

Scorecard - Westario Power Inc.

Performance Outcomes	Performance Categories	Measures	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Trend	Target		
									Industry	Distributor	
<b>Customer Focus</b> Services are provided in a manner that responds to identified customer preferences.	Service Quality	New Residential/Small Business Services Connected on Time	92.25%	90.61%	91.83%	95.43%	96.24%	↑	90.00%		
		Scheduled Appointments Met On Time	94.86%	96.40%	95.02%	97.33%	99.52%	↑	90.00%		
		Telephone Calls Answered On Time	82.29%	86.92%	85.86%	86.73%	88.45%	↑	65.00%		
	Customer Satisfaction	First Contact Resolution	99.56%	98.95	97.18%	98.19	98.83%				
		Billing Accuracy	99.99%	99.93%	99.77%	99.61%	99.78%	↓	98.00%		
		Customer Satisfaction Survey Results	92.0%	92.00	95.0%	94.0	94.00%				
<b>Operational Effectiveness</b> Continuous improvement in productivity and cost performance is achieved; and distributors deliver on system reliability and quality objectives.	Safety	Level of Public Awareness	82.00%	82.00%	83.00%	83.00%	84.00%				
		Level of Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04 <sup>1</sup>	C	C	C	C	C	→		C	
		Serious Electrical Incident Index	Number of General Public Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	→		0
			Rate per 10, 100, 1000 km of line	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	→		0.027
	System Reliability	Average Number of Hours that Power to a Customer is Interrupted <sup>2</sup>	1.20	0.58	1.12	1.92	1.79	↑		2.37	
		Average Number of Times that Power to a Customer is Interrupted <sup>2</sup>	0.26	0.21	0.38	0.50	0.73	↓		0.62	
	Asset Management	Distribution System Plan Implementation Progress	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed				
	Cost Control	Efficiency Assessment	3	3	3	3	3				
		Total Cost per Customer <sup>3</sup>	\$582	\$575	\$601	\$588	\$610				
		Total Cost per Km of Line <sup>3</sup>	\$25,148	\$24,850	\$25,517	\$24,427	\$25,340				
<b>Public Policy Responsiveness</b> Distributors deliver on obligations mandated by government (e.g., in legislation and in regulatory requirements imposed further to Ministerial directives to the Board).	Connection of Renewable Generation	Renewable Generation Connection Impact Assessments Completed On Time <sup>4</sup>	100.00%				100.00%				
		New Micro-embedded Generation Facilities Connected On Time	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	→	90.00%		
<b>Financial Performance</b> Financial viability is maintained; and savings from operational effectiveness are sustainable.	Financial Ratios	Liquidity: Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)	0.90	1.40	1.27	1.26	1.05				
		Leverage: Total Debt (includes short-term and long-term debt) to Equity Ratio	0.66	0.73	0.65	0.70	0.66				
		Profitability: Regulatory Return on Equity	Deemed (included in rates)	8.98%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%			
			Achieved	2.55%	10.10%	10.99%	8.77%	7.01%			

1. Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04 assessed: Compliant (C); Needs Improvement (NI); or Non-Compliant (NC).

2. An upward arrow indicates decreasing reliability while downward indicates improving reliability.

3. A benchmarking analysis determines the total cost figures from the distributor 's reported information.

4. Value displayed for 2021 reflects data from the first quarter, as the filing requirement was subsequently removed from the Reporting and Record-keeping Requirements (RRR).

Legend:

5-year trend

↑ up ↓ down → flat

Current year

● target met ● target not met

# 2021 Scorecard Management Discussion and Analysis (“2021 Scorecard MD&A”)

The link below provides a document titled “Scorecard - Performance Measure Descriptions” that has the technical definition, plain language description and how the measure may be compared for each of the Scorecard’s measures in the 2021 Scorecard MD&A:

<http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca/OEB/ Documents/scorecard/Scorecard Performance Measure Descriptions.pdf>

## Scorecard MD&A - General Overview

In 2021, Westario Power Inc. (“WPI” or “Westario Power”) exceeded most performance targets. Westario Power exhibited a deterioration in “Average Number of Times that Power to a Customer is Interrupted” in 2021 however the five-year rolling average is better than the distributor specific target. The general trend has resulted in exceptional system reliability performance overall.

WPI had a good year from a performance standpoint. Aside from the system reliability metric mentioned above, the company met or exceeded the performance measures set by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). The company’s 2021 service quality remained above all industry targets. Customer Satisfaction remained above the industry standard and specifically the three measures combined averaged 99.5%.

As evidenced by service quality, customer satisfaction, and system reliability measures, WPI continued to provide excellent customer service to its customers with a very high level of reliability in 2021. The financial measures show that WPI continues to be a stable and financially strong Ontario distribution company.

