

'Smart' Meters Causing Fires and Explosions

► Unheard of with the analog meters

See the **forensic research**, "The Discovery and Science of Smart Meter Fires" (2021): <https://ehtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Discovery-and-Science-of-Smart-Meter-Fires.pdf>.

And see "Overview: Fire and Electrical Hazards from 'Smart', Wireless, PLC, and Digital Utility Meters" by Neena Beety <https://smartmeterharm.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/fire-and-electrical-hazards-report.pdf>. On page 5, William S. Bathgate explained about *the varistors that are used instead of surge protectors*: "This small electronic part cannot withstand more than a 300 Volts AC surge. The part will explode when a line voltage surge exceeds this limit, such as when a tree branch touches the high voltage lines or lightning strike occurs nearby. Once this varistor explosion has occurred it permits high voltage transfer to the other circuit board components and the circuit board substrate. This results in the AMI* meter literally exploding from the meter socket or in a severe melting of the plastic components, likely leading to a fire and/or severe home damage." *[an AMI is a 'smart' meter]



A burned up smart meter on a home in Reno.
(Photo: Provided by the Reno Fire Department)

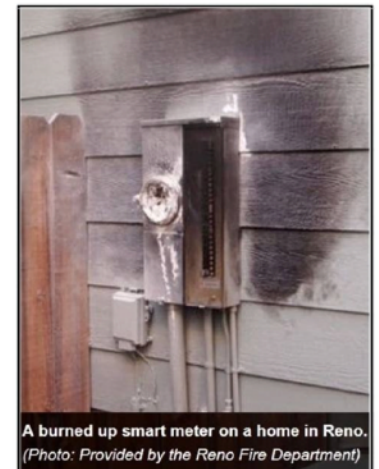
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This overview covers wide-ranging problems:

Lack of surge protection	Switching Mode Power Supply
No direct path to ground	(SMPS) surges and appliance
National Electrical Code 240	damage
violation	RF Signal and SMPS transients
No Protective Device Coordination	routed onto building wiring
Study	Interference with AFCIs/GFCIs
"Catastrophic failure" – a new meter	[Arc Fault Circuit Interrupters/Ground
failure mode	Fault Circuit Interrupters]
Overheating	Moisture, heat, and flammable
Inferior materials	Lithium batteries
Burned meter-to-meter-box contacts	Risks from AMI/AMR water meters
Faulty remote disconnect switch	UL Certification of meter models that
Arcing	cause fires [lack of]
Circuit boards in electric meters	Flawed FCC requirements and testing
Melting solder can create new circuit	Inadequate worker qualifications and
board pathways	training, poor installation quality
Meters don't fit sockets	Vulnerability to hacking
Thinner blades	Danger due to meter location
Pitting	Vibration and heat in building
Malfunctioning temperature alarms	materials from RF emissions
and sensors	Accelerated corrosion
	Violation of FCC Grants of
	Equipment Authorization

And related serious issues:

Removal of meters from fire scenes	Inaction from fire safety
Hampered investigations	administrators / from regulatory
Non-specific and inadequate fire	agencies;; exemptions and
coding	loopholes
Punished whistleblowers	News media censorship and failure to
Problems undercounted due to lack of	investigate ...
proper investigation	Utility company lack of transparency
Elimination of monthly inspections	and misinformation
by meter readers	Insurance industry silence
Increasing terpenes in surrounding	
trees due to stress [TERPENES	
ARE FLAMMABLE]	

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