Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Opt Out Policy

Background

In 2015, City Utilities (CU) began a formal project to begin installing the next generation of electric, natural gas and water metering across our entire customer base. This project replaces all legacy electric meters with AMI meters, which have two-way communication capability with CU offices, utilizing 900 MHz radio frequency. Additionally, all legacy water and gas meters are updated with communication devices, operating on the same radio frequency, and providing two-way communications with CU offices.

Going forward, electric, natural gas, and water meters, with AMI capability, will be our standard meters. The legacy meters will be referred to as non-standard meters.

While researching and preparing for implementation of this next generation of meter technology, it has been discovered that there may be customers who, for various reasons, oppose having these standard meters installed at their homes.

Purpose

This policy serves as a mechanism for customers to decline and opt out of all AMI programs and elect not to have two-way metering technology installed at their home.

Requirements for Opting Out

- An AMI Opt Out enrollment form must be filled out and signed by the account holder stating that they understand the fees associated with enrollment in the program and with the corresponding data limitations.
- Available only for single family residential premises
    - Administration guideline – Opting out of AMI is NOT available to account holders residing in multi-unit housing structures containing two or more housing units. (A housing unit, as defined by the Census Bureau, is a house, apartment, group of rooms, or single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters).
        - The only caveat to this is zero lot line residential units, aka, patio homes. Each patio home is legally recognized as a separate housing unit even though they share common wall(s).

- Must be an account with no more than one disconnect for non-payment in the most recent 12 month period.
- Account holder must not have any prior circumstances of theft or tampering at their metering locations.

Fees for Opt Out Enrollment
- If an AMI meter(s) is already present at a premise, there will be a $85.00 exchange fee for each electric meter and a separate $40.00 fee for each gas and each water meter.
- There will be a $40.00 monthly non-standard meter fee to manually read any meter(s) located at the premise.

Automatic removal from the Opt Out Program
- Account holder must maintain no more than one disconnect in the most recent 12 month period to remain eligible. If this amount is exceeded, then CU may install an AMI meter(s).
- If CU is unable to obtain access to read the meter(s) at the premise for three consecutive months, CU may install an AMI meter(s).

Automatic enrollment into the Opt Out Program
- If CU is unable to complete an AMI installation at eligible premises for reasons including but not limited to, locked gates or doors, physical blockages, or unrestrained dogs, CU will treat these situations as AMI opt outs. In this situation, the customer will be required to pay the monthly non-standard meter fee. If such customer contacts CU within 30 days after the AMI meter opt out is first assessed and agrees to installation of Advanced Metering, CU will credit the customer's account the amount of the charge on the customer's next bill.

Customers not eligible to Opt Out
In addition to the requirements above, the following account holders are not eligible to opt out:
- Participants in City Utilities' Solar Initiative
- Accounts with net metering
- Time-of-Use metering
- Commercial customers
- Industrial customers
- Any other rate or customer program that requires advanced metering.

Tracking
- City Utilities shall maintain a list of premises and customers who have opted-out of having a standard meter installed and will review the list periodically to determine if an AMI meter may be installed (i.e. customer requesting opt-out has moved).
- City Utilities shall track the number of customers with an existing AMI meter who request to opt-out of the program.