

**From:** [Angela Ford](#)  
**To:** [Mary Gourley](#)  
**Subject:** COMMENT for City Council - Thank you, Mary!  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 21, 2022 6:28:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [Article-Report - The Cloud Begins with Coal-National Mining Association - August 2013.pdf](#)

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READ into record on June 21, 2022

Emailed to Vice-City Manager Mary Gourley  
with attachment, [The Cloud Begins with Coal](#)

Dear Mary,

Kindly forward this to:

- Sebastopol City Mayor Patrick Slayter and Council Members Una Glass, Sarah Glade Gurney, Neysa Hinton and Diana Rich.
- Sebastopol City Staff
- Climate Action Committee members.

Thank you,

Angela Ford 

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“SMART” TECHNOLOGY and “GREEN”

I

By now, most of us are aware that Syserco "green-washed" Sebastopol Council members, staff and the Climate Action Committee – lulling them into thinking it would be a good and green thing - to convert all of the City's 3,000 water meters into “smart” water meters. And only weeks after the Contract was signed did Syserco state,

. . .there has **never** been a claim that the new meters save energy, save water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

*2/7/2022 Syserco email to Dante DelPrete, Sebastopol Public Works Superintendent*

II

TONIGHT I bring before you a 2013 Report, entitled “The Cloud Begins with Coal”. Sponsored by the National Mining Association, it's a deep dive into the electrical costs of “smart” technologies.

Excerpts from the Executive Summary of this report follow:

- The information economy is a blue-whale economy with its energy uses mostly out of sight. . . The ICT [Information-Communications-Technologies] ecosystem now approaches 10% of world electricity generation. Or in other energy terms . . .already uses about 50% more energy than global aviation. [2013 Report]
- The inherent nature of the mobile Internet, a key feature of the emergent Cloud architecture, requires far more energy than do wired networks.
- Trends now promise faster, not slower, growth in ICT energy use.
- Electricity fuels the infrastructure of the world's ICT ecosystem – the Internet, Big Data and the Cloud.
- Coal is the world's largest single current and future source of electricity. Hence [they write] the title of this paper. **[The Cloud Begins with Coal/Big Data, Big Networks, Big Infrastructure and Big Power].**

Is this really where we want to go as a community?

Thanks for your attention.

Angela Ford [REDACTED]