

# Smart Metering Entity (SME) Licence Order Working Group Meeting Minutes – Meeting #1 – March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Representative	Organization	In attendance	Regrets
Doug Thomas	IESO, Steering Committee	X	
Terry Young	IESO, Steering Committee		X
Sorana Ionescu	IESO, Steering Committee	X	
Mag Wadie	IESO, Co-Chair	X	
Michel Provost	Hydro Ottawa, Co-Chair	X	
Jim Murphy	IESO, WG Project Manager	X	
Gissella Lopez	IESO, WG Scribe	X	
Lisa Barnett	IESO, Legal Counsel	X	
Adrian Pye	IESO, Regulatory Affairs	X	
Matt Weninger	Guelph Hydro		X
Rob Rohr	Horizon	X	
Tracy Manso	Entegrus	X	
Jennifer Gordon	Halton Hills Hydro	X	
John Dunne	Hydro One	X	
Geoff Visentin	Fortis Ontario		X
Danny Relich	Hydro One	X	
Sally Barakat	Hydro Ottawa	X	
Kevin McCauley	Kingston Hydro	X	
Eddie Augusto	PowerStream	X	
Andy Armitage	Thunder Bay Hydro		X
Warwick Tichbon	Toronto Hydro	X	
Kevin Myers	Veridian	X	
Marianne Blasman	Waterloo North Hydro	X	
Peter Fraser	OEB	X	
Viive Sawler	OEB	X	
Richard Lanni	OEB	X	
Irina Kuznetsova	OEB	X	
Hartley Springman	Ministry of Energy	X	
Justin Rangooni	EDA	X	
Tim Short	Enbridge Gas	X	
Tim Catton	Union Gas	X	

## Welcome and Introductions

- IESO welcomed members and observers to the first meeting of the working group.
- OEB provided an overview of their January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2016 order (EB-2015-0297) and the context in which the decision arose, recognizing that the current regulatory framework does not provide enough support to ensure that the SME can fully fulfill its mandate. In the past, the OEB has requested electricity consumption information that was expected to be readily available, however that has not been the case; the process was slow and inefficient due to lack of more granular data (e.g. analysis on the shifting in residential usage patterns with the introduction of TOU, distribution rate data for General Services customers <50kW, or when certain regional information is required for planning purposes). In regards to the request for an implementation plan for third party access, the OEB believes that there is much benefit to allowing third parties access to the consumption data to enhance customer control. An OEB report, issued in 2013, also highlighted the opportunity to use the data for innovation. Furthermore, the Foundation project did not provide a concrete implementation plan. This order will address the gaps in collecting consumption information that could be meaningfully used by various parties. The OEB order is also an opportunity to find the right regulatory mechanism to allow the SME to deliver the full value for which it was created. The OEB will also be reviewing SME and LDC licenses in parallel with the Working Group initiative.

## Review of the Agenda and Meeting Objectives

- The Co-Chairs reviewed the agenda; it was approved with no changes.

## Key Learnings from the MDM/R Foundation Project

- This presentation was provided by IESO's legal counsel who explained that legal advice was not being provided, and if any members or observers had questions about their own legal obligations, they should consult with their own legal counsel.
- IESO's legal counsel provided the context in which the SME was currently acting, a review of the Foundation Project and an overview of privacy law in Canada. It was emphasized that in accordance with the OEB Order, the SME will not be collecting personal information.
- The IESO is working on retaining an experienced consultant to assist with delineating the scope of what information constitutes "personal information", so that in accordance with the OEB Order, personal information is not collected.
- It was noted that other institutions have encountered privacy issues and members of the working group suggested reviewing the approach taken in the health and financial sectors. It was clarified that each entity may fall under different laws, and as such the comparison may not be directly applicable.

