

Minutes of the Revenue Metering Standing Committee (RMSC)

Meeting date: 07/December/2022
Meeting time: 09:30 – 12:00
Meeting location: Virtual (MS Teams)

Sponsor: Victoria Falvo – Senior Manager, Meter Data Management
Chair and Facilitator: Aaron Murphy – Technical Officer Revenue
Metering & Meter Data Management

Objective

Review, inform, and discuss with Metered Market Participants (MMP) and Metering Service Providers (MSP) changes and updates with regards to revenue metering in the IESO-administered markets.

All meeting material is available on the IESO website at: [IESO Revenue Metering Standing Committee](#)

Agenda Item 1: Welcome Remarks (Presented by Victoria Falvo)

- 1.1 V. Falvo acknowledged overall MSP performance has been very positive the past year. Positive results were also observed for the audit program with no significant issues identified. A formal survey for feedback will not be included in this RMSC meeting. Victoria highlights workload is noticeably higher due to significant increase in registration and emergency instrument transformer replacement plans (EITRP), and challenges in commissioning.

Agenda Item 2: Administrative Items (Presented by Tiberiu Abid)

- 2.1 Meeting agenda was distributed by email before the RMCS meeting and approved final.
- 2.2 The previous RMSC meeting minutes were approved by the committee without objection. The opportunity for any questions, comments, and/or corrections was offered to the committee members. No additional agenda items or corrections were raised by the RMSC.
- 2.3 Only one action item remains open where the stand-alone item was reviewed with comments, status and comments revised (Ref. [Action Items Summary](#)).

Agenda Item 3: IESO's Metering Updates (Presented by Zahir Gohgari, Daniel Maikawa, Daniel Coffin)

- 3.1 Z. Gohgari summarized the IESO metering staff organizational chart and changes since previous RMSC meeting in June 2022. Z. Gohgari welcomed Aaron Murphy –Technical Officer, Revenue Metering & Meter Data Management.
- 3.2 Z. Gohgari presented the RMSC with an update to metering installations regarding physical, virtual installations and telephone line to TCP/IP conversions.
 - 3.2.1 Physical metering installations were highlighting as a slight increase of 17 more installations registered since June 2022. The physical metering installations consisted of 84% of meters registered under the Declaration of Compliance (DOC) and 16% under Alternative Metering Installation Standard (AMIS).
 - 3.2.2 It is mentioned the quantity of virtual installations remains consistent from the previous meeting.
- 3.3 Out of the 4426 meters, 78 meters (2%) remain on telephone line while the remainder were connected via TCP/IP. Z. Gohgari noted of the meters connected via telephone line, approximately 30% are intertie meters. IESO continue to have on-going discussions with respective counter parties to convert these meters to a TCP/IP connection.
- 3.4 There is an increase in validation MTRs and a significant decrease in communication MTRs. Z. Gohgari attributes a reasoning behind the decrease is due to the robustness of the communications infrastructure. EITRPs climb to seven from period of June to December 2022. No questions were asked for section 3 by the RMSC.
- 3.5 D. Maikawa shared positive MSP performance for the past six months and summarized the purpose of the MSP performance report. D. Maikawa mentioned the frequency of the dispatch of the report, metrics measured by IESO to each MSP and what metrics are being measured.
- 3.6 D. Maikawa stated only a small percentage of all meters experienced validation and communication MTRs. Overall performance involving MTR response time and quality by MSPs have been positive. MSPs were reminded to monitor active MTRs to ensure the PSS/FSS deadlines are met in a timely manner.
- 3.7 As it pertains to MSP's performance, all measures comparing to last year remain consistent or has improved slightly. Strictly focusing on PSS/FSS performance, the quantity of MTRs dates has been impacted fall drastically. However, the performance metric of the quality of commissioning reports requires improvement as the minimum target is 95%.

In the case where MSPs are displaying a decline in MTR response times, IESO will continue to take a collaborative approach to share observations and create action plans to improve the metric.

