

Minutes of the [8th] Meeting of the Revenue Metering Sub-Committee

26 Aug 2004, 9:00 to 2:00
Clarkson System Control Centre, Room 306

Attendees:

Dave Wilkinson, Cambridge Hydro
Randy Church, HydroOne
Alex Lunycz, Rodan Meter Services
Patrick Guran, Hydro Vaughan
Peter Hajek, Brantford
Ron Merrett, Great Lakes Power
Paul Grod, Rodan Meter Services
Doug Currie, HydroOne
Gary Rains, London Hydro
Bob McBean, Falconbridge
Greg Hall, Utilismart Corp
Luc Jarry, Utilismart Corp
Rowan Jones, IMO
Richard Zaworski, IMO
Neill Wong, IMO
Herb Osborne, IMO
Rayhan Malik, IMO
Paula Lukan, IMO
Victor Wong, IMO (part)

1. Items from Last Meeting

1.1. No comment on items from the last meeting.

2. Seal expiry – update.

2.1. Presentation by the IMO (see Seal Expiry Update).

2.1.1. Presentation covered the present status of seal expiry in the market.

2.1.1.1. 789 meters seal expire in years 2003 and 2004

2.1.1.2. 254 metering installations have been upgraded (July figures)

2.1.2. Actions by the IMO:

2.1.2.1. IMO scheduling public presentations across the province.

2.1.2.2. Notifications going out to MMPs with seals expiring

2.1.2.3. IMO proceeding with Market Rule MR-00279 to allow wholesale settlement using non-compliant meters.

2.1.2.4. Market Assessment and Compliance Division (MACD) will also be present at the public meetings.

2.1.2.5. MACD noted that self reporting would be a mitigating factor.

3. Measurement Canada - Update

- 3.1. Presentation by the IMO (see Measurement Canada Update).
 - 3.1.1. IMO confirmed that meetings have been held with Measurement Canada and the parties have agreed to work together to resolve any differences.
- 3.2. Presentation by HydroOne (see Revenue Metering Sub Committee pres Aug 26-04):
 - 3.2.1. HydroOne provided an update on ITs that do not meet Measurement Canada's (MC) type approval requirements.
 - 3.2.1.1. HydroOne confirmed that ITs can be added to the temporary permission list up to the end of 2005.
 - 3.2.1.2. List of approx. 3200 ITs of which 500 definitely not approved, with some ITs status not known.
 - 3.2.2. HydroOne also confirmed that it will replace approx. 450 meters with like-for-like meters over the next 4 months.

4. IMO Submission – Smart Meters

- 4.1. Presentation by the IMO (see IMO Submission Smart Meters).
 - 4.1.1. IMO supporting standardization of meter specifications and effective linkages between wholesale and retail.
 - 4.1.2. IMO confirmed that they will participate in the OEB initiative.

5. 2 and 3 Element Metering Blondel Compliance

- 5.1. Presentation by Falconbridge, giving the consumer's perspective (see Blondel).
 - 5.1.1. The issue: is 3-element metering required for 3-wire systems supplying delta or ungrounded wye loads?
 - 5.1.2. Concern is that upgrading to 3-element will add markedly to the cost and is a barrier to implementation.
 - 5.1.3. Concern was raised whether any "leakage" was happening on the measured phase and therefore captured as a measurement. If not then this would be an error in measurement.
 - 5.1.4. Where the measurement was dependent on the load configuration, there was always the possibility that the configuration may change without the administrator's knowledge resulting in inaccurate measurement.
 - 5.1.5. There was not general support for changing the Hardware Standard.

6. Metering for Small Generators

- 6.1. Presentation by the IMO (see New Metering Standard Small Generators)
 - 6.1.1. Presentation focused on comments received from members received to the latest small generator proposal. The comments were:
 - 6.1.1.1. Increase breakpoint from 2MW/17GWh to 10MW/85GWH per annum.
 - 6.1.1.2. Include new metering standard for both load and generation facilities – do not differentiate
 - 6.1.1.3. Routine test requirements excessive – cost of accuracy must be compared to the potential revenue impact.
 - 6.1.2. As a result of the Committee discussion, the conclusions were:
 - 6.1.2.1. Committee did not want to change the breakpoint.
 - 6.1.2.2. Consideration should be given to using the new metering standards for small loads, but considering the different requirements between loads and generators, the IMO wished to do so at a later date.
 - 6.1.2.3. Committee did not agree that the routine test requirements were excessive. Using a single standalone meter without a main/alt comparison may result in an

undetected metering installation failure continuing indefinitely and hence meter spot checks and IT checks are required.

