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To: John Kennedy

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Subject:

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Message:

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To: jkennedy@fcc.gov

Question: If these radio devices can be converted into units that are FCC approved, why can't these radio devices which are embedded in the meter's housing be removed as opposed to only deactivated at the end of this experiment?

Answer: The utility is installing these electric meters at businesses and on people's homes. This requires scheduling of the customer, a utility vehicle and meter technician and for the utility to re-assign a new meter ID into its maintenance and billing data base. As a result the utility would prefer to leave the module inactive, but in place, if the test does not succeed to meet their reliability needs. In addition, if the utility opens the meter cover to remove the AMDS RF module then the meter must be re-calibrated, a process which cannot be accomplished in the field. If we cause the utility too much logistical effort or cost they may not be willing to help AMDS collect the RF performance data that we need.

During the experiment the utility will continue to manually read the visual display on meter for billing purposes. They will also compare that manual reading to the electronic reading provided by AMDS as one test of data reliability.

The AMDS module in question has met all FCC requirements during in-house test including meeting spec over the full operating temperature in the temperature chamber. It is now completing test at an independent test lab and should be submitted for FCC Type Approval and presumably receive a FCC grant well before the experiment would be completed.