

# “Getting Smarter About the Smart Grid”

A paper to be presented at:

## The Commonwealth Club of California

Tuesday, January 28 - 12:00-3:00p.m.



Jim Turner, Esq.  
Swankin & Turner



Timothy D. Schoechle, PhD  
Author, “Getting Smarter



Camilla R. G. Rees, MBA  
ElectromagneticHealth.org



Duncan A. Campbell, Esq.  
New Energy Visionary



Dr. Karl Maret  
Dove Health Alliance

An interdisciplinary expert panel will present a program at the Commonwealth Club of California, our nation’s oldest and largest public affairs center, Tuesday, January 28th from 12:00–3:00 p.m., called **“The High (?) Road to a True Smart Grid”**. The program will cut through misunderstandings about the value of the ‘smart meters’ being rolled out across the country, and the misguided direction of electricity and energy policy in the U.S. The panelists will outline a blueprint for a safer and smarter approach to both electricity generation and distribution in the United States—one that has all of our best interests, and the interests of planet Earth, at heart. This leading edge program is based on the recent white paper, *“Getting Smarter About the Smart Grid”*, authored by Dr. Timothy Schoechle, Senior Research Fellow, National Institute for Science, Law and Public Policy in Washington, D.C., with a forward by KGNU’s Duncan Campbell, Esq. Complimentary light buffet will be served from 11:30 a.m. until noon. Please encourage policymakers and energy sector investors to attend.

## “The High (?) Road to a True Smart Grid”

Billions of dollars of ‘smart’ utility meters are being installed across America that are unable to integrate with, or enable, the ‘smart grid’ of the future on which U.S. energy sustainability depends. Called a colossal waste of taxpayer and ratepayer dollars, the new meters and networks do not improve energy efficiency, enhance energy management, help balance supply and demand, or facilitate the integration of renewable sources. Instead the meters drive up costs, introduce unnecessary risks to personal privacy and health, and divert resources from creating a true smart grid.

**Join us to dive deeply into the roots of electricity paralysis in the United States** and learn what it will take to create a reliable, safe, and sustainable electricity grid with our planetary interests at heart. Learn:

- **How state and local governments, and environmental organizations, have been misled about the purported benefits of ‘smart’ meters.**
- **How ‘smart’ meter investments, using billions in stimulus funding, do not benefit ratepayers or support economic growth, but financially prop up unsustainable Investor-Owned-Utilities (IOUs), while postponing the inevitable transition to a decentralized and democratized electricity system.**
- **How conflicts of interests in the IOU monopoly utility business model are preventing us from moving to a renewable energy economy.**
- **Why the right to ‘opt out’ of ‘smart’ meters will not solve the pressing underlying risks and economic problems, nor will exploiting more fossil fuels.**
- **How U.S. policymakers evidence a lack of a basic understanding of the problems associated with the future of energy and electricity.**

This interdisciplinary critique of our present electricity dilemma will clarify technical misunderstandings about 'smart' meters; the entrenched economic models preventing utilities from fully embracing renewable energy; and how the growing transpartisan 'smart' meter rebellion heralds an epochal transformation in the economy of energy. The panelists will lay out the next steps the U.S. must take to achieve clean energy abundance—for the sake of our pocketbooks, sustainable energy independence, global economic competitiveness, preservation of natural resources, enhanced national security and to forestall the looming threat to life on Earth from man-made global warming.

The program, including Q&A, will explore the pivotal role communities and citizens can play, through political will, including transpartisan collaborations, in driving the needed transformation in this sector, and how a clean energy economy can be fast tracked through a truly innovative and pioneering collaborative financing arrangement between the private and public sectors.

**To RSVP, for “The High (?) Road to a True Smart Grid?” featuring the white paper “Getting Smarter About the Smart Grid” please contact the Commonwealth Club of California at [www.commonwealthclub.org](http://www.commonwealthclub.org) or 415-597-6700**  
**11:30 a.m. – Complimentary Light Organic Buffet**  
**12:00 p.m. – Program Begins**  
**Tickets: \$32 non-members, \$20 members, \$10 students (with valid ID)**  
**Media please contact the Commonwealth Club to request a Press Pass.**



**Everybody needs to get involved to shape the future of energy and electricity policy in the United States. Even if you've never thought about electricity policy, always have taken electricity for granted, or consider it a minor part of your monthly budget, America needs you to take a stand now for local power generation, renewable energy technologies and empowering people, literally. Getting this right has everything to do with the future economic security of the United States and our ability to deter the impacts of global warming. Please join us January 28th to learn more!**