

Monitoring Report Smart Meter Deployment and TOU Pricing – June 2011

August 2, 2011

This report summarizes the activities by licensed distribution companies with respect to the implementation of smart meters and time-of-use (TOU) pricing for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) consumers during the period June 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011.

- Most distributors remain on track to achieve each of their mandatory TOU dates.
- As of June 30, 2011 there were 4,680,801 installed smart meters, 3,461,174 meters enrolled with the MDM/R (256,173 added in June) and 2,813,005 customers on TOU billing (517,035 added in June).
- In its monthly report, the SME states that it is confident “the MDM/R will continue to offer a stable system and effectively support LDCs’ time-of-use implementation plans and ramp up of meters to full provincial volumes.”

Background

On August 4, 2010 the Board issued a determination that set mandatory dates by which distributors must complete the implementation of time-of-use (TOU) billing. The Board’s determination requires that a distributor commence TOU billing of consumers with the first billing cycle following the mandatory date, this recognizes that distributors may implement TOU billing as a practical matter with the first bill to a consumer after the mandatory date. There are three important activities that a distributor must undertake to implement TOU pricing. These three activities are meter installation, smart meter enrolment with the MDM/R (Meter Data Management Repository), and activation of TOU pricing no later than the first billing cycle following a distributor’s mandatory TOU date.

In order to monitor progress towards meeting the requirements of the determination, the Board is requiring distributors to submit monthly progress reports. Further, the Board is also requiring the Smart Meter Entity (SME) to submit monthly reports regarding its status and readiness in supporting the implementation of TOU billing.

The remainder of this report provides a summary of the activities undertaken by licensed distribution companies and the SME reflecting the mandatory TOU implementation requirements as of June 30, 2011.

Distributor Summary

- As of June 30, 2011 there were 4,680,801 installed smart meters, 3,461,174 meters enrolled with the MDM/R and 2,813,005 customers on TOU billing.
- Of the 28 distributors¹ (representing 3,316,922² customers) who have June 2011 mandatory dates:
 - 21 distributors (representing 3,246,657³ customers) successfully implemented TOU on time.
 - Milton Hydro Distribution, Midland Power, and Lakeland Power Distribution have completed TOU roll-out for all of their eligible RPP customers.
 - Chatham-Kent Hydro, Horizon Utilities, Innisfil Hydro Distribution Systems, Lakefront Utilities, Middlesex Power Distribution, and Oshawa PUC Networks have implemented TOU billing for 100% of their residential customers and are proceeding to complete the transition of their General Service customers over the applicable billing cycles to TOU pricing in accordance with their mandatory TOU date.
 - Guelph Hydro Electric Systems, Halton Hills Hydro, Hydro One Brampton, Hydro Ottawa, Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro, Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution, Norfolk Power Distribution, Orillia Power Distribution, Waterloo North Hydro, PowerStream, and Toronto Hydro Electric Systems have reported that they are transitioning their RPP eligible customers over to TOU pricing by billing cycle in accordance with their June mandatory TOU date.
 - Seven distributors (representing 70,265 customers) have not implemented TOU in accordance with their mandatory dates.
 - Greater Sudbury Hydro, Renfrew Hydro, and Tillsonburg Hydro, submitted applications for extensions which are still under review by the Board. These and the other extension applications before the Board are discussed further below.

¹ Algoma Power, Cooperative Hydro Embrun, Essex Powerlines, EnWin, Enersource, Kingston Electricity Distribution, London Hydro, Orangeville Hydro, Thunder Bay Hydro Electric Distribution, Wasaga Distribution, and Wellington North were granted extensions on their mandatory TOU dates therefore there are now only 28 distributors with a mandatory TOU date of June 2011.

² Hydro One Networks, Guelph Hydro, Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution, and Orillia Power were granted partial extensions from their mandatory TOU dates of June 2011 for certain customers. These customers are not included in this figure.

³ This figure has also been adjusted to reflect exempt customers.

