Pacific Gas and Electric Company

SmartMeter Technology Advisory Panel Charter

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PG&E is establishing a SmartMeter Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) "Technology Advisory Panel", or TAP, drawing from the expertise of regulatory agencies, industry technology experts, other business partners and customer representatives across the spectrum of AMI-related technologies. The purpose of the TAP is to provide advice and input to PG&E regarding the SmartMeter customer and program needs in a cooperative and collaborative fashion for the professional exchange of ideas, advice and feedback.

The TAP also provides a forum for input and collaboration with the stakeholders served by the SmartMeter program and its related deployment. The TAP will work with PG&E so that PG&E's ongoing SmartMeter program design and deployment considers the "best available practices" and "best available technologies" and encourages customer acceptance of the new services enabled by the SmartMeter deployment. Topics of discussion should include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Meter deployment practices
- SmartMeter operations and billing practices
- Presentation and delivery of usage information
- Transition to interval-based billing and time-based rates
- Customer privacy
- Data security
- Customer outreach and education
- Future integration with Demand Response programs
- Future integration with Distribution Automation programs

Staff from the California Energy Commission, the CPUC Energy Division, CPUC Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA), and The Utility Reform Network (TURN) will be invited to be members of the TAP, but are not required to serve. PG&E may select additional TAP members, but participation will be voluntary and there will be no formal voting rules or designation of voting and non-voting members. Each TAP member will need to devote the time necessary to meet and confer with PG&E during ongoing program implementation and when appropriate, TAP members may provide written comments to PG&E.

On an annual basis, the TAP will provide written feedback and recommendations in the form of an annual report to PG&E on PG&E's progress in deploying SmartMeter and the industry status of AMI-related technologies. PG&E agrees that the TAP'S annual report will be included with PG&E's annual progress report that will be submitted to the CPUC Energy Division if received sufficiently in advance of PG&E's required submission date.

TAP members will provide advice and feedback to PG&E, but will not have any independent decision-making or contracting authority. PG&E is expected to work with the TAP throughout the remainder of the SmartMeter deployment process and to meet with the TAP at least biannually.

While input from the TAP will not necessarily be agreed to by PG&E (or even among TAP members), the goal of this advisory panel is that it will serve as a forum for introducing new ideas and identifying opportunities for improvement specific to PG&E's development and deployment of the SmartMeter program and AMI-related services and, thus, narrow the scope of differences considerably. Also, TAP members will not, in any way, relinquish their rights to participate in other proceedings or comment on PG&E filings in any CPUC proceeding.

TAP meetings will be open to the public and PG&E will establish a process for noticing these meetings and posting documents to be discussed at the meetings. TAP meetings are intended to facilitate discussion and exchange between TAP members and PG&E, and accordingly, PG&E should establish appropriate protocols for obtaining comments from public participants during those meetings, including taking comments or questions from the "floor." PG&E will moderate the discussion and provide written minutes of the meetings to the TAP members. The TAP will be in place at least through expected final deployment of the AMI project in 2012 and will meet no less than twice per year. The TAP may be extended by mutual consent of the members.

PG&E will provide TAP members with periodic updates on program implementation activities and proposed material program changes, and take other steps to ensure that TAP members have an opportunity to review the information and work with them to improve program implementation. It is PG&E's responsibility to arrange for meeting space and conference call dialin numbers, reproduce and distribute meeting materials and provide other administrative support for these meetings to the TAP. For those TAP members who are eligible for intervenor compensation, PG&E and DRA will not oppose any reasonable intervenor compensation requests for their participation in the SmartMeter TAP.

The formation of this TAP is not precedent setting nor does it imply that this advisory structure applies to any other PG&E initiative beyond the SmartMeter program.