



talk about Advanced Metering Study

May 2010

What is the advanced metering study?

In March 2010, the departments of Environment and Energy, Alberta Innovates - Technology Futures, EPCOR and ENMAX initiated a real-time electricity study, which will measure the electricity consumption behaviour of consumers when they are provided with real-time electricity consumption monitors. The study will end in August 2011.

The study focuses on single family homes, selected in Edmonton and Calgary, that have been provided with an electricity consumption monitor that displays real-time electricity use.

What are the objectives of this study?

The results of this study will inform future electrical metering and energy conservation initiatives of both government and industry. The objectives are:

- To understand the effects of having real-time electricity consumption feedback on the consumption behaviour of residential consumers.
- To determine whether customers value having real-time electricity usage information and whether they use that information to manage or reduce their energy use.
- To determine how much energy can be predicted to be saved and what measures customers took to achieve these reductions if customers do use this information to curtail their energy use.

Will the study results be made available to the public?

Yes. The results will be posted to the Alberta Energy website.

Why is The Government of Alberta interested in studying how Albertans use electricity?

This study will give insight into Albertans' ability to measure their energy use to improve energy efficiency and conservation. This is consistent with the objectives of the Provincial Energy Strategy.

How is the study being managed?

The study will be conducted by the Carbon and Energy Management business unit of Alberta Innovates - Technology Futures, and Dr. Dean Mountain of McMaster University.

Dr. Mountain has conducted similar studies in British Columbia, Ontario and Newfoundland and Labrador. The Government of Alberta will be using the information gathered in this study to compare with other Canadian results.

Alberta Innovates - Technology Futures builds on the strengths and successes of the former Alberta Research Council and is the lead agency for information communications technologies research in Alberta

How is the study being funded?

Funding is being provided by the Government of Alberta. ENMAX and EPCOR are providing assistance through in-kind contributions.

How were the participants for this study chosen?

Participants for this study were chosen from a randomly drawn sample of individual residential units in Calgary and Edmonton serviced by ENMAX or EPCOR. 155 participants from each city were selected for this study.