In 2021, WPI is committed to exceeding the OEB-set performance measures and is committed to preserving the results of previous years. The performance improvements expected are due to WPI’s unwavering focus on making the necessary investments that will permit its employees to operate the distribution company with a high level of reliability and by responding to customer input with respect to the types of improvements and investments that they expect from the company.

### Service Quality

- **New Residential/Small Business Services Connected on Time**

WPI must connect new service for the customer within five business days, 90% of the time, unless the customer agrees to a later date. This timeline depends on the customer meeting specific requirements ahead of time (such as no electrical safety concerns in the building,

customer's payment information complete, etc.)

Over the 2017 to 2021 period, WPI connected, on average, over 93.2% of new Residential and Small Business customers on time. The 2021 result of 96.2% was the highest attained over the five-year period. This is above the industry standard of 90% for all Local Distribution Companies ("LDCs") in Ontario. WPI was able to achieve this excellent result due to efficient connection procedures and a focus on providing excellent customer connection service.

- **Scheduled Appointments Met On Time**

For appointments during a utility's regular business hours, the utility must offer a window of time that is not more than four hours long, and must arrive within that window, 90% of the time.

For 2017 to 2021, WPI's experience with meeting the Scheduled Appointments Met on Time metric of 96.6% exceeded the industry target of 90%. This metric has continued to rise and throughout the five-year period has stayed above this industry target. 2021 metric results were the best over the five-year period at 99.5%. Westario continues to experience a high demand for services within a wide service territory. WPI's process for completing appointments during the utility's regular business hours and offering a window of time that is not more than four hours long is condition that WPI strives to meet. In 2022, WPI aims to continue meeting all appointments on time.

- **Telephone Calls Answered On Time**

During regular call centre hours, the utility's call centre staff must answer phone calls within 30 seconds of receiving the call directly or having the call transferred to them, 65% of the time.

WPI believes that providing a better customer experience will help foster customer loyalty and advocacy. Customer loyalty is built through great customer experiences that exceed expectations, and WPI believes that enhancing WPI's customer experience will help to ensure that customers perceive WPI's service offerings as high value added items. For the Telephone Calls Answered within 30 Seconds metric, WPI maintained high percentages for qualified incoming calls during regular call centre hours at 88.45% for calls received directly or of having the call transferred. This greatly exceeds the OEB target for timely call response of 65%.

Westario Power continues to improve its accessibility by continually amending its website to provide a more user-friendly format to enhance its customer's experience.

WPI continues to utilize self-serve web tools and portals like MyHydroEye, an electronic billing portal, a customer consumption portal, and on-line forms and applications, as well as department specific email addresses to make it easier for customers to engage with WPI staff.

In addition, WPI manages several social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn, to educate and inform their customer base on initiatives such as safety and energy conservation.

## Customer Satisfaction

- **First Contact Resolution**

WPI aims to address their customers' needs as quickly as possible. Ideally, their concerns and issues can be resolved the first time the customer contacts Westario Power. WPI must report on its success at meeting a customer's needs the first time WPI is contacted. First Contact Resolution can be measured in a variety of ways and further regulatory guidance is necessary in order to achieve meaningful comparable information across electricity distributors.

Westario Power tracks First Contact Resolution in its Customer Information System (CIS) tracking First Contact Resolution by using contact logs within the CIS.

Westario has measured First Contact Resolution based on the outcome of the initial contact via telephone. No further action was required on 98.8% of initial contact made by customers, staying consistent with the previous 5 years results which averaged 98.5%. Westario Power continues to review its processes and find ways to further enhance the customer experience.

- **Billing Accuracy**

An important part of business is ensuring that customer's bills are accurate. Westario Power must report on its success at issuing accurate bills to its customers.

In 2014 Westario Power initiated the tracking and measuring of Billing Accuracy using contact logs and computer-generated reports.

Through the efforts of the billing staff and continuous improvements of the billing process WPI was able to support a billing accuracy metric of 99.8% for 2021.

- **Customer Satisfaction Survey Results**

WPI uses different ways to determine how satisfied their customers are with the service they receive. WPI must report the results of whatever customer satisfaction surveys it uses.

WPI retained the services of an independent third party to conduct a bi-annual Customer Engagement Survey via telephone in 2021. The

primary objective is to provide a quantitative measurement of customer perceptions and attitudes. Specifically, the study sought to determine overall satisfaction with the quality of service provided by WPI, determine overall satisfaction with the reliability of the service provided, assess customers' satisfaction with the quality of customer service, assess customers' perceptions of operating and capital expenditures; and provide customer feedback on areas of improvement.

Westario Power's 2020/2021 Customer Satisfaction Study showed overall satisfaction of 94% slightly down compared to the previous bi-annual survey. WPI's overall quality of service at 94% is greater than the provincial average. The next survey is scheduled for the fall of 2023. Westario continues to train staff in providing the highest levels of professionalism and service to translate into a more positive customer experience.

