



ADVANCED METERING

More Power in Your Hands



By Wenkan Zhu from Chicago, IL, United States (Seattle Skyline) [CC BY 2.0 (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>)], via Wikimedia Commons

Seattle City Light (City Light) is committed to keeping rates low and predictable, conserving natural resources and reducing carbon emissions. As part of this commitment, City Light will begin replacing existing electric meters with advanced meters starting in 2016. Advanced Metering is a proven technology that will reduce costs, increase system reliability, improve customer service and empower customers to make energy-saving choices. More than 500 utilities across the nation already use this technology.

Program Benefits

- Empowers customers to make energy-saving choices
- Improves customer service
- Reduces pollution
- Conserves natural resources

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Advanced Metering provides automatic two-way communication between the meter and City Light. With more up-to-date and accurate information available, both customers and the utility can make better informed decisions about how to use and conserve energy and resources. Customers will have the option to view their energy-use information in near real-time, enabling them to make energy- and cost-saving choices.

Advanced Metering will also provide City Light with more information about the utility's entire distribution system – helping detect issues before they become problems and allowing the utility to better manage power generation and distribution. These operational efficiencies will produce long-term cost savings that can be passed on to customers.

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION:

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HOW ADVANCED METERING WORKS

Advanced meters will collect customer energy-use information just as today's meters do. The meters then send the information through secure wireless communications to City Light, using radio frequency (RF) energy. This is similar to the wireless communications used by cell phones, baby monitors and WiFi. Meters will no longer need to be read manually.

City Light can remotely communicate with the meter from its system control center, which will help provide better customer service, allow City Light to remotely manage power distribution, and detect things like power outages and overloaded transformers or distribution lines.

BENEFITS OF ADVANCED METERING

Advanced Metering will make it possible for City Light to better serve its customers and protect the environment.

Empowers Customers

Frequent, automated collection of data enables customers to view their energy-use information in near real-time.



Customers are empowered to make energy- and cost-saving choices.

Improves Customer Service

System automatically alerts City Light of power outages across its service area.



Crews can be quickly dispatched to restore power to homes and businesses, which will save valuable time.

Reduces Pollution

Secure wireless transmission of energy-use information to City Light reduces the need for meter reader vehicles on the road.



City Light can eliminate 72 tons of CO2 emissions from meter reading vehicles and more than \$113,000 in vehicle fuel costs annually.

Conserves Natural Resources

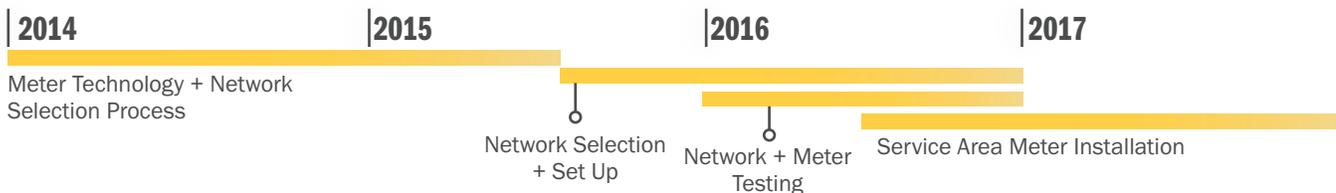
More robust energy-use information helps City Light better understand how power is being used and better manage power generation and distribution.



Efficiencies are enabled, and City Light can conserve natural resources like the water used to generate electricity.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

City Light will install advanced meters at homes and businesses in its service area starting in 2016. The utility will notify customers well in advance of meter exchanges.



OUR MISSION

Seattle City Light is dedicated to exceeding our customers' expectations in producing and delivering environmentally responsible, safe, low-cost, and reliable power.