## Review of the Terms of Reference

- The Terms of Reference was accepted as presented with one change - that is future meetings will be held at the IESO Adelaide location

## Review of LDC feedback

- Working Group's Project Manager reviewed the initial LDC feedback gathered through a joint conference call of the SME Steering Committee and the MDM/R Technical Panel members on February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The following additional comments were captured:

- Various execution scenarios may yield to different cost scenarios which will be an important consideration
- Long term goals need to be understood so that the solution is built with flexibility in mind as the needs of the OEB and third parties evolve and the Province further leverages the value of the SME
- For the majority of seasonal properties, and rural locations there is no valid premise postal code, location is identified using GPS coordinates (Latitude-Longitude)
- Some LDCs do not currently collect the premise postal code, and others who collect the premise postal code do not perform validations on it. There are also situations where there is only a partial match between billing and premise postal codes
- On data accuracy, the OEB reiterated that requirements would be similar to those of LDCs Reporting and Record Keeping Requirements (RRR) file information, as validated by their CEOs
- Members indicated that for the residential distributor rate class, it is preferred if a distinction could be made between houses, condominiums, seasonal homes, and net metered homes as a future classification
- Effective dates may need to be captured, such as for the commodity rate class to identify the move from a retailer to TOU
- On occupancy change, while a move-in/out is the targeted account change event, it was noted that various other scenarios are possible (e.g. a name change could constitute an account change) and members agreed that they have no visibility into the actual occupancy information, neither is that required for billing purposes
- For mergers and acquisitions, there could be account changes resulting in false indications of a move in/out event, so a global solution will be required from the IESO
- Discussions were held on the plan to assess and conclude on privacy considerations. The IESO mentioned that an expert consultant will be procured soonest to support that effort
- LDCs inquired about order requirements for meters currently not synchronized/reported with the MDM/R (e.g. Hydro One's current exemption for 140K meters, or in-suite metering). These unique situations will have to be further reviewed so exceptions to the order requirements can be clearly defined, if the case
- LDCs raised questions on customers' perception around the additional data fields collected (e.g. will an opt-in/opt-out option be required). It was emphasized that personal information would not be collected; therefore an opt-in/opt-out is not required
- Customer communication materials will be considered to address any potential customer questions (by web, call center, etc.)

## Project Planning and Timelines – Key Comments

- System change restrictions likely to occur in December, so testing should be completed before then
- Technical requirements should be available soonest, ideally before August, to allow for a reasonable amount of time for implementation and testing.
- A more detailed schedule was requested for next meeting, and advanced booking of future meetings

## Meeting Conclusions and Next Meeting Planning

The co-chair presented the agreements reached during the session, as follows:

- The Postal Code must be that of the service location
- Distributor Rate Class Classifications:
  - Residential – Regular
  - Residential – Condominium
  - Residential – Seasonal
  - Small General Service (<50 kW)
- Commodity Rate Class Classifications:
  - Time Of Use (TOU)
  - Hourly
  - Tiered Pricing
  - Retailer
  - Net Metered
- Occupant Change Data represents an account change or a move-in/out event
- An effective date is required for the Commodity Rate Class
- Analysis of the privacy of the data will include the following data elements:
  - LDC Organization ID (ORGID)
  - Interval data representing hourly electricity consumption
  - Postal Code
  - Distributor Rate Class (Residential or Small General Service)
  - Commodity Rate Class (TOU, Hourly, Tiered, Retailer, or Net Metered)
  - Occupancy change data
- Relying on the existing synchronization processes, where possible, will simplify the work and reduce the cost to LDCs and the SME
- IESO will investigate the availability of services that would match GPS coordinates to postal codes, and encouraged members to also reach out to other LDCs for such solutions

#	Date	Action
1	04/12/16	IESO to further investigate postal codes (i.e. discuss with Canada Post or other organizations)
2	04/12/16	IESO to follow through contracting with a de-identification consulting firm

<b>Next Meeting: April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016</b>	<b>Time: 9:30 am</b>	<b>Location: 120 Adelaide St West, Toronto</b>
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