

Foundation Project: Enhancing the Value of Electricity Consumption Data

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

I. Introduction

Ontario has made a significant investment in smart meters and in the central repository for high quality, consistent residential and small commercial electricity consumption data. To build on this investment, the IESO is investigating how to enhance the value of the data set within Ontario's Meter Data Management and Repository (MDM/R). Stakeholders are invited to participate 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

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan outlines the background, objectives and proposed timelines related to this initiative as well as the activities and methods to be used to engage all interested stakeholders.

This stakeholder engagement plan may be subject to review and update as the process evolves and meaningful revisions are required to ensure that individuals have the opportunity to contribute their input on this initiative.

All comments and enquiries in this stakeholder engagement can be directed to stakeholder.engagement@ieso.ca.

II. Background

The MDM/R is the provincial smart meter data repository used by Local Distribution Companies (LDCs) for the collection and validation smart meter data to support billing electricity customers on time-of-use (TOU) rates.¹ The MDM/R collects and performs verifications on hourly consumption data for over 4 million residential and small business customers on TOU rates.

To date the MDM/R has supported the successful implementation of smart metering and TOU pricing but the data contained in the MDM/R also offers significant additional potential value

¹ Pursuant to the *Electricity Act, 1998*, the IESO is designated as the Smart Metering Entity (SME) with responsibility for the development and operation of the MDM/R.

for the design of conservation and demand response programs, system planning, policy development, academic research and to support innovation in Ontario.

In order to capture this value, electricity consumption information must be augmented with other information (such as geo-location) to enable analysis of this information, leveraging existing data fields in the MDM/R;

In addition, a framework and agreed protocols for data access by third parties must be developed in a way that incorporates Privacy by Design Principles².

These two objectives –ie defining the information required to be able to analyse electricity consumption data and rules for third party access –comprise the scope of what will hereafter be referred to as the Foundation project.

III. Stakeholders

The IESO encourages all stakeholders in Ontario’s electricity sector, or their representatives, with an interest in this initiative to participate in this engagement. This initiative will be of particular interest to stakeholders involved or interested in conservation and demand management, provincial or regional system planning, academic research and innovation related to electricity in the residential and small business sectors.

Inquiries throughout this engagement initiative can be directed to stakeholder.engagement@ieso.ca

IV. Stakeholder Engagement Objectives

The objective of this stakeholder engagement is to ensure stakeholders understand and can provide input into both the additional data required for analysis and the rules and/or opportunities around third party access.

V. Approach

This is an ambitious project which will involve both higher level policy discussions and technical design discussions. In response to discussions at the March 5 Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings, the IESO is proposing to accomplish this work through a broad stakeholder initiative that contains open meetings designed to provide meaningful and timely feedback into the initiative as well as a focused working group. This approach consists of:

² <https://www.ipc.on.ca/images/Resources/7foundationalprinciples.pdf>

- Open stakeholder meetings to discuss and inform how best to achieve objectives and identify issues for consideration in the Foundation project; and
- A Foundation Working Group (FWG) to be tasked with operationalizing the detailed technical and regulatory work and analysis that addresses these issues and meets project objectives.

The IESO and the FWG will update and seek feedback from the open stakeholder meetings on activities and proposals at key points throughout this engagement. All materials including, communications and feedback from both the main stakeholder meetings and the FWG will be posted to the dedicated SE webpage.

The Foundation Working Group will be limited to approximately 12-15 representatives with selection criteria that includes:

- Knowledge and experience of LDC advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) and customer information system (CIS).
- GIS and data mapping
- Information security and privacy
- Regulatory and legal issues related to data access and privacy

Along with these skillsets, the FWG will also seek representation from the broader stakeholder community interested in accessing MDM/R data for commercial or research purposes.

VI. Methods

The approach for this stakeholder engagement includes opportunities for stakeholders to provide input through various channels which could include in-person meetings, webinars, information postings, as well as conference calls and/or written feedback. The IESO will consider all input from stakeholders and illustrate how feedback was considered.

This is a public engagement process. Information supplied by stakeholders will be posted (with consent) to the designated Stakeholder Engagement webpage.

Information related to this engagement will also be posted periodically to the Meter Data Foundation Webpage and the [IESO-SME Website](#).

VII. Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Schedule

Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Schedule	
Activity	Target Completion Date
Post and communicate Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Working Group Terms of Reference	March 12, 2015
Comments due on Stakeholder Engagement Plan	March 18 2015
Communicate Foundation Working Group (FWG Call for) Nominations	March 19, 2015
Finalize and Post FWG Members	Early April, 2015
First FWG Meeting –Overview of Roles and Responsibilities, ‘Strawman’ proposal development	April 22, 2015
FWG Meetings	April –September, 2015
Open Stakeholder Meeting: Overview of initiative, identification of issues and comments on proposals	May, 2015
Open Stakeholder Meeting: Status update, request for feedback on detailed proposals	June, 2015
FWG Recommendations	September, 2015
Open Stakeholder meeting to review and provide comments on recommendations	September, 2015
Open Stakeholder Meeting – Plenary Stakeholder Meeting to Present Final Recommendations	October, 2015

IX. Stakeholder Engagement Plan Feedback

Stakeholders are encouraged to submit any feedback on this Stakeholder Engagement Plan to ensure that the Plan meets the expectations of interested stakeholders and allows for fair and open access for involvement.

Comments can be directed to stakeholder.engagement@ieso.ca at any time throughout this engagement.

X. Process Evaluation

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the effectiveness of the process in achieving the stated objectives in this stakeholder engagement initiative.