Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Update

Joint Committee on Energy & Environmental Policy



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Presented by Hal Jensen, Westar Energy

An Evolution



1970's

1990's



Today



Digital Electronic (Smart Meter)

- Electronic and communicating metering in place for 20 years.
- "Smart Meter" is an upgrade from a one way meter to a two way, referred to as Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI).
- AMI provides platform for providing customer information & service options, service quality & reliability improvement and operational efficiencies.
- This is not radical new technology but instead a relatively simple upgrade from what already exists.

An AMI Meter ...

- Measures whole house use only.
- Meter accuracy
 - Meters tested prior to install and meet/exceed standards.
- Data privacy & Security
 - Transmits only usage information
 - Transmission is secure & encrypted.

Home use

- Meters are not controlling in home usage.
- Radio Frequency
 - Lower strength than a cell phone, microwave, baby monitor.
 - Transmission is less than 10 seconds a day total.

Safety

- Meters fully compliant with ANSI standards for safety.
- Some reports of overheating predominantly linked to homeowner meter box.
- Westar has experienced zero we inspect with each exchange.

AMI Pilot Project – 2010 to present

- Westar's three-year \$40M SmartStar Lawrence pilot program
- Investment Grant \$19M
- Customer energy dashboard with up-to-date energy cost, usage and environmental information
- 43,000+ smart meters installed in Lawrence area
- IT infrastructure for system wide deployment
- Distribution Automation
- Outage Management System

2012

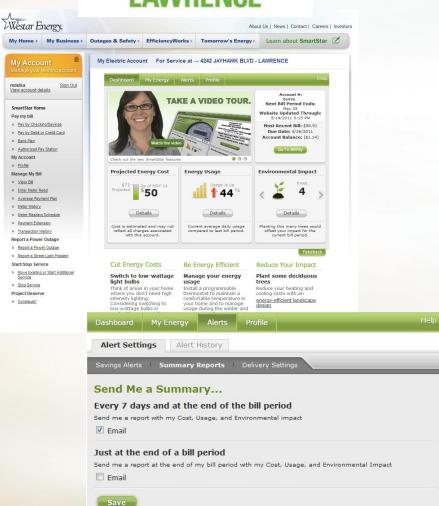
2011

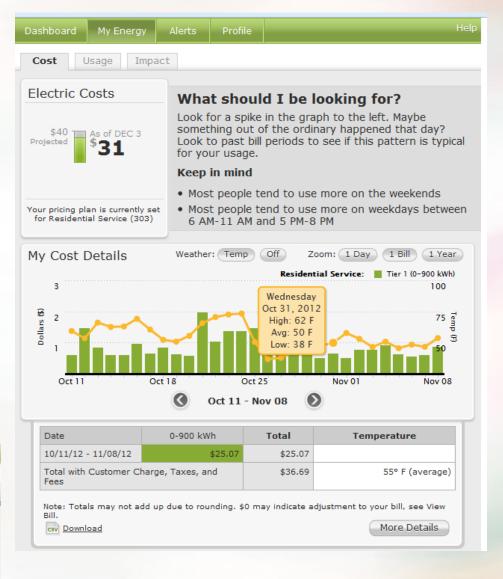
2010

Current Assessment

- 43,000 meters installed in 2011.
- Wide customer utilization 20,000+ dashboard accounts.
- 99%+ meter network communication on schedule.
- Service order automation in 2012, ~ 14,000 truck roll equivalent, April – December.
- Distribution equipment installed.
 - Improves reliability and service quality
- Enhanced outage management system in 2013
 - Automated outage and restoration notifications
- Early development of analytical tools.







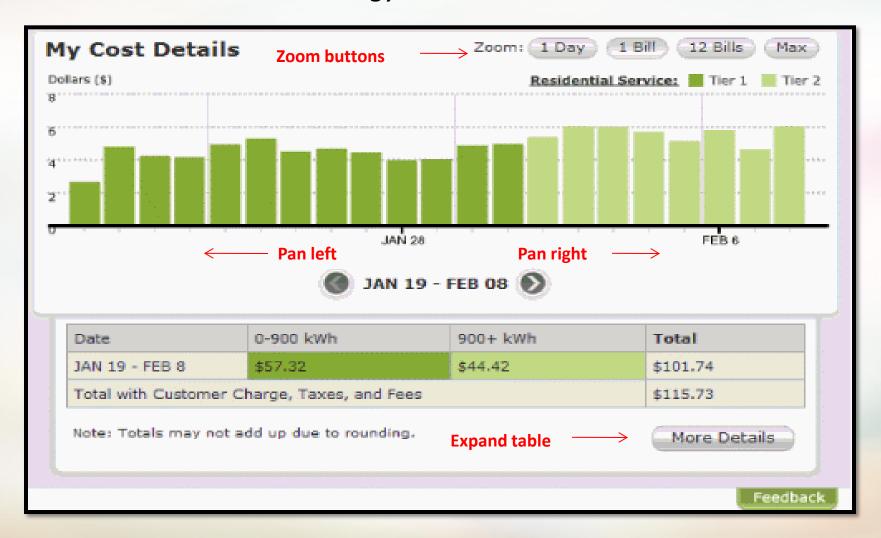
Log in to your dashboard at www.westarenergy.com



