MEASUREMENT CANADA

DECISIONS
VA JWG AND LUM JWG RECOMMENDATIONS

2008-11-28

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Purpose
The purpose of this document is to set out Measurement Canada’s (MC) decisions regarding implementation of the recommendations of the Volt-Ampere (VA) Joint Working Group (JWG) and the Legal Units of Measure (LUM) Joint Working Group (JWG). Those recommendations are published in separate documents.

1.0 VA Recommendations

Technical recommendations 1.1 to 1.4 (pertaining to demand response):

Accepted as proposed.

Technical recommendation 1.5 (proposing a low level of MC intervention):

Accepted in principle, but will be modified from “low regulatory intervention” (subject to conditional permission by President, MC) to “no regulatory intervention” (subject to formal exemption recognized in the Electricity and Gas Inspection Regulations (EGIR). The “low regulatory intervention” option with regards to the regulation of the use of alternative demand intervals is deemed unsupportable under the legislation. The “low regulation intervention” policy used by MC with regards to major power consumers was used in the context of meter verification and sealing for which authority is granted under the legislation to the President to grant conditional permissions for exemption. The establishment of time-related demand LUM prescribed under the EGIR requires conformity to recognized technical methods and algorithms to ensure equity in demand measurement-based transactions. Where differing time-related demand methods or algorithms applicable to certain transactions do not comply in this regard, then an exemption can be sought to use such methods and algorithms for the specific transaction class which would need to be formally prescribed within the EGIR.

The establishment of scope (parameters) for the no-intervention scenario (i.e. types of customers and/or transactions to which this would apply) will be determined following consultations with provincial and territorial energy regulators. These regulators, in effect, already delineate distinct customer classes and/or transaction types via the regulation of tariff structures.

Technical recommendations 2.1 to 2.6 (pertaining to VA measurement/calculation methodology):

Accepted as proposed.

2.0 VA Implementation Plan

General:

The general principles of the VA implementation plan are accepted as they align with the LUM JWG recommendations and will lead to equitable and consistent measurement methodologies between measurement taking place both within and outside of an approved meter.

Policy Recommendations 1.1 to 1.4: and 2.1 to 2.6:
Accepted as proposed.

Policy Recommendation 1.5:

The implementation plan is not applicable given the decision to accept recommendation 1.5 only as a “no regulatory intervention” scenario. Demand meters will be assessed to the specifications resulting from recommendation 1.4. The use of different response periods, just like different VA algorithms, will be considered as a “no regulatory intervention” application and will be subject to a formal exemption under the EGIR.

Policy Recommendations 1.1 to 1.5, and 2.4 to 2.6 (pertaining to “grandfathering” of existing in-service meters):

Accepted as proposed. The VA JWG further proposed that existing 2-element meters which do not comply with recommendation 2.3 be voluntarily withdrawn from service as soon as possible due to the high potential for inequity and inaccuracy. MC supports the expeditious voluntary removal of such meters from service.

3.0 VA Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and Review Cycle

MC will use the proposed KPI’s as a means of assessing rate of progress and level of compliance with the accepted recommendations. During the 2013 calendar year MC will review these recommendations to assess their effectiveness, relevance and determine if alternative requirements are warranted.

4.0 LUM Recommendations

Recommendations 4.1.1 to 4.1.9:

Accepted as proposed.

Recommendation 4.1.10:

As this recommendation is similar in context to VA recommendation 1.5, it is accepted but will be modified to “no regulatory intervention” scenario based on the same rationale.

Recommendation 4.1.11:

Accepted as proposed.

Recommendation 4.1.12:

The method of consultation described in this recommendation is not accepted due to the significant variations between provincial and territorial tariff regulations. MC has opted instead to perform “one by one” consultations with applicable provincial and territorial regulatory
authorities. As the provincial and territorial authorities regulate tariff structures (and by indirect consequence - customer classes) over all utilities within their jurisdiction, they are considered to be the principle organizations for advising MC with regards to the LUM’s applied for various classes of customer or transaction type. Following those consultations, MC will establish the parameters distinguishing “high regulatory intervention” (subject to the prescribed legislation and MC specifications) and “no regulatory intervention” and then perform public consultation.

**Recommendations 4.2 to 4.5:**

Accepted as proposed.

**Recommendations 5 to 9:**

The principles and requirements identified in these recommendations for data initiators, data recorders and conversion devices and functions are accepted as proposed.

**Recommendation 10:**

This recommendation is not accepted as presented. The application of transformer and line loss factors which may adjust LUM used in billing must be based on directly measured quantities which conform to specified metrological and administrative requirements (“high regulatory intervention” scenario). Where differing loss factors applicable to certain transactions do not comply in this regard, then an exemption can be sought to use such methods and algorithms for the specific transaction class which would need to be formally prescribed within the EGIR (“no regulatory intervention” scenario).

The recommendation pertaining to the mandatory retention of original uncompensated measurement data as part of meter records is accepted.

**5.0 LUM Implementation Plan**

LUM implementation policies are outlined within the recommendations and are all accepted as proposed. The implementation target dates of the LUM and VA recommendations are aligned.

**6.0 LUM Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and Maintenance Cycle**

MC will use the proposed KPI’s as a means of assessing the implementation status of, and level of compliance with, the accepted recommendations. During the 2013 calendar year MC will review these recommendations to assess their effectiveness, relevance and determine if alternative requirements are warranted.

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