

Monitoring Report Smart Meter Deployment and TOU Pricing – 2009 Fourth Quarter

February 25, 2010

Purpose and Objective

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 during the period October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

Government of Ontario targets for implementing TOU pricing for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) consumers were announced in May 2009.¹ These targets are 1 million consumers by the summer of 2010 and 3.6 million consumers by June 2011.² There are three important activities that a distribution company must undertake to implement time-of-use (TOU) electricity prices. These three activities are meter installation, smart meter enrolment with the MDMR (Meter Data Management Repository), 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 filing for the period ending December 2009, 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.

¹ Residential consumers, General Service less than 50 kW monthly demand consumers and consumers with a total load of 250,000 kWh or less per year are eligible for the RPP.

² Government of Ontario news release, “Smarter Electricity Pricing Coming to Ontario,” May 14, 2009.

Summary

Seventy-six licensed distribution companies have provided baseline plans; 13 plans are incomplete. All 13 incomplete baselines are missing plans for moving to TOU billing, three also lack plans for meter enrolment. Two distributors did not file baseline plans.

Seventy-eight licensed distribution companies filed quarterly data for this Quarterly Monitoring Report, including two LDCs that did not file baseline plans.

		Baseline Projection for Q4 2009	Q4 Actual
Meter Installation	Residential	3,153,231	3,231,732 (102% of planned)
	GS>50kW	208,679	182,274 (87% of planned)
	Total	3,361,910	3,414,006 (102% of planned)
Meter Enrollment with MDM/R	Residential	471,007	259,801 (55% of planned)
	GS>50kW	13,498	4,894 (36% of planned)
	Total	484,505	264,695 (54% of planned)
Customers on TOU Billing	Residential	195,847	346,878 (177% of planned)
	GS>50kW	906	461 (50% of planned)
	Total	196,753	347,339 (176% of planned)

Government of Ontario targets for implementing TOU pricing:

- **1 million consumers by the summer of 2010**
- **3.6 million consumers by June 2011**

Conclusions:

- As of the end of 2009, total meters installed exceed the number required to achieve the 2010 target for TOU billing (1 million consumers) and are 95% of the 2011 target (3.6 million consumers).

- At the end of 2009, the total number of meters enrolled had reached 26% of the 2010 target and 7% of the 2011 target. The total number of consumers on TOU billing reached 35% of the summer 2010 target and 10% of the June 2011 target.
- Baseline Plans indicate that by August 2010 more than 1 million consumers will be on TOU billing.
- Baseline plans would surpass the June 2011 target of 3.6 million customers on TOU billing (109% achieved).
- The data from the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2009 show that in the case of meters installed, and TOU billing, LDCs appear to be achieving their baseline plans.³ 13 LDCs had baseline plans for meter enrolment in the fourth quarter and six LDCs had baseline plans for TOU billing in the fourth quarter.

³ Select distributors had been granted short-term exemptions from the requirement to only use MDMR data for the purpose of TOU billing in order to permit early start-up of billing. These exemptions have sunset clauses that require the distributors to migrate all meters onto the MDMR.