

Media Release

For Immediate Release

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Regina and area chosen for next phase of AMI project testing

SaskPower and SaskEnergy have chosen parts of the City of Regina and surrounding area as the next test location for their new advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) project for electricity and natural gas meters.

“We’ve been very pleased to date with the performance of advanced meters, otherwise known as smart meters, at SaskPower,” said Robert Watson, SaskPower President and CEO, referring to a field test in the Hanley area that took place in summer 2012. “Moving forward with smart meters is a key piece of SaskPower’s plans to renew and upgrade our provincial electricity infrastructure, and provides a foundation for further improvements to the system,” said Watson.

During this test, SaskPower and SaskEnergy will deploy approximately 2,100 new electricity meters as well as 650 natural gas modules that will be mounted on existing gas meters. This test in Regina and area will allow both corporations to verify the system configuration and the wireless communications network that these new meters will use.

“The technology used in AMI, once fully implemented, will allow for fewer manual meter reads and quicker service provided by both Crowns,” said Doug Kelln, President and CEO, SaskEnergy. “These testing phases are important as we move toward implementing a modernized energy grid, something already done by many other utilities.”

Kelln added that SaskEnergy has already seen very positive results with an automated meter reading project done in Swift Current over the past four years.

SaskPower announced in August 2010 that it would install approximately 500,000 smart meters across the province. These meters will be connected to a wireless communications network. The project also includes upgrades to approximately 370,000 SaskEnergy natural gas meters.

The current test site includes select residences and businesses in the following communities and rural municipalities (RMs):

Balgonie	Craven	Cupar
Dysart	Fort Qu’Appelle	Lumsden
Southey	Pense	Pilot Butte
Regina (select locales)	RM of Edgeley	RM of Edenwold

Meter reading and estimates for electric and natural gas service will still be used to create customer bills throughout the test phase. During the installation, there will be no interruption to natural gas service. However, electrical service will be interrupted for a short period of time (less than 15 minutes).

Customers with questions about the AMI project can contact SaskPower at 1-888-757-6397 and SaskEnergy at 1-800-567-8899.

Additional information can be found at:

- www.saskpower.com/smartmeters
- www.saskenergy.com/residential/AMI

For more information, media can call:

Tyler Hopson, SaskPower

Phone: (306) 536-2886

Email: thopson@saskpower.com

Vanessa Gooliaff-Beaupre, SaskEnergy

Phone: (306) 777-9763

Email: vbeaupre@saskenergy.com