

Monitoring Report Smart Meter Deployment and TOU Pricing – April 2011

June 3, 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 April 1, 2011 through April 30, 2011.

- Most distributors remain on track to achieve each of their mandatory TOU dates.
- As of April 30, 2011 there were 4,654,682 installed smart meters, 3,029,201 meters enrolled with the MDM/R and 2,176,719 customers on TOU billing.
- 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 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 April 30, 2011.

Distributor Summary

- As of April 30, 2011 there were 4,654,682 installed smart meters, 3,029,201 meters enrolled with the MDM/R and 2,176,719 customers on TOU billing.
- Staff identified 5 distributors that displayed limited progress towards accomplishing MDM/R enrolment activities (e.g., had fallen behind schedule or rescheduled enrolment testing dates):
 1. Algoma Power
 2. Cooperative Hydro Embrun
 3. Hydro 2000
 4. North Bay
 5. Rideau St. Lawrence

Board staff followed up with these distributors requesting further information regarding their delays in TOU implementation. Each of these distributors confirmed they are currently on track to meet their respective TOU dates.

- Algoma Power Inc., and EnWin have not provided project plans to SME confirming enrolment testing dates as of April 30, 2011.
- Most distributors remain on track to achieve each of their mandatory TOU dates. It is expected there will be approximately 3 million customer on TOU billing by June 2011 with more customers coming online over the summer and through the fall.
 - Of the 37 distributors¹ (representing 3,844,826² customers) who have June 2011 mandatory dates:
 - Milton Hydro has completed TOU roll-out for all of its eligible RPP customers.
 - Chatham-Kent Power, Horizon Utilities Corporation, 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.
 - Hydro One Networks, Toronto Hydro and Veridian Connections have each rolled out TOU to at least 70% of their RPP eligible customers.

¹ Algoma, Cooperative Hydro Embrun, EnWin, and Thunder Bay were granted extensions on their mandatory TOU dates therefore there are now only 37 distributors with a mandatory TOU date of June 2011.

² Hydro One was granted an exemption from their mandatory TOU date of June 2011 for 150,000 remote customers and is reflected in this figure.

- A total of 24 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 nine 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 seven 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. The Board has issued a decision for only one of these requests so far. 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.”

- The SME developed an aggressive deployment plan for the 2011 Measurement Canada Solution³ 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 by January 2012.”
- 23 distributors are scheduled to be in enrolment testing in May, 15 in June, 13 in July and 7 in August. Due to these high volumes the SME has noted it may be necessary to defer some distributors’ enrolment testing.
 - If this occurs, the SME plans to work with all affected distributors to identify an alternate schedule that would have as little impact as possible on achieving distributors’ mandatory TOU dates.
- Board staff are closely monitoring progress through regular communication with the SME.

³ 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	4,640,439	14,243	4,654,682	129%
Smart Meters Enrolled with MDM/R	2,949,521	79,680	3,029,201	84%
Customers on TOU Billing	2,064,312	112,407	2,176,719	60%

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)	72	4	76
LDCs in Enrolment Testing	11	2	13
LDCs in Production (completed enrolment testing)	29	1	30

Distributors With Customers on TOU Billing

Distributor	RPP-eligible customers	Customers on TOU Billing	% of Customers on TOU Billing
Chatham-Kent Power	31,839	28710	90.17%
Horizon Utilities	232,913	221289	95.01%
Hydro One Networks	1,193,039	952273	79.82%
Hydro Ottawa	298,673	31883	10.67%
Milton Hydro	27,465	27449	99.94%
Newmarket-Tay Hydro	32,342	26280	81.26%
Oakville Hydro	61,952	373	0.60%
Peterborough Distribution Inc.	34,806	187	0.54%
Powerstream Inc.	312,000	279635	89.63%
Toronto Hydro	694,933	519126	74.70%
Veridian Connections	111,662	89514	80.17%
Total	3,031,624	2,176,719	-

Pending Applications for Extensions⁴

Distributor	Mandatory TOU Date	Requested Date	Number of RPP Eligible Customers Affected
Brantford Power	Jul-11	Nov-11	37,286
Burlington Hydro	Jul-11	Jan-12	63,424
COLLUS	Jul-11	Dec-11	15,465
Enersource	Jun-11	May-12	188,787
Essex	Jun-11	Dec-11	27,850
Festival Hydro	Sep-11	May-12	19,335
Greater Sudbury	Jun-11	Dec-11	46,040
Guelph (partial)	Jun-11	May-12	1,750
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
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
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
Welland Hydro	Sep-11	Jan-12	21,776
Wellington North Power	Jun-11	Jan-12	3,572

⁴ 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	Mandatory TOU Date	Requested Date	Number of RPP Eligible Customers Affected
Algoma Power Inc.*	Jun-11	Jul-12	11,551
Cambridge and North Dumfries Hydro	Oct-11	Feb-12	50,295
Canadian Niagara Power (Fort Erie)*	Dec-11	Jan-12	15,517
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
Grimsby Power*	Sep-11	Dec-11	10,052
Hydro One Networks (partial)	Jun-11	Est. late 2012	150,000
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.