

Minutes of the Revenue Metering Standing Committee (RMSC)

Meeting date: Thursday June 13, 2024

Meeting time: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting type/location: In Person

Chair/Sponsor: Victoria Falvo, Sr. 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 (Victoria Falvo)

- 1.1 Welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided a brief overview of the agenda items.
- 1.2 Provided staffing updates for the Meter Data Management teams.

Agenda Item 2: Administrative Items (Tiberiu Abid, slides 4-7)

- 2.1 Reviewed the meeting agenda in detail.
- 2.2 Requested any comments on the previous RMSC meeting minutes, receiving no further comments, these minutes were approved.
- 2.3 Provided updates and proposed to close both previous action items related to meter phase rotation, and the IESO's commissioning report evaluation methodology. Refer to the action item summary below for further details.

Questions:

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Asked why the Commissioning Report itself is required, as it is composed of multiple reports which are already submitted separately.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Answered that the commissioning report is bringing all of these separate reports together as a quick reference document, and for audit purposes.

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Expanded on his question by adding that the commissioning report will become outdated when any of its component reports are updated individually without generating a new commissioning report.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Answered that this will be taken back for discussion by the IESO, and that at the next RMSC the IESO will share its opinion.

Agenda Item 3: IESO Metering Updates (Aaron Murphy, slides 8-12)

3.1 Numerical overview of Ontario's physical and virtual metering installations.

3.2 Provided an update on the initiative to replace analog communications with TCP/IP, mentioning that this transition is almost complete thanks to the work of MSPs.

3.3 Described recent trends in the number of Communication, Validation, and EITRP MTRs.

Questions:

Albert Tan (Toronto Hydro, MSP): Asked why Outage MTRs are not included in population (Slide 12) here.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Responded that this is a good suggestion, and the IESO will consider including them for the next RMSC.

Nikola Tripic (Hydro One, MSP): Asked if no cellular coverage in remote locations is the only reason that there are still 1% of meters using analog communications.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Answered that there is no blanket answer but remote locations are the main reason. There is a mix of other reasons though as well.

Andrew Watts (Peterborough Utilities, MSP): Asked about the 15 EITRP MTRs, if there was a root cause why these ITs failed, any trends in these failures, or particular models that failed more often. They then suggested that the RMSC could include updates or a forum to share these issues.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): The IESO do have the MSP's description recorded in the EITRP MTRs, but the causes are not currently tracked.

Nikola Tripic (Hydro One, MSP): Added that Hydro One has experienced failures of a particular model, which are now all being replaced before they fail.

Andrew Watts (Peterborough Utilities, MSP): Asked if the IESO could start to track the age manufacture of ITs, as the system is definitely aging.

Robert Stancu (IESO): Answered that the IESO does not track the age of ITs.

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Added that the MSPs have records of the age of ITs, the best place would be the test certificate. Vito then mentioned that Alectra has also experienced regular failures of certain IT models, as well as some failures in 230kV units.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Indicated that more details related to EITRPs can be provided at the next RMSC.

Agenda Item 4: MSP Performance Metrics & Registration Updates (Isabella Monaco, slides 13-26)

4.1 Introduced what MSP performance reports are and why they are utilized (with respect to Market rules) and how MSPs can access them through Online IESO.

4.2 Four themes for MSP Performance from Apr 2023 – Mar 2024:

- i) Communication MTRs: MSP performance met targets.
- ii) Validation MTRs: MSP performance has improved in key areas.
- iii) Registration: MSP performance has improved. Timely submission of commissioning reports is still below the target, but has also significantly improved.
- iv) Errors and Conformance: There were no registration errors impacting metering data, and no compliance incidents.

4.3 Gave an overview of Meter Registration Activity by the numbers.

Questions:

Brad Simmons (Enova, MSP): Asked why the expected end date for Outage MTRs can only be extended by 15 days.

Isabella Monaco (IESO): Answered that the primary reason is to ensure accurate measurement data is confirmed for preliminary and final settlement statement timelines. Another purpose for the three-week timeline is to re-confirm load transfers remain the same and no discrepancies or changes have occurred.

Albert Tan (Toronto Hydro, MSP): Asked if the IESO plans to add another person to the Registration Hotline, suggesting that the phone calls could chain to the next person if the first cannot pick up. Albert also expressed that delays caused when the phone is not answered can cause frustration.

Andrew Watts (Peterborough Utilities, MSP): Seconded Albert's view.

