

PETERBOROUGH UTILITIES COMMISSION

WATER METERING OPTIONS FOR WIRELESS

POLICY

Normally, the wireless communication device shall be mounted directly on the water meter. Although there is much information to indicate this technology to be safe, there will be some customers which may have hyper-sensitivity to the wireless frequency or may make a personal choice not to have wireless in their homes, places of business, or on their property altogether. The following steps shall be taken to educate customers and provide them with options for those concerned about the water meter wireless communication device in their homes, businesses or on their property.

Step 1) Provide the customer with information and locations for information (PUG website, Health Canada) regarding the water meter wireless. Advise the customer that the water meter transmitter is powered by a 20-year battery and it transmits to the electric smart meter. **It transmits less than one second over a 24-hour period.**

Step 2) If the customer is not satisfied with the information and still doesn't want the transmitting device in their home/business, but will accept it on the outside of the house/business, then;

Option A: If the customer can provide proof via a doctor's note that there is someone normally within the premise with a severe sensitivity to wireless devices, then the Commission shall pay for installation of the transmitter outside of the building.

Option B: If the customer cannot or will not provide proof via a doctor's note that there is someone normally within the premise with a severe sensitivity to wireless devices, then the customer shall pay for installation of the transmitter outside of the house.

Step 3) If the customer refuses to accommodate the transmitting device on their property, then they will be required to pay the current monthly manual meter reading cost (Option C).

RATIONALE

Water metering is considered best management practice for water purveyors and the Commission wishes to utilize technology which is cost effective for its customers and is compatible with the electric "smart" meter program. It is recognized, however, that there may be some instances where a customer may choose not to have wireless technology within their home or business or even on their property. Wireless options should be available to the customer but in some cases the customer shall be required to pay for installation or ongoing meter reading costs.

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