



Radio Frequency Talking Points

- Georgia Power's Smart Meter program is an automated electronic metering and meter communication system that enables Georgia Power to remotely read a customer's meter without having a representative visit the property. The state-of-the-art technology behind the Smart Meter system will help deliver current and future benefits to our customers including the ability to monitor their energy use online.
- Georgia Power Company has installed more than 1.7 million Smart Meters since 2008. Installations will continue until all customers receive a new Smart Meter, with completion anticipated by the end of 2012.
- To send information, Smart Meters transmit relatively low power radio signals, resembling those sent by many common products like cell phones, home computer networks and microwave ovens.
- Electronic communication devices emit radio frequency (RF) energy which is another term for electromagnetic fields (EMF), radio waves or wireless signals.
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has adopted maximum permissible exposure (MPE) limits for radio transmitters of all types, including Smart Meters.
- The FCC's RF policies and standards are designed to ensure that devices that emit RF do not expose the public or workers to a level of RF energy that expert organizations consider to be potentially harmful.
- Georgia Power Smart Meters operate at only a fraction of the safe power limits identified by the FCC guidelines for safe RF energy exposure.
- Recent studies by government and research groups confirm the radio signals sent by Smart Meters are well below FCC safety limits.
- The typical Georgia Power Smart Meter transmits information wirelessly for less than 1 second a day with an energy output many times lower than the average output of a cell phone.