

## **Proposal Concerning Modifications to LIPA's Tariff for Electric Service**

### **Requested Action:**

The Long Island Power Authority ("Authority") Staff ("Staff") proposes to modify the Tariff for Electric Service ("Tariff") effective January 1, 2018 to remove remote meter charges as Advanced Meter Infrastructure ("AMI") are being implemented system wide.

### **Background:**

Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) is Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's comprehensive energy strategy for New York. REV helps consumers make more informed energy choices, and requires the Authority to develop new energy products and services, and better protect the environment by making the electrical system more efficient. The Authority will be implementing a full deployment of AMI to improve customer satisfaction, increase energy efficiency, drive operational excellence, and reduce the cost of service, all which align with the goals of REV. The deployment of AMI system wide is being proposed to be complete by the end 2022.

### **Proposal:**

As AMI will now be the standard for all customers going forward, the Authority Staff proposes to eliminate one-time installation charges and daily administration and communication charges to customers who have requested the hourly metering technology.

The Authority's Tariff currently includes specific charges related to remote meters. These charges can be found in the Statement of Remote Meter Charges ("Statement of RMC") and referred to in the Tariff leaves. Authority Staff now proposes to terminate these charges and remove any language in the tariff related to these charges and the Statement of RMC. With the mass deployment of AMI, the Authority will no longer need to recover additional fees for these types of meter services.

Data from the AMI meters will be accessible by customers on the website at no charge. However, any Energy Service Company ("ESCO") who request the AMI data be sent to them (as opposed to retrieved from the website) on a regular basis will have to enter into a negotiated pricing plan for that service, as is required under the existing tariff. This is consistent with the concept developed New York's Reforming the Energy Vision of managing and providing data as a value-added service for modern utilities.

### **Financial Impacts:**

The financial impact for removing Remote Meter Charges would be a minimal loss of revenues when compared to a corresponding savings in expense that will be achieved through AMI deployment. Currently there are about 8 customers being charged the RMC. The loss of revenue is estimated to be \$511 per year.

**Proposed Tariff Changes:** Remove language regarding fees for remote meter charges, and remote meter installation.

**Affected Tariff Leaves:** 30, 96, 98, 107A, 107B, 303, and 306. Statement RMC will be eliminated.

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

In summary, the proposed changes to LIPA's Tariff for Electric Service will eliminate installation charges and daily and administrative charges to customers for remote meters since the roll-out of AMI will meet the same needs for customers and will be standard for all customers going forward.

**I. General Information (continued):****C. General Terms and Conditions (continued):**8. Customer's Responsibilitya) To Notify the Authority of an Interruption of Service

The Customer shall notify the Authority as soon as reasonably possible of any interruption in the supply of electric current.

b) For Authority Property on Customer's Premises

The Customer shall be responsible for and protect the meter and other property of the Authority on the Customer's premises, and compensate the Authority for any damage to, or loss, or destruction of that property.

9. Ownership of Equipment On Customer's Premises

a) The Authority will own, maintain, and replace, if necessary, all the equipment it has installed to supply electricity, at its own expense, in or on the Customer's premises, unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

b) Equipment on the Customer's premises includes all meters, poles, wires, transformers, and other appliances needed to supply electricity.

~~e) The Authority will also own, maintain, and replace, if necessary, remote meter reading devices installed by the Authority at the Applicant's or Customer's expense. (See Leaf No. 107A for identification of customer charges.)~~

10. Costs of Special Services on Customer's Premises

If the Authority performs work on the Customer's premises for which there is a charge to the Customer, the charge will be at the Cost to the Authority.

11. Requirements For Residential Service

a) Residential service applies to:

(1) An individual, separately-metered, single-family dwelling (including a houseboat),

(2) An individual, separately-metered flat or apartment, or other building where each dwelling is separately metered under an account in each occupant's name, or

(3) A two-family or three-family dwelling on a single meter when the customer of record resides at that dwelling.

