

Edison SmartConnect – a Smarter, Cleaner Energy Future for Edison Customers



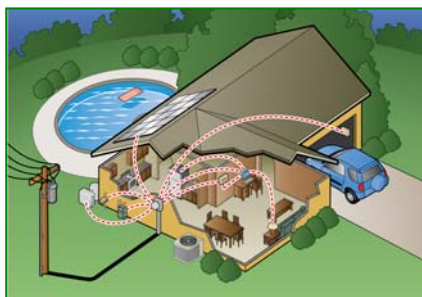
One of the most significant changes in the history of electricity industry is underway. Current home electric meters are remnants of the pre-computer era, mechanical devices that can record only the

total amount of electricity used during a billing period. Having more detailed usage information such as how much energy is used at various times of the day would create much smarter energy consumers and allow utilities to offer new energy saving programs. Additionally, advanced meters could interact with the next generation of “talking” thermostats, appliances and other communicating devices that soon will allow consumers to save the maximum energy and money 24/7 simply by pressing a usage preference button.

Edison's Different Approach

When the California Public Utilities Commission asked the state's utilities to study upgrading to such meters, Southern California Edison (SCE) concluded that existing, off-the-shelf new technologies would not be cost-effective, that they offered too few new functions and customer benefits. So Edison collaborated

with meter manufacturers to develop a completely new solid-state metering and communication system that would offer customers a lower cost, greater



benefits and improved grid operations. The outcome is now the industry's leading advanced metering system - Edison SmartConnect – currently being field tested on Edison's grid.

Between 2009 and 2012, SCE plans to replace more than 5 million existing traditional electric meters with the new next-generation smart devices, making possible money saving time-differentiated rates and demand response options as well as home area connectivity with appliances of the future.

Imagine an Electric Meter that Could Help You Protect the Environment

Edison SmartConnect will place in customers' hands a new technology capable of far more than saving energy and money. It will introduce unprecedented ways of protecting the environment with the touch of a button.

The new meter system will allow Edison customers with smart, communicating thermostats and appliances to set them to respond automatically to periods of peak pricing and grid emergencies, potentially reducing overall peak demand on Edison's grid by as much as 1,000 megawatts – the output of a major power plant. Imagine the environmental benefits.



Additionally, when customers have real-time information about their energy use, through home area wireless communications options the new system will support, Edison believes the result will be sustained new energy conservation. The utility estimates customers will reduce greenhouse gases and smog-forming pollutants by at least 365,000 metric tons per year – the equivalent of 79,000 cars being removed from the road. Imagine the environmental benefits.

Other potential customer benefits:

- reduced labor costs due to remote meter reads and turn-ons;
- increased convenience of new service activations when customers want their service rather than when utility personnel are available for a field visit; and
- customers shifting some peak usage to off-peak periods will reduce peak stress on grid equipment, reduce infrastructure replacement costs, and reduce expensive wholesale power purchases to meet peak demand.

The Industry Leader

- SCE was the sole utility recognized for its technology leadership during the first GridWeek conference in April 2007 sponsored primarily by the Department of Energy Office of Electricity Delivery & Energy Reliability. SCE received the event's Smart Grid Implementation & Deployment Leadership award for its advanced metering initiative.
- Utility Planning Network, a membership-based peer group of utility professionals worldwide that facilitates the annual Metering Awards Program, has recognized SCE's entry as the winner of the “2005-2006 Automatic Meter Reading Initiative by a North American investor-owned utility” category.
- The Electric Power Research Institute has recognized SCE as an industry leader for its approach to advanced metering. SCE is the first U.S. utility to adopt the institute's IntelliGrid Architecture for a systemwide advanced metering deployment.