## Safety

- **Public Safety**
  - **Component A – Public Awareness of Electrical Safety**

The apparatus used to run an electricity system can be extremely dangerous. Because equipment such as power lines and poles can be located in public areas, the utility must take steps to prevent electrical accidents or incidents involving the public. One way is to provide information about safety risks and precautions to take when near this equipment.

The Public Awareness of Electrical Safety Survey involves a new statistical survey that gauges the public's awareness of key electrical safety concepts related to electrical distribution equipment in WPI's service area. It measures the level of effort placed by distributors on preventing electrical accidents and provides a benchmark of the levels of awareness including identifying gaps where additional education and awareness efforts may be required. This is the first year for providing province-wide standardized reporting on this measure. WPI will carry out a survey every two years that measures the effort made to raise the public's awareness about these risks.

Results are based on a telephone survey (Random Digit Dialing) among Members of the General Public, 18 years of age or older, residing within the 2021 participating LDCs' geographic service territories. The data has been statistically weighted according to Canadian census figures (2016) for age, gender and region.

The following six core measurement questions asked corresponds to the six most frequent incidents involving utility equipment in Ontario over the last decade:

- Likelihood to "call before you dig."
- Impact of touching a power line

- Proximity of an overhead power line
- Danger of tampering with electrical equipment
- Proximity to downed power line
- Actions taken in vehicle in contact with wires

This survey and previous years' surveys of the public in your service territory about electrical safety show many respondents do have good knowledge or have received some information pertaining to the 6 core measurement questions. The Combined Overall Public Safety Awareness Index Score is 84%.

- **Component B – Compliance with Ontario Regulation 22/04**

Ontario Regulation 22/04 – Electrical Distribution Safety sets out safety standards that utilities must follow in their operations – for example, making sure proper procedures are in place to prevent accidents or incidents, keeping the system in safe working condition, etc.

WPI must demonstrate how well it met the standards by providing declarations, audit results, inspection reports and other documentation. For 2021, Westario Power received a compliant with Ontario Regulation 22/04. For 2022, WPI will strive to maintain compliance with Regulation 22/04.

- **Component C – Serious Electrical Incident Index**

Westario Power must report on any serious electrical incidents involving its equipment and the general public. A 'serious electrical incident' is defined as:

- a. any electrical contact that caused death or critical injury to a person;
- b. any inadvertent contact with any part of a distribution system operating at 750 volts or above that caused, or had the potential to cause, death or critical injury to a person;
- c. any fire or explosion in any part of a distribution system operating at or above 750 volts that caused, or had the potential to cause, death or critical injury to a person, except a fire or explosion caused by lightning strike.

For the scorecard, WPI reports both the number of incidents and how often they happen for every 10, 100 or 1,000 kilometers of line WPI operates. This reflects the different sizes of WPI's service areas.

WPI did not have any serious electrical incidents in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Westario endeavors to provide safety information and outlining the dangers that all customers' need to be aware of prior to working around power lines and equipment. This includes calling

our office, obtaining locates prior to digging, and obtaining references to respective codes. All information is provided free of charge to members of the public and all other interested parties. Westario continues to strive to communicate on safety throughout our distribution system through various methods including safety orientations, on-line, and telephone.

## System Reliability

- **Average Number of Hours that Power to a Customer is Interrupted**

An important feature of a reliable distribution system is recovering from power outages as quickly as possible. WPI must track the average length of time, in hours, that its customers have experienced a power outage over the past year.

For 2021, WPI's average number of hours that power to a customer was interrupted was 1.79 hours which is lower than its distributor target of 2.37 hours and just slightly over the five-year rolling average of 1.32. Interruptions are largely attributed to loss of power/ loss of supply caused by being an embedded distributor to Hydro One, who lost power due to severe weather.

- **Average Number of Times that Power to a Customer is Interrupted**

Another important feature of a reliable distribution system is reducing the frequency of power outages. WPI must track the number of times its customers have experienced a power outage over the past year.

For 2021, WPI's average number of times that power to a customer was interrupted was 0.73 times. This is higher than its distributor target of 0.62 times and the five-year rolling average of 0.42. Most occurrences are attributed to loss of power/ loss of supply caused by being an embedded distributor to Hydro One, who lost power due to severe weather.

## Asset Management

- **Distribution System Plan Implementation Progress**

Westario Power's Distribution System Plan (DSP) is complete and was included as part of WPI's 2018 Cost of Service rate application filed in 2017. The DSP filed covered a five-year plan for the years 2018-2022.

## Cost Control

- **Efficiency Assessment**

Westario Power must manage its costs successfully in order to help assure its customers they are receiving value for the cost of the service they receive.

