectively colonize your home.

However, there is also a rising awareness, and resistance, as new solutions are uncovered. The first step is to remove your consent, in writing.

The following is actually written into the California Civil Code. Not only do these provide a strong clue at how the corporatocracy functions (and gets away with what it does), but they also outline a basis for remedy: (notes in red italics)

California Civil Code (2009)

1619. A contract is either express or implied. (If you didn’t say no, you said yes.)

3515. He who consents to an act is not wronged by it. (The way they do business is in writing. If you didn’t send them a letter or notice to remove your consent, you have agreed to their terms, and thus have agreed to a reduction in rights.)

3521. He who takes the benefit must bear the burden. (Utilities and their executives – and many public servants – are taking the benefit. They must, according to their law, accept the liability for all harm if the liability is enforced.)

3523. For every wrong there is a remedy. (We are not bound into something which would have us be as slaves, if we do not want to be.)

3527. The law helps the vigilant, before those who sleep on their rights.

What statutes are YOUR utilities and governments bound by?

*Stay tuned, watch and share Take Back Your Power, and subscribe your email on our website to be informed of important developments and solutions.*

*Josh del Sol is the director and producer of Take Back Your Power, a revelatory documentary feature film uncovering the worldwide 'smart' metering and grid agenda. Watch the film and subscribe to updates at [www.takebackyourpower.net](http://www.takebackyourpower.net), and follow him via twitter [@TBYPfilm](https://twitter.com/TBYPfilm).*

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