

My name is Donna Thomson. I own, and live in, a condo in Richmond. I am adamant that the city ensure apartment and condo owners have wired meters as opposed to the new wireless smart meters. I'll explain why by explaining my own situation. I now have 24 smart meters attached to the outside wall of my condo unit. In addition, this complex is 4 stories high and there are meters placed in the same position on each floor. Therefore I am not only affected by the meters outside my apartment but also am affected by those on the other 3 floors - making 96 meters altogether. They are only a few feet from where I spend a great deal of my time. As I am retired, I spend a lot of time at home. I spend most of my time within my apartment within 20 feet of the 24 meters and a great deal of time in my kitchen, only 2 or 3 feet away. In fact the furthest I can get away from these meters is approximately 25 feet, if that. To not have choice in this matter is totally undemocratic. I have purposefully stayed away from wireless. The only wireless device I have is my cell phone which I use for emergencies only. I have always made decisions with my health in mind and am totally appalled that I find myself in this situation. I love my apartment and had intended to remain here for the rest of my life. Hydro has informed me that the smart meter is only working for a few minutes a day, however, in my situation that is 2 times 24 times 4 which comes to 3 hours and 20 minutes each day, minimum. Because people who live in condos live in such close proximity to each other, we are already being exposed to an increased number of radio waves even without including the smart meters. We definitely don't want this extra exposure to electromagnetic or radio waves.

I ask that you take my situation to Hydro and to the Provincial Government and that you demand the smart meters be replaced with wired meters immediately - while hydro is still in our area.

I believe it is Richmond City Council's duty to protect it's citizens and there is no definitive answer regarding the safety of these smart meters. People in apartments and condo's require wired meters such as, I understand, those that commercial buildings will be equipped with. I know I am not the only apartment dweller who is faced with extreme exposure to the radio waves coming from these smart meters. Remember, asbestos, at one time, was not seen as being carcinogenic.

Thank you.