August 26, 2010

Michael R. Peevey, President
Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Peevey:

On August 24, 2010, the City of Novato City Council heard a presentation by PG&E on SmartMeters. Also in attendance were a number citizens expressing concerns and raising questions about the SmartMeter program. A video archive of the Council meeting is available on the City's website at www.cityofnovato.org.

On behalf of the City Council, I am writing to request that CPUC suspend PG&E's authorization to install SmartMeters pending completion of your investigation and after the findings have been published and publicly reviewed. While the Novato City Council appreciates PG&E's desire to use technology to provide its customers with a tool to manage their use of electricity and gas utilization, the Council Members believe that currently there are many questions about the devices which need to be fully and publicly answered and explained. The Council expressed disappointment that PG&E was not proactive in launching a comprehensive local outreach campaign to educate the public in Novato before installation of the SmartMeters was initiated. Instead it appears that PG&E reactively launched its outreach, leaving Council members and City staff fielding numerous questions about SmartMeters.

The Novato City Council would like to join with and provide support to the requests of other cities and counties which have communicated to the CPUC regarding the request to suspend installation. The Council has also sent a letter directly to PG&E requesting that they suspend installation of SmartMeters in the City of Novato until the findings of the CPUC's independent investigation of SmartMeters have been published and publicly reviewed.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Macleamy
Mayor

Cc: City Council
Michael Frank, City Manager
Williams Devereaux, PG&E, Senior Director, Smart Meter
Josh Townsend, PG&E, Public Affairs Manager – Area 7