WPI's total costs are evaluated to produce a single efficiency ranking. These rankings are separated into five groups which are determined by the difference between each utility's actual and predicted costs. Utilities whose actual costs are lower than predicted are considered more efficient and will be assigned to Group 1 or Group 2. Utilities whose actual and predicted costs are similar will be assigned to Group 3. Utilities whose actual costs are higher than predicted will be assigned to Group 4 or Group 5.

For 2017 to 2021, WPI has been assigned to Group 3, an average performer and whose actual costs are close to those predicted. Westario Power continues to strive to achieve greater efficiency through productivity improvements and cost control, without compromising safety and reliability of the distribution system.

- **Total Cost per Customer**

Total cost is a sum of all the costs incurred by WPI to provide service to its customers. This amount is then divided by the WPI's total number of customers to determine the Total Cost per Customer. The results are indicative of stable and effectively planned maintenance and replacement programs.

Westario Power achieved a Total Cost per Customer of \$610, an increase of \$22 (3.7%) from the previous year. Westario continues to monitor and manage its cost structure to balance the cost effectiveness while ensuring the reliability and safety of the distribution system. This has resulted in a very stable annual total cost per customer and as reflected in other measures a dependable distribution system.

- **Total Cost per km of Line**

Total cost is a sum of all the costs incurred by WPI to provide service to its customers. This amount is then divided by the number of kilometers of line WPI operates to determine the Total Cost per km of Line.

Westario Power achieved a Total Cost per km of Line of \$25,340, resulting in an increase of 3.7% compared to 2020. As noted above, WPI continues to monitor and manage its distribution system in a cost-effective manner while also ensuring maintenance and capital investments are undertaken in a manner to maximize both safety and reliability for its customers.



## Connection of Renewable Generation

- **Renewable Generation Connection Impact Assessments Completed on Time**

WPI must complete a connection impact assessment for a renewable generator within a certain timeline and must report to the Board on how well it met those timelines.

In 2021, no Feed-In Tariff (FIT) connection impact assessments were required.

- **New Micro-embedded Generation Facilities Connected On Time**

WPI must connect smaller generators, producing less than 10kW of power, within five business days 90% of the time, unless the customer agrees to a later date. These generators are known as “micro-embedded generation facilities.” The timeline depends on the customer meeting specific requirements ahead of time.

In 2021, 100% of the Micro Feed-In Tariff (Microfit) connections required were connected on time.

## Financial Ratios

- **Liquidity: Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)**

A common way of measuring the financial health of a company is through financial ratios. The Current Ratio measures whether or not a company has enough resources (assets) to pay its debts (liabilities) over the next 12 months.

WPI's 2021 Current Ratio is a 1.05. This ratio is lower than the five-year average of 1.18, and 2020's ratio of 1.26. The ratio in 2022 should improve as a result of the acquisition of additional long-term debt which aligns with Westario's strategy of aligning long term assets with long term liabilities.

- **Leverage: Total Debt (includes short-term and long-term debt) to Equity Ratio**

Total Debt to Equity Ratio measures the degree to which a company is leveraging itself through its use of borrowed money.

Westario's 2021 Total Debt to Equity Ratio decreased to 0.66 when compared to 2020's ratio of 0.70 and is essentially in line with the 0.68 five-year average. This slight change reflects Westario's ability to operate and maintain a safe and reliable distribution system by funding new capital projects with revolving debt supported by positive operating results.

- **Profitability: Regulatory Return on Equity – Deemed (included in rates)**

Return on Equity is the rate of return that WPI is allowed to earn through its distribution rates, as approved by the Ontario Energy Board.

The rate of return that the Ontario Energy Board had determined for 2021 was 9.0%. WPI was able to essentially match this target through prudent cost containment and approval of the Cost of Service in 2018 and IRM for 2021.

- **Profitability: Regulatory Return on Equity – Achieved**

The Achieved Return on Equity shows Westario Power's actual Return on Equity earned in the year.

WPI earned a Return on Equity of 7.01% in 2021, which has deteriorated from 8.77% in 2020. The achieved Return on Equity is within the +/- 3% of the deemed regulatory Return on Equity. WPI has achieved an average return on equity of 7.9% over the last five years; reflecting stable earnings and a practice of retaining equity to support the operations and the re-investment in the distribution assets, while

maintaining a customer focused operation that is safe and reliable.

## Note to Readers of 2021 Scorecard MD&A

The information provided by distributors on their future performance (or what can be construed as forward-looking information) may be subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual events, conditions or results to differ materially from historical results or those contemplated by the distributor regarding their future performance. Some of the factors that could cause such differences include legislative or regulatory developments, financial market conditions, general economic conditions and the weather. For these reasons, the information on future performance is intended to be management's best judgement on the reporting date of the performance scorecard and could be markedly different in the future.