

Half Hourly Settlement Metering

WPD Smart Metering

WPD Smart Metering provides a national Half Hourly (HH) metering service for business customers of all sizes.

Background - The Electricity Market

Electricity cannot easily be stored. This means that generation has to match demand at all times and this in turn makes the cost of generation volatile as generating stations are brought on or taken off line. As a result the wholesale cost of electricity is calculated every half hour.

Although electricity suppliers pay generators on a half hour by half hour basis; for the vast majority of customers the HH consumption is estimated using a standard profile and the quarterly or monthly meter readings.

However, applying such profiling to large business customers would introduce an unacceptable risk of error into the settlement process. Ofgem have ruled that larger business customers must have metering which records the actual HH consumption. This HH data is stored in the meter and collected daily over a remote communications link.

The Requirement for Half Hourly Metering

Ofgem have recently extended the requirement for HH metering to a broader set of customers:

- 100kW Metering Systems Since 1997 all customers with a maximum demand greater than 100kW have been required to be HH metered.
- Small Scale Generation Since 2009 export back to the grid from generation plant exceeding a capacity of 30kW has to be HH metered.
- Modification P272 A recent industry change, referred to as 'P272', means from 2015 all customers in Profile Classes 05-08 (traditionally those billed monthly) will be moved to HH metering.
- CT Metered Supplies Since 2014 meters installed at non-domestic customers with a Current Transformer (CT) connected metering system must be HH compliant.

Meter Operator Agreements

HH metered customers contract with a 'Meter Operator' to provide, install and operate their HH metering. This helps to reduce charges and allows customers to switch electricity supplier with minimum complication. HH electricity supply contracts do not include Meter Operator charges.

Energy Management Information

HH meters are an essential energy management tool and customers can access their HH consumption data on line.

Further Information

WPD Smart Metering provide an efficient and competitive HH metering service.

To get your new or existing connection HH metered or to access your consumption data on line please call us on 0845 744 8900 or email smartmetering@westernpower.co.uk.