

Appendix 5 – Jurisdictional Research

Electric Utility Research

In December 2020, Saskatoon Light & Power (SL&P) conducted the Electric Utility Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Questionnaire with 23 Utilities within Canada. Some Utilities requested that their responses remain confidential and are listed as their general location within Canada.

The following questions were on the questionnaire:

1. Do you have an AMI program?
2. Are you planning an AMI program?
3. Do you have or plan to have an opt out program?
4. Do you charge a monthly opt-out charge?
5. Do you charge an administration fee?
6. Do you allow customer self-reading?
7. How often do you verify reads?

Location	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Calgary	No	Yes	Yes	TBD	No	Yes	Three months
Nova Scotia Power	Yes	NA	Yes	\$4.00	No	Exceptions	Once a year
Western Canada	No	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Western Canada	No	Yes Fall 2021	Yes	About \$41.67	No	No	Once a year
Eastern Canada	No	Spring 2022	Yes	Will analyze costs to determine	Probably not	No	NA
Western Canada	Yes	NA	Yes	\$40 plus \$120 to install	No	Yes	Three months
Western Canada	Yes	NA	Yes	\$9.75	\$88	No	NA
Western Canada	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes to cover costs	Yes. Utility Commission approval	Yes	Once a year

Ottawa Hydro	Yes	NA	No	Customer responsible	No answer	No answer	No Answer
Hydro One	Yes	NA	No	No answer	No answer	No answer	No answer
Eastern Canada	Yes	NA	Yes	\$17	\$98	No	NA
Ontario	Yes	NA	No	Customer responsible	NA	No	NA
Atco Electric	Yes	NA	Yes, being planned	TBD	No answer	No	No answer
BC Hydro	Yes	NA	Yes	\$20 for radio off option and \$32.40 for legacy meters	\$22.60 and \$77.60 depending on meter	No	No Answer
Eastern Canada	No	No	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

Electricity Utilities Research Summary	Numbers	Percentages
Number of Utilities Contacted	23	
Number of Utilities Responded	15	65.2%
Number with AMI	10	66.7%
Number without AMI	5	33.3%
Number Planning AMI	1	6.7%
Have Opt Out Program	9	81.8%
Don't Have Opt Out program	2	18.2%
Monthly Charge Calculated	9	60.0%
Monthly Charge TBD	2	20.0%
Monthly Charge No Answer	3	20.0%
Monthly Charge Customer Covered	2	13.3%
Administration Fee	4	40.0%
Self-Reading Allowed	2	20.0%
Self-Reading Not Allowed	7	70.0%
Verification Needed	7	70.0%

Canadian Electrical Association Survey

In Spring 2020, SL&P conducted a Canadian Electrical Association survey with the following results:

- A Western Canada utility has an opt out program with a \$15.04 monthly fee. Only 0.1% opt out with health concerns.
- An Atlantic Canada utility has an opt out program with a \$4.00 monthly fee. They have 1% opt out rate with misinformation from social media being the main issue.
- An Eastern Canada utility in Ontario was mandated to not allow opt outs. They had a \$15.00 monthly reading fee until full compliance. They used a bylaw to gain entrance into houses.
- An unrevealed utility is planning to give an opt out choice, which is to be determined.

Water Utility Research

Saskatoon Water conducted Water Utility Internet Research summarized as follows:

- Saskatchewan – Prince Albert has a mandatory AMI meter replacement program. Regina and North Battleford are in the early stages of implementing AMI.
- Alberta – St. Albert has a \$20.00 fee per read twice a year and customer self-reads the remaining ten months at \$10.00 a read. Calgary has 100% water meter compliance. Red Deer has a \$65.00 monthly fee.
- British Columbia – Abbotsford has a \$25.00 monthly fee. Kelowna doesn't allow opting out of a new AMI meter, but has a \$40.00 fee for manual reads. Kamloops has a \$40.00 fee for manual reads. Vernon will impose an opt out fee in 2022. Richmond Hill has a mandatory AMI program. Prince George has a voluntary program. Duncan is reviewing their fees and charges bylaw.
- Ontario – Greater Sudbury has mandatory AMI water meters. Toronto has a monthly read fee of \$93.09.
- Nova Scotia – Halifax has a mandatory program but those without radio frequency water meters can opt out with a \$50.00 per read fee.
- Prince Edward Island – Charlottetown has a \$100.00 surcharge quarterly for administration and a \$50.00 monthly fee applied quarterly.

United States

The National Conference of State Legislatures monitors American AMI programs. America is further ahead in the AMI program than Canada with over 50% of households with AMI and a total of over 70 million smart meters. Of the 50 States, 30 have an AMI opt out program. The administration fees range from \$0 to \$150. The monthly fees range from \$5 to \$45 according to the information from their website: <https://www.ncsl.org/research/energy/smart-meter-opt-out-policies.aspx>.