

Milton Hydro deploying 5,000 Smart meters to homes

Milton Hydro is bringing some new technology on board. The local utility is poised to deploy upward of 5,000 electrical Smart meters to households across its distribution territory, with OZZ Energy Solutions Inc. as its implementation partner.

The meters will use an advanced wireless mesh infrastructure, which facilitates two-way meter communication between a residence and Milton Hydro.

That means in addition to collecting consumption data at the meter, Milton will be able to broaden its base of customers who access information on new regulated time-of-use or market pricing.

"Milton is further advancing our Smart metering activity based on the demonstrated strength of the mesh communications infrastructure," said Don Thorne, president and CEO of Milton Hydro.

"The technology has undergone testing by our engineering department and we are satisfied with the results. Used in conjunction with time-of-use rates, this Smart metering technology will empower our customers to evaluate their consumption behaviour and begin to strategize and implement conservation and demand measures within their homes."

Milton Hydro selected OZZ to provide turnkey project services and deliver the complete system. The work includes integrating the Smart meters, deploying the wireless telecommunications and providing the meter data management and Web presentation services via its OZZ Global Data Center in Concord.

The utility has also adopted OZZ Meter Vision, a Web-enabled data management solution that securely handles millions of energy data transactions. New Web-ready metering features enhance the many benefits of real-time monitoring for the power provider.

"Our ability to demonstrate effectively the power and efficiency of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) solutions is vital to our business strategy and the industry we serve right now," said Steven Muzzo, president and CEO of OZZ Corporation.

"It allows us to move more confidently into this important new realm of energy data management services with our clients."

Muzzo noted that historically, local distribution companies requested assistance from OZZ to manually read their


meters.

"Today, they understand and embrace the fact that AMI outsourcing with us can maximize their investment dollars and help their operating budgets."


The AMI solution selected for the Milton project is based on the MeshReader Smart meter technology from Canadian-based Trilliant Networks Inc.

The technology enables meters on adjacent houses to 'talk' to each other, creating a network that propagates reads from meter to meter and ultimately to a data collector that keeps track of hundreds of meters.


Trilliant's data collector then transmits the information back to the OZZ Global Data Centre, where it's validated and ready for billing.



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