- Atikokan Hydro, Kenora Hydro, Fort Frances Power, and Sioux Lookout Hydro have not yet commenced TOU billing. These distributors are working as a group with Thunder Bay Hydro (whose TOU date is September 2011) and have experienced a delay due to problems with their CIS system.
- A total of 29 distributors (representing 930,839 customers), including 14 with a June 2011 mandatory date, have applied to the Board to extend their mandatory date. Most of the extension requests would only result in a short delay to ensure a smooth transition for their customers. To date, decisions have been issued for 20 of these applications. A list of these distributors is below.
- A total of 11 distributors, all of which have mandatory TOU dates of June 2011, have applied to the Board for partial exemptions for limited numbers of their RPP eligible customers to allow more time to bring these customers onto TOU. The Board has issued a decision for 6 of these requests so far. Four requests were granted by the Board and in each instance the applicant cited technical problems as a reason for the delay. Two applications cited concerns about bill impacts on General Service customers as a result of TOU these were denied by the Board. A list of these distributors is below.

Smart Meter Entity (SME) Summary

In its monthly report, the SME states that it “remains confident that with ongoing tuning, planned infrastructure improvements, and collaborative support of LDCs, that the MDM/R will continue to offer a stable system and effectively support LDCs time-of-use implementation plans and ramp up of meters to full provincial volumes.”

- As previously reported, the SME had revised its deployment plan for the Measurement Canada 2011 Solution⁴ noting “All required system changes for the MC 2011 Solution have now been received and are under test, however, three important ramifications of the revised deployment schedule are highlighted below:
 - LDCs will be able to begin testing the full breadth of the Measurement Canada 2011 Solution earlier than in the previous plan; and,
 - Some LDCs that anticipated a R7.2 cutover to MDM/R production as early as mid August, will now have to wait several months for the availability of the new Standard XML Billing Interface in production; and,
 - Some recent delays in the scheduled delivery of defect corrections could adversely affect the current targeted deployment of the full R7.2 and MC 2011 Solution to production in late October or early November. These new dates and associated regression testing are still being assessed and the overall schedule will be revised as necessary in late July or early August.”
- 15 distributors are scheduled to be in enrolment testing or cutover activities in July, eight in August, and 7 in September. However, in its previous report the SME stated “we no longer consider our ability to accommodate the enrollment schedules of the remaining LDCs to be a risk.”
- Board staff are closely monitoring progress through regular communication with the SME.

⁴ In November 2009 Measurement Canada notified both the IESO and the Ministry of Energy that “Measurement Canada requirements that were not being met and gave notice that the shortcomings needed to be corrected by January 1, 2012. The MDM/R will have to align total energy consumption with the differences between the cumulative register reads at the beginning and end of the billing period. Distributors will have to modify their systems to receive the cumulative register reads and to include those reads, along with the TOU consumption information, on their customer bills.” (<http://www.smi-ieso.ca/news/mdmr-update-sme>)

Distributor Progress in Implementation

	Previous Total	Added This Period	Current Total	Percent of RPP Eligible Consumers as of June 30, 2011
Smart Meters Installed	4,668,860	11,941	4,680,801	99%
Smart Meters Enrolled with MDM/R	3,205,001	256,173	3,461,174	73%
Customers on TOU Billing	2,295,970	517,035	2,813,005	60%

Distributor Progress in MDM/R Enrolment

	Previous Total	Added this Period	Current Total
LDCs in Enrolment Testing	10	6	16
LDCs in Production (completed enrolment testing)	41	3	44

Distributors with Customers on TOU Billing

Distributor	RPP-eligible customers	Customers on TOU Billing	% of Customers on TOU Billing
Chapleau PUC	1,274	1,114	87.44%
Chatham-Kent Hydro	31,839	31,799	99.87%
Guelph Hydro*	48,044	7,009	14.59%
Halton Hills Hydro	20,623	12,831	62.22%
Horizon Utilities	232,786	226,694	97.38%
Hydro One Brampton	134,194	130,748	97.43%
Hydro One Networks*	1,193,323	1,050,059	87.99%
Hydro Ottawa	299,312	40,834	13.64%
Innisfil Hydro	14,670	14,511	98.92%
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro	86,198	45,739	53.06%
Lakefront Utilities	9,539	9,458	99.15%
Lakeland Power	9,437	9,492	100.58%
Middlesex Power	7,885	7,618	96.61%
Midland Power	6,826	6,826	100.00%
Milton Hydro	27,971	27,971	100.00%
Newmarket-Tay Hydro*	32,342	26,280	81.26%
Norfolk Power	18,793	17,313	92.12%
Northern Ontario Wires	6,057	5,776	95.36%
Oakville Hydro	62,074	43,019	69.30%
Orillia Power*	12,732	6,104	47.94%
Oshawa PUC	52,453	51,306	97.81%
Peterborough Distribution Inc.	34,872	186	0.53%
Powerstream Inc.	312,000	284,265	91.11%
Toronto Hydro	696,923	638,548	91.62%
Veridian Connections	111,901	90,016	80.44%
Waterloo North Hydro	51,539	27,489	53.34%
Total	3,515,617	2,813,005	-

