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Subject: What's this?

KION-TV News - Carmel City Councilman Makes Deal with PG&E

By Brooke Holmquist, April 5

CARMEL, Calif.- Tuesday, a Central Coast city council member said he reached a deal with PG&E keeping smartmeters out of your home, at least for a little while.

We have seen protests, work trucks stopped, cages blocking smartmeters, and even city and county bans on smartmeter installation.

But it may just be one city councilman in little Carmel-by-the-Sea who's been talking with PG&E, that may make the biggest impact.

"Issuing a moratorium or ban wasn't probably going to be productive," said Burnett.

Carmel city councilman Jason Burnett watched other cities and counties fail to take any real legal action against PG&E if they installed a smartmeter in an area with a ban.

Burnett knew he had to go another route. So, he tried making a deal.

"It was helpful that I approached them saying as an individual, I'm actually excited about having smartmeters on my home. So I'm not antagonistic to the idea, but I also have sympathy for the fact that not everyone agrees with me and other people should have the technologies on their homes that they are comfortable with."

At first Burnett said talks went nowhere, "They came back after a little back and forth and said ok we'll provide this arrangement for Carmel."

Burnett said the deal started with Carmel but now will incorporate all of the Monterey Peninsula from Marina through Carmel.

He said PG&E will not install a smartmeter on anyone's house who doesn't want it, only until the CA Public Utilities Commission approves the opt-out plan which PG&E presented a couple of weeks ago.

"It makes sense to PG&E because it will hopefully reduce some of the opposition they are facing," said Burnett.

Tuesday, PG&E said they are not making any formal announcements but are working very closely with Burnett.