- 3.9 A representative from Hydro One questioned if the IESO has considered changing the way post commissioning packages are graded. As the packages are graded in such a granular fashion where if one package is submitted incorrectly, the grade steps are only 0%, 50% or 100%. The representative provides an example where if two packages are submitted and one package is incorrect, a 95% target seemed unrealistic.

D. Maikawa explained the commissioning report grade is not for the one submission. Rather, the grade is awarded to the total of number submissions over the span of six months.

Hydro One representative commented that there is still bias with the above-explained methodology as in some stations, there are maybe only be a few meters at a time which are due for commissioning.

T. Abid agrees that the methodology can be scrutinized for improvements and proposes to expand on the conversation offline to consider further approaches with the RMSC (Ref. [Action Items Summary](#)).

- 3.10 Enwin Utilities representative asked for the cause of the delay in commissioning submissions. D. Maikawa postpones this answer to section 3.16

- 3.11 D. Maikawa mentioned registration activity involving Engineering Unit Reports (EURs) and Site Registration Reports (SRRs) have been very good. IESO only observed erroneous reports in rare occurrences which are then considered outliers.

- 3.12 D. Maikawa expanded upon two factors on the RMSC concern of the submission of commissioning reports which are response time and quantity.

3.12.1 Response time: The answer to section 3.14 is that as of the date of the meeting, no true root cause or trend is observed by IESO for the cause in delay of commissioning submissions. A reminder to MSPs that regarding test reports (apart of the commissioning report), MSPs have the right to extend deadlines for this subject.

3.12.2 Quality: As presented in the previous RMSC meeting in June 2022, a [commissioning template](#) is offered by IESO and is strongly recommended for MSPs to use. For 2022, the tally of non-conformance remains incidents remain as zero.

- 3.13 D. Maikawa explained hotline activities are trending to previous years where March and October are observed as the peaks for the activity. Where after, the activity declines for remainder of the year as holiday season approaches.

- 3.14 A representative from Thunder Bay Hydro asked questions the timeline for the release of the final release of the commissioning template with the included revised comments from MSPs.

D. Coffin advises the representative that the [template](#) revisions are already finalized with MSP comments included.

- 3.15 D. Maikawa explained the purpose of outage MTRs and the method of utilization. He expanded on the benefits to outage MTRs listing suppression on communication MTRs for both main and/or alt meters, timeline flexibility and the MSP right to transform communication MTRs to outage MTRs. He encourages any questions or concerns about outage MTRs to be emailed to IESO.
- 3.16 A representative from Rodan asked IESO to clarify if historical estimation is applicable in the scenario where main and alt meters are out of service even with an outage MTR is created. D. Maikawa answers that the condition asked is true. It is reiterated that MSPs are responsible to remedy any expected loading or absents of loading by providing data files or resolving the communication discrepancy.
- 3.17 An Enwin Utilities representative asked in the case where communications are restored, would estimation be replaced. D. Maikawa clarifies any data file supplied by MSPs will remain and at the end of the data file intervals, automatic called data will be filled. IESO encourages MSPs to provide data files alongside outage MTRs as a proactive approach as they see fit.
- 3.18 D. Maikawa reminded MSPs the responsibility of providing IESO with a meter last download prior to the removal of an old meter. MSPs have the option to notify IESO by calling the registration hotline or to leave a message after hours. If MSP fail to notify IESO of last download, it is the MSPs responsibility to retrieve old meter data and issue an MTR with attached data file.
- 3.19 D. Coffin announced that in 2022, IESO audited a total of 129 metering installations, representing approximately five percent of the total metering population. Province-wide coverage was reinstated this year, which had been previously restricted due to the pandemic. All audit results have now been provided to MSPs & MMPs with either full conformance observed or remedial action plans assigned.
- 3.20 Rodan representative questioned IESO if there were any notable findings this year which will help MSPs with pre-audit tasks involving their customers. IESO states there are no significant findings at this time.

Agenda Item 4: Round Table (All Participants)

- 4.1 An Alectra Utilities representative asked when the audits for 2023 will be released.

