

# ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE AND HEALTH

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# **Advanced Metering Infrastructure and Health**

In some locations, people have voiced concerns over the potential health effects of smart meters and other wireless technology. Tantalus takes customer concerns very seriously and, after deep analysis of the issue, we are confident that smart meters and other advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) present no measurable health effects.

Indeed, due to the efficiency gains and pollution reductions made available through smart grid technology, the smart grid has a clear positive health impact. <u>Decades of research</u> affirm that air and water pollution from some forms of power production leads to health effects <u>including asthma, heart disease, and</u> <u>mercury-related illnesses</u>. Smart grid technology, including smart meters, help reduce energy use and hence reduce these harmful health effects from pollution in a clear and measurable way.

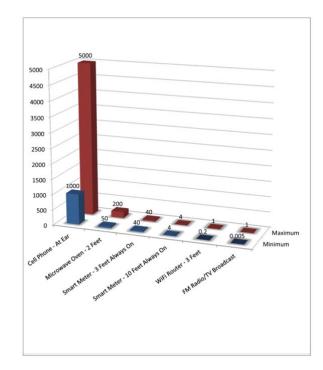
A raft of reports and analyses vouch for the safety of smart meters and AMI. The following are among the most compelling:

- Health Effects of Exposure to Smart Meters
- Health Impacts of Radio Frequency from Smart Meters
- Radio Frequency Radiation and Health: Smart Meters
- <u>Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health: Mobile Phones</u>
- Possible Health Effects of Exposure to Residential Electric and Magnetic Fields

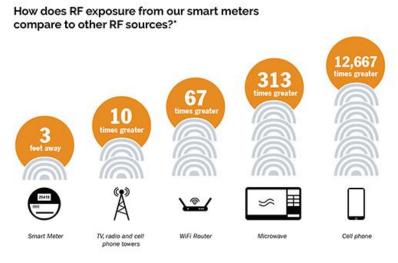
Finally, smart meters' radio frequency (RF) emissions are a whisper compared to a roar from cell and cordless phones, microwaves, wireless routers, laptops and even blow dryers. Typical daily exposure to RF from cell phones is up to 10,000 times the intensity of that from smart meters. Unlike cell phones however, smart meters only actively transmit signals for a very small fraction (between .01% and 5%) of the day, and at several orders of magnitude lower energy levels. The charts on this page illustrate typical RF emissions from a smart meter.

Tantalus takes the health and comfort of its customers very seriously, and has weighed the matter in depth. Based on overwhelming evidence, we are convinced that AMI is not only safe, but that it presents a clear net health benefit to the communities we serve.





#### California Council on Science and Technology



<sup>\*</sup> Based on the FCC average exposure standard which averages exposure over 30 minutes of usage (47CFR1.1310 averaging)

### NB Power



### **Further Reading:**

Dirty Air, Dirty Power: Mortality and Health Damage Due to Air Pollution from Power Plants (June 1, 2004) Human Health & Environmental Impacts of the Electric Power Sector (December 18, 2023) Smart Meters (April 9, 2021) Health Impacts of Radio Frequency from Smart Meters (January, 2011) Radio Frequency Radiation and Health: Smart Meters (February 10, 2012) Electromagnetic Fields and Public Health: Mobile Phones (October 8, 2014) Possible Health Effects of Exposure to Residential Electric and Magnetic Fields (1997) The Facts About Smart Meters and Radio Frequency (2023)

