

Monitoring Report Smart Meter Deployment and TOU Pricing – May 2011

June 29, 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 May 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011.

- Most distributors remain on track to achieve each of their mandatory TOU dates.
- As of May 31, 2011 there were 4,668,860 installed smart meters, 3,205,001 meters enrolled with the MDM/R (175,800 added in May) and 2,295,970 customers on TOU billing (119,251 added in May).
- 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 certain activities required for the implementation of time-of-use (TOU) billing. 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 within their service area.

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 May 31, 2011.

Distributor Summary

- As of May 31, 2011 there were 4,668,860 installed smart meters, 3,205,001 meters enrolled with the MDM/R and 2,295,970 customers on TOU billing.
- Board staff followed up with Grimsby Power because it rescheduled its enrolment testing dates pushing them back about three months. Grimsby Power is working with FortisOntario, who has been coordinating all MDM/R testing activities, and confirmed it is currently on track to meet its TOU date.
- Algoma Power Inc., and EnWin have not provided project plans to SME confirming enrolment testing dates as of May 31, 2011. Bluewater Power Distribution, Brant County Power, Greater Sudbury Hydro and Thunder Bay Electric Distribution withdrew their project plans as of May 31, 2011 but each has since submitted a revised plan.
- Most distributors remain on track to achieve each of their mandatory TOU dates. It is expected there will be approximately 3 million customers on TOU billing by June 2011 with more customers coming online over the summer and through the fall.
 - Of the 34 distributors¹ (representing 3,811,603² customers) who have June 2011 mandatory dates:
 - Milton Hydro has completed TOU roll-out for all of its eligible RPP customers.
 - Hydro One Networks has completed TOU roll-out for over 95% of its RPP eligible customers who are required to be on TOU by June 2011.³
 - Chatham-Kent Hydro, Horizon Utilities Corporation, Lakefront Utilities, Middlesex Power Distribution, Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution and PowerStream have completed TOU roll-out for all of their residential customers and are proceeding with their eligible RPP general service customers.

¹ Algoma Power, Cooperative Hydro Embrun, Essex Powerlines, EnWin, and Thunder Bay Hydro Electric Distribution were granted extensions on their mandatory TOU dates therefore there are now only 35 distributors with a mandatory TOU date of June 2011.

² Hydro One Networks and Newmarket-Tay Power Distribution were granted partial extensions from their mandatory TOU dates of June 2011 for 150,000, and 2,584 customers respectively. These customers are not included in this figure.

³ As noted above, Hydro One received an extension for 150,000 customers. Excluding those customers, Hydro One has cutover 95% of their RPP eligible customers to TOU.

- Toronto Hydro and Veridian Connections have each rolled out TOU to at least 70% of their RPP eligible customers.
- A total of 25 distributors (representing 874,154 customers), including 13 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 13 of these applications. A list of these distributors is below.
 - It should be noted on May 2, 2011 Hydro Ottawa withdrew its application for an extension and is currently on track to achieve its mandatory TOU date.
- A total of nine 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 address technical issues and allow more time to bring these customers onto TOU. A list of these distributors is below. The Board has issued a decision for only two of these requests so far and both requests cited technical problems.

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.”

- The SME developed an aggressive deployment plan for the 2011 Measurement Canada Solution⁴ and identified a number of risk mitigation measures to promote delivery in accordance with the plan.
 - “With the testing conducted to date, the early delivery of the final software components of the Measurement Canada 2011 Solution, and efforts being made to test and implement the solution, we expect that the MDM/R changes will be implemented to support LDC compliance with Measurement Canada’s requirements will be implemented by January 2012.”
- 16 distributors are scheduled to be in enrolment testing in June, 15 in July, and eight in August. In its 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 June 2011 Target Achieved
Smart Meters Installed	4,654,682	14,178	4,668,860	130%
Smart Meters Enrolled with MDM/R	3,029,201	175,800	3,205,001	89%
Customers on TOU Billing	2,176,719	119,251	2,295,970	64%

Distributor Progress in MDM/R Enrolment

	Previous Total	Added this Period	Current Total
LDCs Scheduled for Enrolment Testing (submitted project plan and confirmed date with SME)	76	0	76
LDCs in Enrolment Testing	13	-3	10
LDCs in Production (completed enrolment testing)	30	11	41

Distributors With Customers on TOU Billing

Distributor	RPP-eligible customers	Customers on TOU Billing	% of Customers on TOU Billing
Chatham-Kent Hydro	31,839	28710	90.17%
Horizon Utilities	232,432	225707	97.11%
Hydro One Networks	1,193,160	1015495	85.11%
Hydro Ottawa	298,903	40697	13.62%
Lakefront Utilities	9,548	9458	99.06%
Middlesex Power Distribution	7,885	7098	90.02%
Milton Hydro	27,465	27449	99.94%
Newmarket-Tay Hydro	32,342	26280	81.26%
Oakville Hydro	61,990	22270	35.93%
Peterborough Distribution Inc.	34,824	187	0.54%
Powerstream Inc.	312,000	282638	90.59%
Toronto Hydro	695,750	518814	74.57%
Veridian Connections	111,753	89746	80.31%
Waterloo North Hydro	51,411	1421	2.76%
Total	3,101,302	2,295,970	-

Pending Applications for Extensions⁵

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
Enersource	Jun-11	May-12	188,787
Festival Hydro	Sep-11	May-12	19,335
Greater Sudbury	Jun-11	Dec-11	46,040
Guelph (partial)	Jun-11	May-12	1,750
Horizon (partial)	Jun-11	Est. 2015	4,500
Kingston Electricity Distribution	Jun-11	Oct-11	26,557
London Hydro	Jun-11	May-12	140,499
Midland PUC (partial)	Jun-11	Feb-12	742
Orangeville Hydro	Jun-11	Sep-11	11,031
Orillia Power (partial)	Jun-11	Nov-11	800
Renfrew Hydro	Jun-11	Oct-11	3,748
PowerStream (partial)	Jun-11	Feb-12	32,230
Veridian (partial)	Jun-11	Dec-11	7,100
Wasaga Distribution	Jun-11	Nov-11	12,020
Waterloo North Hydro (partial)	Jun-11	Jan-12	5,400
Welland Hydro	Sep-11	Jan-12	21,776
Wellington North Power	Jun-11	Jan-12	3,572

⁵ On May 2, 2011 Hydro Ottawa withdrew its application for an extension and is currently on track to achieve its mandatory TOU date.

Approved Applications for Extensions

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	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
Essex	Jun-11	Dec-11	27,850
Grimsby Power*	Sep-11	Dec-11	10,052
Hydro One Networks (partial)	Jun-11	Est. late 2012	150,000
Newmarket-Tay Hydro (partial)	Jun-11	Nov-11	2,584
Port Colborne*	Dec-11	Jan-12	9,060
Thunder Bay Hydro	Jun-11	Aug-11	49,014
Westario Power*	Sep-11	Dec-11	21,747

* 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.