(4) Portions of a two- or three-family dwelling used in common by all of the families (halls, stairs, cellars, oil burner, etc.), when connected to the meter of any apartment; or

**IV. Billing Process and Payment of Bills (continued):****A. Meter Reading, Billing Periods, and Estimated Bills (continued):  
Estimated Bills for Residential Customers (continued):**

- e) If the Authority does not receive an answer to its request for a special meter-reading appointment (See *d.* above) after eight (8) (or four (4) bimonthly) consecutive months of estimated billing, the Authority will send a second letter to the Access Controller:
  - (1) Offering a special appointment, and
  - (2) Stating, if an appointment is not made, it may add a No-Access charge to the Access Controller's next bill for refusal to provide access to the meter.
- f) If the Authority does not receive a response to its second appointment letter within two (2) months of its being sent, the Authority will send the Access Controller a registered letter stating that:
  - (1) The Authority has the right of access to all of its property installed in the Customer's premises at all reasonable times (See I.C.6.), and
  - (2) The Authority may, following proper procedure, enter a premises and remove the meter and all other equipment the Authority has installed in the Customer's premises, for violation of any of the terms and conditions of this Tariff, and
  - (3) The Authority will, if still denied access to the meter thirty (30) days after receipt of the registered letter, apply for a court order to gain access to the meter to:
    - (a) Replace or relocate the meter outdoors to avoid future estimated billing or, if that is not physically practical,
    - (b) Install a remotely read meter, and
  - (4) The Customer or landlord shall pay the court costs, the cost of relocating the meter, and the costs of ~~any required the~~ equipment and ~~/or the installation of a remotely read meter along with the any~~ associated administrative ~~and communication operation charges costs.~~ ~~(see "Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges".)~~
- g) The Authority will enforce the terms of 6d. - 6.f. above if a Customer with a remote reading device, or one who mails or calls in the reading, refuses access to the meter at least once in each 12-month period.

**7. Underestimated Bills for Residential Customers**

If the Authority understates a Residential Customer's estimated bill by 50 percent or one hundred dollars (\$100), whichever is greater, of the actual bill for the period covered by the estimated bill(s), the Authority will notify the Customer in writing that the Customer may pay the difference between the estimated amount and the amount actually owed in regular monthly installments over a reasonable period of time, but not less than three (3) months.

**IV. Billing Process and Payment of Bills (continued):****A. Meter Reading, Billing Periods, and Estimated Bills (continued):  
Estimated Bills for Nonresidential Customers (continued):****(5) Contents of No-Access Notices**

The First Notice (see IV.A.8.b) as to when “No-Access Notices” are initiated) will state that, unless the Authority has access to the meter on the next scheduled date or before that date by special appointment:

- (a) The Authority will add a No-Access charge to the Access Controller's next bill and to every bill until access is provided, but
- (b) There will be no charge if an appointment is made and kept.

**(6) The Second Notice will state that:**

- (a) The Authority has added the No-Access charge to the Access Controller's account and will also add it to the next bill unless the Authority has access to the meter on the next scheduled date or before that date by special appointment, and
- (b) The Authority will, if still denied access to the meter thirty (30) days after the issuance of the notice, apply for a court order to gain access to the meter to:
  - (1) Replace or relocate the meter in a place where it can be accessed for reading or if that is not physically practical,
  - (2) Install a remotely read meter, and
- (c) The customer or landlord shall pay the court costs, the cost of relocating, the meter, and/or the costs of ~~the any required~~ equipment and ~~or the installation of a remotely read meter along with the any~~ associated ~~administrative and communication operation charges costs~~. (see “Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges”.)

**(7) The Third and following Notices will state that:**

- (a) The Authority has added the latest No-Access charge to the Access Controller's account, and
- (b) Will include a notice of termination for non-access, or
- (c) Notice that the Authority will seek a court order to obtain access, if the Authority cannot physically terminate the Access Controller's service without access.

**b) No-Access Charge Limit**

The Authority will add no more than one hundred dollars (\$100) per building or premises to any single bill of the Access Controller even if multiple meters are located there.

**IV. Billing Process and Payment of Bills (continued):****C. Charges for Miscellaneous Services (continued):**~~10. Remote Meter Reading Charges:~~