Victoria Falvo (IESO): Responded that it is not currently in the IESO's plan to add someone to the registration hotline. Added that the Meter Data Management team is currently in the recruitment process for a new analyst which will help with workload and providing more back up support. The IESO will take this back for consideration.

Isabella Monaco (IESO): Explained that there are multiple people who answer both the MTR and registration hotlines. The IESO could look into the idea of the phone call chaining to the next person if the first does not pick up.

Andrew Watts (Peterborough Utilities, MSP): Added that it can be frustrating if the phone goes to voicemail when you have a meter technician waiting for a download in the field.

Victoria Falvo (IESO): Thanked the MSPs for their feedback and noted that it will be taken for consideration.

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Requested clarification regarding the commissioning report, specifically the timelines of 5 days and 90 days.

Robert Stancu (IESO): Explained that 5 days is for the first interval suitable for the cross phase test \ 90 days is the timeline to submit the commissioning report to the IESO. After 90 days the MSP would have to request an extension if needed.

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Requested clarification for how the 71% performance for Timely Submissions of Commissioning Reports is tracked on Slide 22.

Isabella Monaco (IESO): Explained that 71% was from the previous performance time period. The current period result is 85% from Apr 2023 – Mar 2024.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Added that this result looks at all types of failures, whether due to the report being incomplete before 90 days, or if the report was not correct for other reasons.

Agenda Item 5: IESO MIRT Project (Aaron Murphy, slides 27-36)

5.1 Provided an overview of what the MIRT and MVT tools are, and the current process including Form 1488.

5.2 Explained why these tools are being replaced.

5.3 High level overview of the new tool and its benefits to both MSPs and the IESO.

5.4 Project timeline and targets for testing and launch.

5.5 Encouraged MSPs to participate in the MIRT Project Market Trials, and shared the survey link to do so.

Questions:

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Requested clarification about how the new MIRT tool will be connected to Package 1 information from Slide 32.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Explained that the flow of operations throughout the registration process will remain the same. The only difference will be that instead of uploading a masterfile to Online IESO, the new tool embedded in Online IESO will generate the masterfile.

Albert Tan (Toronto Hydro, MSP): Asked if the MSPs will still need to submit a MIRT file when they are doing an update metering installation request for audit findings, specifically the commissioning report.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Confirmed that MIRT files will not be needed for commissioning reports as part of update metering installation requests for audit findings. Continued that whenever you would send a MIRT file currently, the new tool will be used instead.

Robert Stancu (IESO): Added that no MIRT file is required for like-for-like meter replacements.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Confirmed that the flow of operations throughout the registration process will remain the same. This conversation will be taken offline, the connection between MIRT and auditing.

Ryan Anderson (ERTH, MSP): Asked if there will be a new tool for creating totalization tables.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Answered this was out of scope for the current project, but as the IESO reviewed processes, other areas for improvement were identified.

MSP Representative: Asked if there will be user testing of the new MIRT tool before launch?

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Confirmed that there will be Market Trials. Aaron then clarified that these will not be formal training for the new tool, but will gather feedback from MSPs before launch.

Patrick Casey (Essex Energy, MSP): Asked what will happen to the existing masterfiles, now that the new tool has been launched.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Answered that no changes will occur for existing masterfiles. Only new masterfiles after the go-live date will need to use the new tool, and will then be stored in the new database.

Agenda Item 6: Sector and IESO Updates (Tiberiu Abid, slides 37-55)

6.1 Provided updates on recent and upcoming changes regarding Measurement Canada.

6.2 Resource adequacy updates and how this will impact RMSC members.

6.3 Enabling Resources Program overview and how this program may impact RMSC members.

6.4 Introduced the Meter Data Management System Replacement Project, and described why it is necessary.

6.5 Introduced the IESO's Demand Side Vision by encouraging MSPs and other Demand Side stakeholders to participate in the IESO's public engagement activities.

6.6 Reiterated that the IESO's Market Renewal Program is currently the primary focus of the IESO as a whole.

Questions:

MSP Representative: Asked if there was something in this plan in terms of helping utilities to help manage all of these new resources coming online. This posed a challenge for utilities in terms of being able to adequately audit and ensuring that new resources were added to totalization tables. Added if there will be a working group with utilities to manage these changes.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Answered that yes utilities will be consulted. There is a working group organized by Operations that looks at all of the new resources from conceptual design, connection assessment, and finally registration. The meter registration process will remain the same. The IESO recommends that MMPs contract with an MSP to consult for new installations, to ensure there are no special metering requirements and that timelines can be met.