Feedback

Customer Dashboard

Daily Information Available in Detail Level
Energy Use and Cost



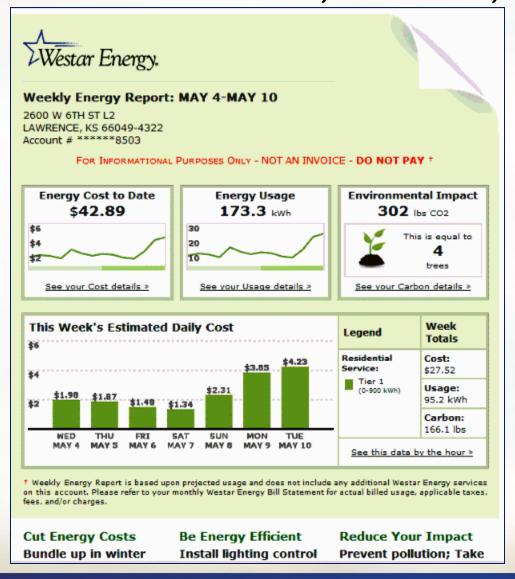
Customer Dashboard

15 minute information available at most detailed view



Weekly Energy Report

Available via email on weekly and monthly basis



Benefits

Customer access to information and convenience

- Dashboard available 24/7, anywhere with internet access.
- Personalized alerts and summaries delivered via text and email.

Customer service improvements

- Billing accuracy and timeliness.
- Outage and storm recognition and restoration.
- Proactive recognition of potential outages and other service issues.
- Improved service order speed via automation.

Platform to deliver customer options in service

Supports various pricing plans, prepay, as a customer choice.

Operational efficiencies

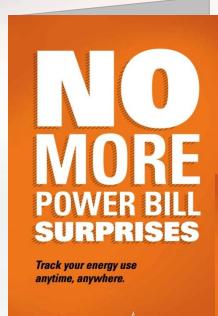
- Reduced costs with improved customer service.
- Improve system operation.

Wichita – 2013 Plans

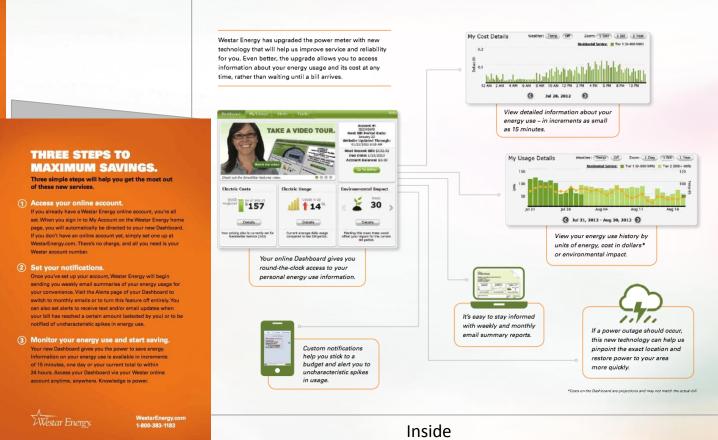
- Westar balancing speed of meter deployment to cost benefit - a slow but steady approach planned.
- An infrastructure investment to deliver customer service improvement similar to other system upgrade work.
- Plan 17,000 meter exchanges, in highest service order area that includes an older distribution infrastructure.
 - Approximately \$3.5M investment
- Keep key community leaders informed of progress.
- Inform customers of new benefits and information available.
- Late 2013 integration with new outage management system.

Customer Pamphlet for Every

Exchange

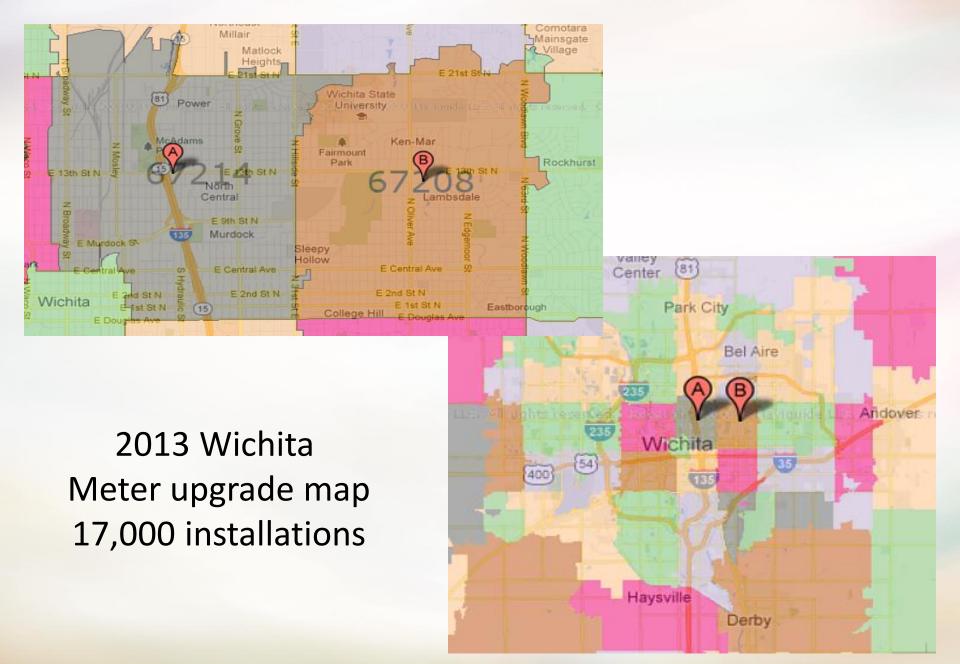


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Thank You

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