- ~~a) After receiving a written request from a customer, the Authority will install in a new facility, or replace in an existing facility a manually read meter with a remotely read meter. To recover its expenses, the Authority will charge the customer making such a request.~~
- ~~b) The Authority will prepare and maintain a "Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges". The Statement will be updated from time to time as the cost of providing the designated equipment and services changes. The charges and services to be included on the Statement are:
  - ~~(1) One-time Site survey, engineering and processing charge;~~
  - ~~(2) One-time Incremental charge for the remote reading equipment;~~
  - ~~(3) One-time Communications equipment charge;~~
  - ~~(4) One-time Installation charge, including the cost of removing the existing meter;~~
  - ~~(5) One-time Central operating equipment charge;~~
  - ~~(6) Daily administrative charge;~~
  - ~~(7) Daily communication operations charge for wireless communication installations. For telephone land-line cost installations, the customer is responsible for obtaining and maintaining the telephone land-line and any other telecommunication services required.~~~~
- ~~c) The Authority will continue to own all electric meters and related communications equipment.~~
- ~~d) Temporary failure of the equipment does not eliminate the customer's obligation for payment of recurring charges.~~
- ~~e) The standard electric meter charge for the Customer's rate class will also apply. The metering equipment charges in this statement are only for additional meter features required to support remote meter reading communication.~~
- ~~f) The Authority reserves the right to inspect the electric meter at least once per year to check its physical condition and for data validation.~~
- ~~g) The Authority reserves the right to enter the customer's premises as required to maintain metering equipment, perform site inspection and for data validation.~~

~~Malfunctions of the remote meter reading equipment that occur within one year from the date of installation of that equipment will be repaired by the Authority at no charge. Beyond the first year of installation of that equipment, the customer will be responsible for payment to the Authority for repair or replacement of malfunctioning equipment, except for repairs to or replacement of the non-communication components of that equipment, for which the Authority will cover the costs. Failure to make payment for repair and replacement of the malfunctioning equipment will cause the customer account to revert to manual read status. Also, if wireless communication technology changes cause obsolescence and dysfunction of the installed equipment, after one year from the date of installation of that equipment, the upgrade, modification, or the replacement of the equipment for continuance of remote metering shall require the customer to pay all required costs for continuation of remote meter reading service. Failure to make payment will cause the customer account to revert to manual read status~~

~~[Cancelled]~~

**IV. Billing Process and Payment of Bills (continued):****C. Charges for Miscellaneous Services (continued):**

- ~~i) With respect to remote metering equipment installed and operated by the Authority at any customer's facility before the effective date of this tariff leaf to support the Authority's programs or the Authority's internal needs, the Authority may elect to retain and operate such equipment at no cost to the customer. In addition, on or after the effective date of this tariff leaf, the Authority may elect to install and operate remote meter reading equipment at any customer's facility to support the Authority's programs or the Authority's internal needs, at no cost to the customer.~~
- ~~j) Customers who request remote meter reading capabilities in their facilities will pay for the one-time installation charges as well as for the daily charges and for any maintenance or replacement charges described in Leaf No. 107A, 10.h).~~
- ~~k) Customers who request to retain remote meter reading capabilities that exist as of the effective date of this leaf will not have to pay any one-time installation charges as described in Leaf No. 107A, 10.b)(1)-(5) for such existing capabilities, but will have to pay the daily charge as well as any maintenance or replacement costs as described in the "Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges" and on Leaf No. 107A.~~

**11.10. Meter Reading Historical Information:**

- a) Customers, ESCO's and DRC's may request and will be provided, if available, up to twenty-four (24) months of monthly or bi-monthly historical meter reading information without charge. Monthly or bi-monthly historical meter reading information for historical periods beyond the twenty-four (24) months will be provided, as available, for a charge of forty dollars (\$40.00) regardless of the number of months of information requested or provided. Hourly or fifteen (15) minute interval data covering any historical monthly period will be provided, if available, at a charge of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each meter reading period's requested data.
- b) Customers who request their remote AMI meter reading data to be provided to them on a monthly basis will individually enter into a negotiated price agreement with the Authority.
- c) AMI ~~pilot~~ customers ~~can will receive retrieve all~~ available meter data from the Manager's Website at no charge. Where available AMI will be used to collect meter data and measure net electricity transactions.

**IX. Long Island Choice Program (continued):****B. SERVICE CLASSIFICATION NO. 14 ESCO and DRC Services (continued):****(Rate Codes: 390)****Rates, Charges and Credits per Month (continued):**a) Miscellaneous and Other Charges

ESCOs and DRCs will be billed monthly for miscellaneous services requested by the ESCO as agent for Participating Customers or DRC for its own purposes. Charges for these miscellaneous services that may be purchased by the ESCO and DRC are as follows:

