

IESO BUSINESS UPDATE

To: Stakeholder Advisory Committee

From: Terry Young, VP, Conservation & Corporate Relations

Date: July 31, 2015

Subject: Enhancing the Value of the MDMR – Foundation Working Group Update

Information Item

The IESO is investigating how to enhance the value of the data set within Ontario's Meter Data Management and Repository (MDM/R). Stakeholders have been participating in this initiative by providing input into:

- Defining the information required to be associated with electricity consumption information (such as geo-location) to enable analysis of this information;
- The development of rules and protocols for data access by third parties.

To date, the IESO has held four Working Group meetings, including two meetings open to the public. The final Working Group session is scheduled for mid-September. The engagement is on track for completion by the end of October. Implementation and related issues fall outside the scope of this project; they will be addressed subsequently.

The Working Group has finalized its recommendations on the additional information needed in MDM/R to enhance the value of its electricity consumption data. Address information and an indicator that the occupant of a residence has changed are the recommended required elements to be added. Optionally, global positioning system (GPS) coordinates can also be provided, if held by an LDC. Also recommended is the adoption of the Canada Post address standard for providing structure to the address information. The Working Group believes this decision strikes the desired balance of a substantial increase in the value of the information while keeping the potential implementation costs to LDCs and the SME reasonable. Stakeholders also identified additional elements that could enhance the value of the MDM/R data, e.g. building type and square footage. These elements fall outside the scope of the engagement but have been communicated to the MDM/R Data Access Platform (MDAP) business case development team – headed by the Ministry of Energy, whose project charter covers a broader spectrum of information.

The IESO continues to work with stakeholders on the development of a framework of rules for third party access to information. Early in the engagement, stakeholders and the IESO identified the need to consider this issue in two parts:

- access to personal information; and,
- access to de-identified information.

As the Working Group examined the complex issues around third party access, the need for a closer examination of data de-identification processes and techniques became evident. To that end, a panel of subject matter experts was convened to inform the Working Group in this area. The Working Group and the IESO have agreed on the importance of recommending a framework for de-identifying personal information.

The fifth and final meeting of the Working Group is scheduled for September 16th, after which the recommendations will be posted for public comment. Completing the Foundation project will be the issuance of a final report on the results in late October.

The Information and Privacy Commission continues to actively participate on this engagement, attending all Working Group sessions and reviewing and providing comments on the topics.

For updates on this initiative, please see:

<http://www.ieso.ca/Pages/Participate/Stakeholder-Engagement/Foundation.aspx>