

Quarterly Monitoring Report on Smart Meter Deployment and TOU Pricing

November 20, 2009

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 consumers. Government of Ontario targets for TOU pricing implementation for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) consumers were announced in mid-2009.¹ These targets are one million consumers by June 2010 and 3.6 million consumers by June 2011. There are three important activities that a distribution company must undertake in order to implement time-of-use (TOU) electricity prices. These three activities are meter installation, smart meter enrolment with the MDMR, and activation of TOU pricing within their service area.

On June 26, 2009, the Board issued a letter requiring distribution companies to file a plan with the Board, by July 10th, 2009, that included monthly targets for each of these activities over the June 2009 to June 2011 period. The Board also directed that the companies make quarterly filings of their progress in these activities so that actions could be compared to plans. The data filed in July 2009 was compiled to form the basis for the “Baseline Plan” that will be used to assess distribution companies’ progress toward the targets based on quarterly filings of their completed activities.

The following report summarizes the results of the distribution companies’ quarterly filings and provides a comparison to the Baseline Plans filed by each distribution company. Individual distribution companies’ Baseline filings and all quarterly filings are posted on the Ontario Energy Board website.

Summary

For this Quarterly Monitoring Report seventy-eight licensed distribution companies filed quarterly data, including two distributors that did not file baseline plans. Four small distributors did not file a quarterly report and had not filed a

¹ Residential consumers and General Service less than 50 kW demand consumers are eligible for the RPP.

Baseline report as they are in discussions with government regarding the possible exemption from the requirement to implement TOU².

A. Meter Installation

Total Meters Installed vs. Planned:

- Baseline data projected 3,035,426 meters installed by the end of third quarter 2009 (September 2009). Actual meters installed were 3,053,931 or 101% of planned.
- Total residential installations were projected to be 2,852,553; actual installations were 2,883,139, 101% of planned.
- 182,873 total general service meters were expected to be installed; 170,792 meters were installed, 94% of planned.

Total Meters Installed vs. "Targets":

- The total meters installed exceed the number required to achieve the 2010 target for TOU pricing (1 million consumers) and are 85% of the 2011 target (3.6 million consumers).

Distributor Performance- Residential:

- 18 distributors (23% of total distributors reporting) provided no targets in their Baseline Plans for this quarter but nine of these distributors installed from 200 to 10,000 meters.
- 46 distributors (59%) reported installation rates of 80% or more of their baseline plan; 19 distributors recorded "over performance" of their baseline plan, i.e., greater than 100% of baseline.
- Six distributors (8%) recorded installations between 40% and 80% of planned.
- Four distributors (5%) installed up to 40% of their baseline plan.
- Only two distributors reported "no meters" installed.

Distributor Performance – GS<50kW:

- 23 distributors (29% of total distributors reporting) provided no targets in their Baseline Plans for this quarter; eight of these distributors installed from 18 to 1,250 meters.
- 30 distributors (38%) reported installation rates of at least 80% of planned; 15 distributors recorded "over performance" of their baseline plan, i.e., greater than 100% of baseline.

² The four distributors are: Cornwall Street Railway Light and Power Company Limited, Fort Albany Power, Attawapiskat Power, and Kashechewan Power Corporation.

- 10 distributors (13%) recorded actual installations between 40% and 80% of planned.
- Six distributors (8%) installed up to 40% of their baseline plan.
- Seven distributors (9%) reported “no meters” installed, although they filed baseline plans indicating some planned activity.

B. Meters Enrolled with the MDMR:

- Total meters enrolled were 110,851, or 105% of planned.
- Only seven distributors had baselines indicating third quarter planned enrolments.

C. Active TOU Billing

- 91,170 consumers were billed TOU prices at the end of September, 157% of baseline projections.
- Eight distributors reported some TOU billing; three distributors reported having consumers on TOU but had filed no baseline information reflecting this; one distributor exceeded its baseline by 300%.

Total consumers on TOU billing is 9 per cent of the June 2010 target.

Conclusions

- Distributors’ meter installation activity is proceeding ahead of plan and is adequate to achieve the 2010 target.
- The 2009 third quarter data shows that meter enrolments and TOU billing are higher than distributors’ baseline projections.