T. Abid assures the representative the audits for 2023 will be released early 2023 as a target. IESO will reach out to the MSPs as soon as the audit plan is finalized internally (IESO).

- 4.2 The same representative asked to clarify the deadline of commissioning tests. Whether it is a period of 60 days or 90 days. The representative asked for a summary/refresher on the current rules of the commission test.

T. Abid informed the representative that the market manual was revised in 2022 to provide clarity on commissioning requirements (Ref. Market Manual Part 3.2: Meter Point Registration and Maintenance).

D. Coffin stated that IESO sets a five-day deadline is for MSPs to perform the actual commissioning test. Where the MSP has 90 days, is to submit a commissioning report with compliant details and formatting. Although, ideally IESO expects the commissioning report to be returned to IESO as soon as possible. Market manual 3.2 specifically mentions that the commissioning test must be performed within five days when load begins to be measured on the meter.

Included in the 90-day window is the condition that IESO must *accept* the commissioning report. With any discrepancies reviewed and reported before this deadline.

- 4.3 A representative from Thunder Bay Hydro concerns global supply chain issues and meter lead times. The representative asked IESO to confirm that penalties for meter points with surpassed seal expiries are still withheld by IESO.

T. Abid assured the representative that the IESO recognized the increased lead times but stated that there have been no mentioned delays in wholesale lead times from other MSPs. However, retail lead times are still of concern due to the volume of demand.

MSPs are to refer to Measurement Canada (MC) guidelines related to the current state of meter reseal expiries and any applicable penalties.

- 4.4 The same representative also asked the RMSC regarding instrument transformer (I.T) test cards. Where existing meter installations did not have available test cards on site, what available solutions are available to provide test cards for audit or if the meter shall be replaced entirely.

A representative on behalf of Hydro Ottawa mentioned the MSPs right to utilize Alternative Metering Installation Standard (AMIS) which is permitted by IESO.

R. Stancu clarified that MSPs have the ability to produce an independent test card (Ref. [Market Manual](#) Part 3.2: Meter Point Registration and Maintenance) if manufacturer test cards are not available. It is suggested that any questions regarding market rules can be emailed to MeteringInstallations@ieso.ca

An Alectra Utilities representative mentioned in the scenario where test cards are not available, one can utilize the ITs in AMIS as long as a nameplate photo is provided. If it is DOC, the MSP must have test cards from the manufacturer or from an accredited laboratory. Depending on the MSP's judgement, it is sometimes of more value to procure new ITs instead of performing a retest.

- 4.5 Rodan Energy Representative asked if metering installation audits are to be increased since COVID restrictions are lifted.

T. Abid mentioned that the number of audits will likely remain the same as per previous years due to resource constraints, I.e., number of auditors. However, IESO is looking for ways to increase the number of audits in the future.

- 4.6 Enwin Utilities representative asked if there is any updated timeline regarding commissioning training.

T. Abid answered mentioning this topic is related to MSP performance training as well. IESO will need further internal discussions on material to be covered including commission training.

V. Falvo stated IESO training is targeted to be released next year but is still unconfirmed.

- 4.7 Alectra utilities representative asked if the delay in the RSS project is due to end May of 2023. Also, if the spot check timeline will be staggered alongside the project timeline extension/delay.

T. Abid confirmed the current in-service date of the RSS project was written for the original timeline. T. Abid confirmed the in-service date of the RSS project with the new in-service date is pushed to May 2023. It was mentioned that the market rules will be revised reflect the new dates due to the timeline extension. The updated information is expected to be available February of 2023.

- 4.8 Rodan Energy representative asked IESO to elaborate on the phase rotation issue for audits.

T. Abid mentioned that until Measurement Canada revises its specifications on this matter the IESO will not consider any actions with regards the phase rotation issue(Ref. [Action Items Summary](#)).