MSP Representative: Asked that as a utility where can they find out how many market participants are supposed to be connected to their grid, and requested if there is a way to audit this. This question is because an installation may have come online within their utility's service area without notifying them.

Victoria Falvo (IESO): Mentioned that a similar question was posed in the past, and the IESO's Market Registration team became involved.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Confirmed they would follow up offline after the presentation to find out if there is anything actionable from that example.

Agenda Item 7: Roundtable Discussion (All members)

Victoria Falvo (IESO): Introduced the IESO's round table discussion.

Doru Voicu (Alectra, MSP): Suggested that the IESO could have part of the RMSC devoted to discussing equipment failures and advisory bulletins from manufacturers. For example, the problems they have experienced with trench units.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Responded that this will be taken back for consideration for the next RMSC.

Doru Voicu (Alectra, MSP): Asked if there is a more detailed breakdown of the new capacity coming online?

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Answered that the Resource Adequacy link on Slide 55 would have this information. Added that working groups to facilitate bringing all of these resources online will be created. An MMP would have to ask their MSP to be a part of these discussions.

Doru Voicu (Alectra, MSP): Asked if the System Impact Assessment (SIA) process is still in place.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Confirmed that the SIA is still used, and includes a section for metering. This allows the IESO to identify any special metering requirements and resolve disagreements before the registration process begins, which takes a lot of pressure off in the end.

Albert Tan (Toronto Hydro, MSP): Asked if any other MSPs are still experiencing clock drifts for meters of a certain model produced after 2015. From his understanding, any meters manufactured before 2015 should be RMA'd to be fixed, but for meters manufactured after 2015 this no longer applies.

Philip Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Confirmed that yes, it is a common issue they have seen. The fix that the manufacturer provided does not appear to work.

Mitchell Dietrich (Enwin, MSP): When you send the meter back to be resealed, the manufacturer replaces a battery connector which is supposed to resolve the issue.

MSP representative: Asked if there has been further discussion on satellite clock synchs.

Tiberiu Abid (IESO): Answered that this has been resolved. The hardware standard was updated.

Vito Genovese (Alectra, MSP): Asked what the purpose of closely monitoring load transfers is, given that the market is designed so that all load will be metered.

Aaron Murphy (IESO): Responded that while the IESO understands some load transfers are more difficult to confirm for various reasons; however it is MDM procedure to confirm load transfers and verify the metering installation is operating correctly and capturing all load flow accurately. He added there have been cases where transferred load was found to be double metered, unmetered or where a meter installation was malfunctioning. The requirement for confirming load transfers is in place to catch these cases, and to avoid expending resources correcting downstream settlement issues that could have been avoided. IESO will reach out to the MSP to discuss further and consider options to address concerns.

Agenda Item 8: Closing Remarks & RMSC Members Survey (Victoria Falvo)

Victoria thanked the MSP members for attending and opened the RMSC exit survey.

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.	Closed	June 13/24: We reached out to MC to request access to the revised Appendix A however, we weren't successful to date. IESO decided to close the issue and not follow with the enforcement of the current remediation plan. All the audit findings will be closed with no action for the MSPs. Future metering installation audits will not identify this issue as a finding. Dec 14/23: MC issued SE 08, revision 3, on September 28, 2023. The purpose of revision 3 was to: (i) clarify the position of Measurement Canada with regards to ABC versus CBA rotation and the vector diagrams in the standard drawings, and (ii) update the document according to the latest formatting requirements, which included modifying the document numbering. However, there are no specific revisions in the body of the specification and we believe the revisions are reflected in Appendix A Standard Drawings for Electricity Metering Installations. This appendix is

Item	Date	Action	Status	Comments
				available upon request due to its large size. To obtain a copy, please send an email to infomc@isde.gc.ca. To date, we were not able to obtain a copy of Appendix A for our review. June 22/23: Status quo still awaiting for MC revisions June 23/22: Status quo – still waiting for Measurement Canada (MC) revisions Dec 7/22: Status quo – still waiting for 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/revise 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	Closed	June 13/24: IESO determined that there is no need to create new working group to re-evaluate the current methodology for commissioning Dec 14/23: No updates

Item	Date	Action	Status	Comments
		for commissioning report submissions.		June 22/23: IESO is in process of analyzing commissioning reports to determine reasons and trends for rejecting metering commissioning reports. Based on the analysis results, the IESO will decide on the scope and framework of the working group