

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1207

By: Representative D. Altes

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE CONSUMER CHOICE IN THE INSTALLATION
OF SMART METER GATEWAY DEVICES; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO PROVIDE CONSUMER CHOICE IN THE
INSTALLATION OF SMART METER GATEWAY
DEVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-3-403 is amended to read as follows:
23-3-403. Energy conservation programs and measures – Definitions.
As used in this subchapter:

(1) ~~“energy~~ Energy conservation programs and measures” may
include, but ~~shall not be~~ is not limited to:

~~(1)(A)~~ (A) Programs of residential, commercial, or industrial
insulation, including measures to facilitate the financing of ~~such~~ the
insulation;

~~(2)(B)~~ (B) Programs ~~which~~ that result in the improvement of
load factors, contribute to reductions in peak power demands, and promote
efficient load management, including the adoption of interruptible service
equipment and alternative or additional metering equipment designed to
implement new rate structures; and

~~(3)(C)~~ (C) Programs ~~which~~ that encourage the use of renewable
energy technologies or sources, including solar energy, wind power,
geothermal energy, biomass conversion, or the energy available from



municipal, industrial, silvicultural, or agricultural wastes-; and

(2) "Smart meter gateway device" means an electric utility meter or its component, including a load control device or similar attachment, that:

(A) Is located at the consumer's residence or business;

and

(B) Serves as a communications gateway or portal:

(i) To electrical appliances, equipment, or devices within the consumer's residence or business; or

(ii) Otherwise communicates with, monitors, or controls an electrical appliance, equipment, or device.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-3-405(a), concerning the authority of the Arkansas Public Service Commission, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(4)(A) A utility company shall implement a procedure approved by the commission that allows a consumer to refuse installation of a smart meter gateway device at the consumer's residence or business.

(B) If a consumer refuses the installation of a smart meter gateway device at the consumer's residence or business as provided under subdivision (a)(4)(A) of this section, the consumer is not required to pay an additional fee to the utility company or incur any additional cost for the refusal.