



The voice of our community

June 21, 2011

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Carol Celic

**Office:**

1469 E. Valley Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

P.O. Box 5278  
Santa Barbara, CA 93150  
Tel: (805) 969-2026  
Fax (805) 969-4043

info@montecitoassociation.org  
www.montecitoassociation.org

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Adoption of a Resolution Requesting the Ability to Opt-Out of the SCE  
Smart Meter Program

Dear Supervisors:

The Montecito Association requests that the County Board of Supervisors formally request that the California Public Utilities Commission create a provision that will allow individuals and communities to opt out of the Smart Meter Program at no additional cost to the customer.

The stated goal of the smart meter program is to reduce energy consumption by educating customers on their energy usage and controlling consumption during certain peak times. While these are worthwhile goals, many questions and concerns have arisen as the radio frequency transmitting meters have been installed. These concerns include the inability to install a solar energy system on a home with a smart meter, problems related to the accuracy of the meters due to interference from other wireless devices, potential interference with medical and electronic devices, fire hazards, lack of security of the transmitted information, the overall cost for implementing the program, as well as concerns about potential health effects from the radio frequency transmissions.

Given the many unanswered questions and public concerns about the smart meters, we believe that individual rate payers and entire communities should have a choice in whether to have a smart meter installed or to keep an existing analog meter. This option should be at no additional cost to the customer. Please join with over 40 other California local governments in advocating for this important option for Santa Barbara County residents.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Nordlund, President