

## No evidence of adverse health effects from smart meters, Maine health director reports



*Dr Dora Anne  
Mills, Director,  
Maine CDC*

Augusta, ME, U.S.A. --- (METERING.COM) --- November 10, 2010 - From a review of national and international government or government-affiliated assessments, there is no consistent or convincing evidence of a causal relation between RF exposure in the range of frequencies and power used by smart meters and adverse health effects, according to the Maine public health director and state health officer Dr Dora Anne Mills.

In a report prepared in response to a complaint filed with the Maine Public Utility Commission (PUC), Mills said there was little information in these assessments that spoke directly about the safety of RF exposure from smart meters. However, there was much discussion about the safety of mobile phones, which represent an RF exposure qualitatively similar to smart meters in range of frequency, but because the power is higher and typical use results in exposure closer to the body, the resulting exposure to RF appears to be quantitatively much greater than that from smart meters.

"Thus, it appears to us that the lack of any consistent and convincing evidence of a causal relation between RF exposure from mobile phones and adverse health effects would indicate even less concern for potential health effects from use of smart meters," wrote Mills.

In this context the "us" refers to the "Maine CDC Smart Meters Team" of Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC) staff that was assembled to review the available materials.

Studies cited by the report include the Interphone study of data from 13 countries, published in the May 2010 issue of the International Journal of Epidemiology, which found there was no increased risk to cell phone users for two of the most common types of brain tumors.

The report says it appears, from the information collected and vetted, that smart meters emit non-ionizing radiation – not the kind found in X-rays – that has a similar frequency and power to that of the wireless routers that are in many homes. In addition, the smart meters are used at most about 10 percent of the time, which again is similar to a wireless router.

Further, the frequencies and power of smart meters are also in the range of those found in cordless phones and cell phones, says the report, rejecting the analogy to having a cell phone tower on the side of one's house, as was reported in some of the emails received.

The report also refers to the condition of electronic hypersensitivity, and the impact of mesh networks, and concludes by saying that Dr Mills has also been in contact with colleagues from other states, including New Mexico (which was cited in the complaint filed with PUC), but at this time, cannot find any state health department or official representing the health department who is taking action or is of the opinion the health department should take action to stop the conversion to smart meters.