6.1.3. Use of the small generator standard applied to downstream metering failures will affect the upstream NSLS.

6.1.4. Committee was advised that the new standard was proceeding as a Market Rule Amendment and was going to the Technical Panel.

7. Meter communications Status

7.1. Presentation by the IMO (see Meter Communications).

7.2. Presentation covered the work being carried out by the IMO to improve communications with the meters.

7.2.1. Approx 65 communications failures per day.

7.2.2. Major causes are “busy” and “timeouts”.

7.3. Goals of the work were noted as:

7.3.1. Look for areas of improvement

7.3.2. Resolve specific causes by meter type (high percentage opportunities)

7.3.3. Further refinement of call cycles

7.3.4. Enhance MV90 Error Listing for IMO Conforming Meters

7.4. Efforts to improve communications would be applied to conforming meters only, not legacy meters.

8. Meter Enclosures in Transformer Stations

8.1. Presentation by London Hydro (see IMO_Presentations_Aug26_2004).

8.2. Concern was the requirement for a meter enclosure even though the metering installation is located inside a HydroOne P&C building.

8.3. Committee decided against revising the requirement for an enclosure. The group’s concern was accessibility by non-LDC personnel to the revenue metering installation affecting metering data.

9. Station Service Metering Proposal

9.1. Presentation by the London Hydro (see IMO_Presentations_Aug26_2004).

9.2. Issue raised was a TS with bus-metering where the LDCs were going to feeder metering and who had the station service meter. If the LDCs retained the station service meter responsibilities, there were the difficulties of access, servicing, costs etc. And considering the market was held harmless by virtue of the bus metering – wasn’t there a more effective way to meter station service.

9.3. HydroOne (the transmitter) advised that they were proposing a Market Rule Amendment to address this situation, as follows:

9.3.1. HydroOne (the transmitter) would install a retail meter and use this to form the basis of an estimate.

9.3.2. The estimate would be inserted as a virtual meter in the totalization table.

9.3.3. There would be a periodic true up/adjustment of the estimate.

9.4. Committee noted that the station service can be a substantial load and that this direction was counter to an accurate market.

9.5. Committee suggested that it would be preferential to treat station service loads the same as proposed for small generator metering.

10. XML for MSPs

- 10.1. Presentation by the IMO (see XML).
 - 10.1.1. Presentation covered a proposed new way of sending data to MSPs, allowing the MSP to go into the system and retrieve data.
 - 10.1.2. This system is in reply to the findings of the MTR Working Group.
 - 10.1.3. Expected delivery in early 2005.
 - 10.1.4. Rodan and GLP advised that they would be available to help with any trials of the new system.

11. Settlements principles - conclusion

- 11.1. Presentation by the IMO (see Settlement Principles – Embedded Generators).
 - 11.1.1. Presentation covered 9 c) Embedded Distributors in Parallel, 10 a) Embedded Generator – Single Distributor, and 10 b) Embedded Generator – Multiple Distributors.
 - 11.1.2. IMO stated that it was applying these standard principles to registration of metering installations – effectively immediately.

12. SSLA – Use of Default Values

- 12.1. Presentation by the IMO (see SSLA – Using PSDB).
- 12.2. Presentation covered the use of HydroOne’s PSDB database as a source of information to calculate an SSLA.

13. DAM – Impact on Revenue Metering

- 13.1. Presentation by the IMO (see DAM Impact on Metering).
- 13.2. Presently no direct impact on metering.

14. MTRs and Reclosures

- 14.1. Put forward by a Committee member for consideration.
- 14.2. Issue is nuisance MTRs caused by reclosures. Reclosures may cause a power outage status to be triggered and an MTR to be issued even though the distribution system is behaving as designed and power is restored by the reclosure.
- 14.3. Committee asked the IMO to investigate what can be done to lessen these MTRs.

15. Next Meeting: 16 November, 2004