Agenda Item 5: Member Survey (All Members)

5.1 Five total member survey questions were asked to all participants.

The questions asked were:

- Did you find today's meeting useful?
- What topics would you like to hear about at the next RMSC meeting?
- We plan to have our next RMSC meeting in person. Will you likely attend?
- If the next RMSC meeting is in person, would you prefer an option for virtual attendance as well?
- Please share any problems or opportunities you are currently experiencing or foresee in providing MSP services.

Agenda Item 6: Closing Remarks (Victoria Falvo)

6.1 V. Falvo shared a summary review of today's RMSC meeting, her gratitude towards both the presenters and the participants. V. Falvo expressed the intent to meet again at the next RMSC in June 2023.

Action Item Summary

Item	Date	Action	Status	Comments
1	Jun 2022	IESO to invite committee members to continue discussion relating to meter phase rotation and remedial plan.	Open	Dec 7/22: Status quo – still waiting for MC revisions June 23/22: Status quo – still waiting for Measurement Canada (MC) revisions Dec 9/21: Follow up meeting conducted on Sep 15/21. The meeting did not yield any changes to the initial remediation plan. Based on IESO's discussions with Measurement Canada, it has been recognized the need to revise the current Measurement Canada S-E-08 to ensure clarity regarding this issue. MC plans to revise the SE-08 by Q3-2022. Until then, IESO will pause the enforcement of the current remediation plan. There is no action required by the MSPs until S-E-08 specifications are clarified/revised by Measurement Canada. The action item will stay open. Jun 24/21: The IESO will schedule a follow up meeting with the MSPs to discuss this further.

2	Dec 2022	IESO to consider options for creating a working group to further discuss evaluation methodology for commissioning report submissions.	Open
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Attendance Summary

Invitees	Representing	Attendance Status
Alice Roman	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Philip Genovese	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Denis Tse	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Ken Parkes	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Robert Hnatejko	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Rob Henschel	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Ted Villemaire	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Vito Genovese	Alectra Utilities	Attended
Tyler Gray	Electek Power Service Inc.	Attended
Mark Teves	Enwin Utilities	Attended
Mitchell Dietrich	Enwin Utilities	Attended
Zachary Rank	Enwin Utilities	Attended
Jessie Bondy	Enwin Utilities	Attended
Greg Alzner	Enwin Utilities	Attended
Joe Klassen	Erth (Holdings) Inc.	Attended
Ankit Patel	Erth (Holdings) Inc.	Attended
Ryan Anderson	Erth (Holdings) Inc.	Attended
Patrick Casey	Essex Energy	Attended
Zhenhan Luo	Hydro One	Attended
Chen Wei	Hydro One	Attended
Michael Ossowiecki	Hydro One	Attended

Kimberly Maves	Hydro One	Attended
Nikola Tripic	Hydro One	Attended
Jacek Kliber	Hydro One	Attended
Keith Lee	Hydro One	Attended
Ryan Toonders	Hydro Ottawa Ltd.	Attended
David Sharpe	Meter Peterborough Services	Attended
Matthew McMillan	Meter Peterborough Services	Attended
Alexander Morin	N-Sci Technologies Inc.	Attended
James Mann	N-Sci Technologies Inc.	Attended
Pavan Velaga	N-Sci Technologies Inc.	Attended
Rob Reid	N-Sci Technologies Inc.	Attended
Michael Girardi	N-Sci Technologies Inc.	Attended
Murdea El	Ontario Power Generation	Attended
Wenping Wang	Ontario Power Generation	Attended
Kevin Schlauch	Rodan Energy	Attended
Dave Belluz	Rodan Energy	Attended
Bohdan Lunycz	Rodan Energy	Attended
Ali Hassan	Rodan Energy	Attended
Anusan Balachandran	Rodan Energy	Attended
Daniel Dillon	Thunder Bay Hydro	Attended
Vinson Kan	Toronto Hydro Electric Systems Ltd.	Attended
Albert Tan	Toronto Hydro Electric Systems Ltd.	Attended
Miroslav Karlicic	Utilismart Corporation	Attended

Brad Simmons	Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	Attended
Rob Gudzak	Waterloo North Hydro Inc.	Attended