



Advanced Metering Infrastructure: Rates, Programs & Policies Meeting

**November 4, 2010 1 – 4 pm
Room 5305, CPUC SF office**

Purpose: Conduct preliminary discussions surrounding the development of an overarching roadmap to guide the development of policies and programs to ensure that customers have the ability to maximize the benefits from advanced metering infrastructure.

Discussion Questions:

Rates/Rate Design:

- What is the ultimate goal of dynamic pricing structures?
- Will the Commission's current approach to meter deployment and ratemaking enable this goal to be achieved?
- How do we minimize rate complexity to ensure that customers can understand their rates (and by extension their bills)? Should this approach differ based on customer class?
- How do we minimize bill shocks and impacts to vulnerable customers?
- What rate structure is the most effective – PTR, CPP, RTP in terms of meeting the Commission's goal for dynamic pricing? Does the order in which they are implemented impact their effectiveness and customer acceptance?
- How should the Commission phase in the residential customer class from the current non-time differentiated rate schedules to dynamic pricing?
- Can the existing tiered rate structure work with a dynamic time differentiated rate? Should the dynamic residential rate schedules be non-tiered?
- What are the "lessons learned" from implementation of past dynamic rate schedules that should be considered when implementing future rate changes?
- Should there be a single cost based rate for a customer class (albeit differentiated by voltage level) or should specific programs continue to have special rates (e.g., electric vehicles, distributed solar, etc)? What are the pros & cons to various programs having specialized rates?

- Are there any other jurisdictions whose recent experience could inform the Commission's dynamic pricing policies and customer education and outreach efforts?
- At present the Commission has many open proceedings addressing various dynamic pricing issues. Should these open proceedings be coordinated and used to make progress towards dynamic pricing in a consistent manner?
- Do demand charges confound accurate price signals to customers for demand response purposes? What are the pros and cons of re-designing rates without demand charges?
- How many different rate/pricing options do you have for each class of customer?

Policy Coordination:

- How can utilities, 3rd parties, and the Commission ensure that customers will benefit from advanced meters?
- How can utilities, 3rd parties, and the Commission further leverage investments in AMI to further the energy & environmental goals of the state (e.g., EE, DR, GHG mitigation, etc.)?
- What does a fundamental shift to dynamic pricing mean for existing price-responsive DR programs that offer incentive payments to customers? Is there a role for these programs or should they be phased out, and if so, how and when?
- What enabling technologies should be incorporated with AMI? How do we accomplish this?
- What is the (optimal) sequencing of policy and program deployment?