

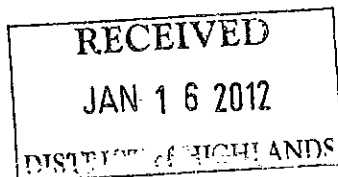


Canadian Office and Professional Employees Union Local 378
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Our File No. LF/COPE/Committees/PA

January 12, 2012

Highlands District
 1980 Millstream Road
 Victoria, BC V9B 6H1



Dear Mayor and Council,

Over the past year as BC Hydro has started to install Smart Meters, we've seen strong reactions from people in communities across BC.

I'm sure you're hearing – as we are – from people in your communities concerned about potential health, environmental, cost, and privacy impacts. That's part of what led to last fall's UBCM convention passing a resolution calling for a moratorium on Smart Meter installation.

I am writing to you as the president of COPE 378, the union representing the meter readers who will be put out of work by Smart Meters, to ask your council/board to consider one further key impact of the Smart Meter Initiative – the loss of nearly 400 jobs in communities around this province. Meter Readers have valuable institutional knowledge and are proud of the work they do in service of our public utility and communities.

COPE 378 has been doing presentations before municipal councils and public community meetings on the job impact of Smart Meters, and we would like to extend the offer to come before your council to present our information.

Among all the other issues that come with Smart Meters – the impact on the meter readers is the most immediate and measurable. These layoffs will have a devastating impact on families and communities across BC.

To date, the provincial government has simply ignored the issue. COPE 378 has tried several times to get an 'anywhere, anytime' meeting with various premiers and ministers of energy to discuss Smart Meters and meter readers, to no avail.

I hope you will contact us at 604-299-0378 or by emailing communications@cope378.ca if you would like to discuss setting up a presentation to your council.

Sincerely,

David Black
 President, COPE 378