



Smart Meters

Program: Legislative mandate to require utilities to install smart meters for all their electricity customers.

Funding: Utilities will be required to provide smart meters to all of their customers and will be allowed to recover the costs of doing so. Smart meters enable customers to use less electricity during peak times, when electricity is at its most expensive, and can save customers 5 percent annually on electricity costs.

Key Points:

- Smart meters are an advanced technology used by electric distribution companies to perform a number of functions, including measuring customer electricity use. Smart meters also allow customers to monitor their own use of electricity and to see how much electricity they are using at peak times when electricity is at its most expensive. They are among the best ways electricity customers can participate in programs to reduce the use of electricity at peak times such as hot summer days.
- Reduction of electricity use at peak demand times leads to more electricity reliability, lower costs and substantial energy conservation.
- The cost of smart meter implementation varies depending on the capabilities of the selected meter, the customer's power usage and the electric company's billing systems. In general, cost estimates for meter upgrades average \$12 to \$24 annually, but the savings to an average customer would be about \$46 a year or roughly \$230 million for all 5 million Pennsylvania customers.