* As noted elsewhere in this report these distributors have received partial extensions for some of their RPP-eligible customers (Guelph Hydro – 1,750; Hydro One -150,000; Newmarket-Tay Hydro – 2,584; and Orillia Power – 800).

Pending Applications for Full Extensions

Distributor	Mandatory TOU Date	Requested TOU Date	Number of RPP Eligible Customers Affected
Bluewater Power	Oct-11	Jan-12	35,259
Burlington Hydro	Jul-11	Jan-12	63,424
Cooperative Hydro Embrun	Oct-11	Jan-12	1,780
Festival Hydro	Sep-11	May-12	19,335
Greater Sudbury Hydro	Jun-11	Dec-11	46,040
Hydro 2000	Oct-11	Jan-12	1,187
Ottawa River Power	Oct-11	Jan-12	10,301
Renfrew Hydro	Jun-11	Oct-11	3,748
Tillsonburg Hydro	Jun-11	Jan-12	6,643
West Coast Huron	Aug-11	Jan-12	3,822

Pending Applications for Partial Extensions

Horizon	Jun-11	Est. 2015	4,500
Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro	Jun-11	Jan-12	7,500
Oakville Hydro	Jul-11	Mar-12	4,586
Veridian	Jun-11	Dec-11	7,100
Waterloo North Hydro	Jun-11	Jan-12	5,400

Approved Applications for Extensions (full and partial)⁵

Distributor	Original Mandatory TOU Date	New Mandatory TOU Date	Number of RPP Eligible Customers Affected
Algoma Power Inc.*	Jun-11	Jul-12	11,551
Brantford Power	Jul-11	Nov-11	37,286
Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro	Oct-11	Feb-12	50,295
Canadian Niagara Power (Fort Erie)*	Dec-11	Jan-12	15,517
COLLUS Power	Jul-11	Dec-11	15,465
Cooperative Hydro Embrun	Jun-11	Oct-11	1,780
Eastern Ontario Power*	Feb-12	Feb-12	3,494
EnWin	Jun-11	Dec-12	83,727
Enersource	Jun-11	May-12	188,787
Essex Powerlines	Jun-11	Dec-11	27,850
Grimsby Power*	Sep-11	Dec-11	10,052
Guelph Hydro (partial)	Jun-11	May-12	1,750
Hydro One Networks (partial)	Jun-11	Est. late 2012	150,000
Kingston Electricity Distribution	Jun-11	Oct-11	26,557
London Hydro	Jun-11	May-12	140,499
Newmarket-Tay Hydro (partial)	Jun-11	Nov-11	2,584
Orangeville Hydro	Jun-11	Sep-11	11,031
Orillia Power (partial)	Jun-11	Nov-11	800
Port Colborne Hydro*	Dec-11	Jan-12	9,060
Thunder Bay Hydro	Jun-11	Aug-11	49,014
Wasaga Distribution	Jun-11	Nov-11	12,020
Westario Power*	Sep-11	Dec-11	21,747
Welland Hydro	Sep-11	Jan-12	21,776
Wellington North Power	Jun-11	Jan-12	3,572

⁵ PowerStream and Midland's requests for partial extension for their GS>50kW customers were both denied. As such, Midland implemented TOU for all its RPP-eligible customers in June, whereas PowerStream's implementation is still underway.

* It should be noted that Algoma Power Inc., Canadian Niagara Power: Fort Erie, Eastern Ontario Power, and Port Colborne are all owned by FortisOntario. These distributors are working in association with Grimsby and Westario Power and jointly filed an application for extension.