- (1) Special Metering: ESCOs and DRCs may request the Authority to upgrade Participating Customers' meters from the standard meters used by the Authority to meters with capabilities for remote reading and for measuring load over shorter time intervals using AMI meters. ESCOs and DRCs who request the remote AMI meter reading data to be provided to them on a monthly basis will individually enter into a negotiated price agreement with the Authority. Customers can retrieve AMI data from the Manager's website at no charge.- ~~The Authority will charge the ESCO or DRC a one-time charge and a daily charge to cover the special metering and remote meter reading costs. The charges, terms and conditions for remote meter reading are stated on Leaf Nos. 107A and 107B and on the "Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges".~~

**X. Long Island Choice Program (continued):****B. SERVICE CLASSIFICATION NO. 14 ESCO and DRC Services (continued):****(Rate Codes: 390)****Rates, Charges and Credits per Month (continued):**

- (5) Meter Reading Historical Information: After obtaining appropriate authorization from the Customer, and subject to the availability of such data from the Authority, ESCOs or DRCs may request up to twenty-four (24) months of monthly or bi-monthly historical meter reading information without charge. Information for historical periods beyond the twenty-four (24) months, and for fifteen (15) minute interval data covering any historical period, will be provided, if available, at a charge of ten dollars (\$10.00) for each meter reading period's data request. (See Leaf No. 107B, C. 109.a)

Meter Reading Historical Information available to ESCOs and DRCs will be made available directly to Customers upon their request on the same terms.

**c) Adjustment to Rates and Charges**

- (1) Each ESCO's or DRC's bill from the Authority will be adjusted by: (1) the result of the Power Supply Charge, minus \$0.0392 per kWh, multiplied by the Customer's metered consumption, and (2) the Increase in Rates and Charges to Recover PILOT payments.
- (2) Miscellaneous Charges on each ESCO's or DRC's bill from the Authority will also be adjusted for the NYS Assessment, except that the NYS Assessment does not apply to the Power Supply Charge or the Bill Credit Adjustment billed to ESCOs or DRCs.
- (3) The Distributed Energy Resources Cost Recovery Rate, and the Shoreham Property Tax Settlement Rider do not apply to the rates, charges or credits in this Service Classification.

Long Island Power Authority

Statement of Remote Meter Reading Charges

Applicable to Customers with Remote Meter Reading Services under all Service Classifications, to the Extent Set Forth in the Tariff for Electric Service

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT

<u>Type of Charges</u> <u>(per meter)</u>	<u>Single Phase</u> <u>Wireless</u> <u>(Note 2)</u>	<u>Polyphase</u> <u>Wireless</u> <u>(Note 2)</u>	<u>Single Phase</u> <u>Telephone</u> <u>Land-line</u>	<u>PolyPhase</u> <u>Telephone</u> <u>Land-line</u>
Order Processing, (1) Site Survey and Engineering Charge	\$127.00	\$127.00	\$127.00	\$127.00
Metering Equipment; Incremental Charge	\$186.00	\$211.00	\$228.00	\$254.00
Communication Equipment Charge	\$993.00	\$993.00	(Note 3)	(Note 3)
Installation Charge	\$181.00	\$204.00	\$136.00	\$158.00
Central Operating Equipment Charge	\$38.00	\$38.00	\$38.00	\$38.00
<b>Total One-time Charges</b>	<b>\$1,525.00</b>	<b>\$1,573.00</b>	<b>\$529.00</b> <b>(Note 3)</b>	<b>\$577.00</b> <b>(Note 3)</b>
Daily Administrative Charge	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74	\$0.74
Daily Communication Operations Charge	\$0.66	\$0.66	(Note 3)	(Note 3)
<b>Total Daily Charges</b>	<b>\$1.40</b>	<b>\$1.40</b>	<b>\$0.74</b> <b>(Note 3)</b>	<b>\$0.74</b> <b>(Note 3)</b>

Notes:-

Note 1: — Even if the customer decides or even if it is recommended by LIPA to the customer not to have the Remote Meter Reading Capability installed after the order has been processed, the site survey performed and the engineering completed, the customer will pay the charge of \$127.00 for completion of these activities.

Note 2: — Wireless communications equipment may not function in all geographical areas or metering locations and therefore, will not be offered to customers in those locations

Note 3: — Telephone communications equipment and usage charges from third party providers are the customer's responsibility.

Note 4: — Additional equipment required for the safe operation of installation such as a telephone land-line surge suppression/protection device shall be provided by the customer. If not installed, the customer account will revert to manual meter reading status.

Effective: June 1, 2005