





### **Studying the Smarter Consumer**

Rebecca Leiter – FirstEnergy Corporation Jennifer Potter – Sacramento Municipal Utility District Jim Eber – Commonwealth Edison

Moderators: Peter Cappers (LBNL) & Bernie Neenan (EPRI)

### **Rebecca Leiter**

- Program Manager for the Consumer Behavior Study conducted by FirstEnergy under the Smart Grid Investment Grant funding
- Member of FirstEnergy Rates and Regulatory Affairs Department. Have also served in the Risk Management, Financial Settlement and Business Strategy departments at FirstEnergy.
- Prior to joining FirstEnergy served in Sales, Marketing and Actuarial Departments in the Insurance Industry
- The project team is key to success. Along with the Smart Grid Technology Team, we have received support from Communications, Call Center, IT, Customer Service, Metering Services and many others as well as received invaluable advice and support from EPRI, DOE technical advisory team and PUCO staff









### **FirstEnergy Overview**

- All states but West Virginia are de-regulated markets
- Department of Energy grant included customers in Ohio, Pennsylvania & New Jersey
  - Only Ohio included automated meters
  - DA/VVC in Ohio and
     Pennsylvania
  - Direct Load Control projects
     in New Jersey and
     Pennsylvania
- Roll-out of AMI to all customers in Pennsylvania in progress



State	2013 Customers (in thousands)	2013 Distribution Sales (MWH in thousands)
Ohio	2,087	53,492
Pennsylvania	2,023	52,224
New Jersey	1,098	20,893
West Virginia	525	14,292
Maryland	256	6,987
New York	4	_
Total	5,993	147,888



### **Consumer Behavior Study Overview**

- Located in Cleveland
   Electric Illuminating
   Company in area that is east
   of the City of Cleveland
- Includes both rural and urban areas (some topographical challenges for communication network)
- Initial meter roll-out was 5,000 residential customers followed by a Phase II with approximate 29,000 additional residential and small commercial customers





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### **Study Goals & Objectives**

✓Energy Savings

✓Peak Demand Reductions

✓Knowledge Gain For Future Cost Effective Implementation

✓Help Customers Save Energy & Money





### **Study Overview Phase I**









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### **Other Study Features**

- Customers given the ability to opt out of the meter first
- Phase I study included a pre-treatment survey to identify if customers had central air, electric hot water heating, etc.
  - Customer were then made an offer for which they were qualified
  - PCT customers were also given the option of Direct Load Control by the Company or controlling the thermostat themselves in the events
- Critical peak days called during the months of June through August
  - Up to 15 days called per summer
  - Rebate of \$.40/kwh given for curtailing load against their baseline usage
- Customers given day ahead notification of events through voicemail, e-mail, text messages





At the time of installation, an Illuminating Company employee will knock on your door to let you know the metre is being preplaced, and there will be a momentary interruption of your bower. A second door hanger following installation will notify you when your meter has been replaced. All workers will be dentified as working for The Illuminating Company, as will heir vehicles, uniforms and identification cards.

If you have any questions about your smart meter – or choose not to have your meter replaced at this timeplease contact us at 1-877-962-7041.

Thank you for your cooperation. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you better.

> Illuminating Company





### Web Portal

- Hourly usage data - can download to excel file
- Historical information back to June – August of previous year
- Estimates of peak time rebates as they occur
- Part of Home **Energy Analyzer** which includes tips for saving energy





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 Conducted pre-marketing focus groups & survey to test what messages resonate with customers. Key learnings:

- Customers want to control usage
- They are intimidated by some of the in-home technology

✓Marketing campaign conducted in phases to maximize hit ratio





### Phase II

- Phase II added an additional 29,000 Residential and Small Customers
- Treatment groups included PTR only, Education only and PTR + choice of technology
- Joint Motion with Public Utilities Commission of Ohio filed in the case for the Companies to implement an experimental TOU/CPP tariff in addition to the Peak Time Rebate program.
  - Only non-shopping Phase II residential participants with advanced meters would be eligible (Approximately 3,000 customers available).
  - Customers on this experimental tariff would pay this rider in lieu of the Generation Service Rider (Rider GEN) and not eligible for the Peak Time Rebate (Rider PTR)
  - Marketing resulted in six customers participating



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### **Questions / Discussion**







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### **Jennifer Potter**

- Jennifer Potter is a Principal Market Analyst in the Pricing and Resource Planning department at Sacramento Municipal Utility District.
- Jennifer spent the last 3 years as the Project Manager for the Department of Energy ARRA grant funded Consumer Behavior Study, currently known as SmartPricing Options pricing pilot.
- While at SMUD, she has worked as the program planner for residential and small commercial efficiency and incentive programs.
- Prior to her time at SMUD, Jennifer worked at City of Roseville, Roseville Electric, as the principal load and revenue forecaster, load researcher, and business analyst for the utility.
- Jennifer holds a B.A. in International Studies and Economics from Southern Oregon University and a M.S. in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University.











### **Utility Overview- Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)**



- 1.4 million population
- 900 mi<sup>2</sup>, 2331 km<sup>2</sup>
- Elected Board of Directors
- Not-for-Profit Utility
- 2nd largest municipal in California, 6th largest in the US

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- 2034 employees
- AMI meters fully deployed



### **Study Overview**





# **SmartPricing Options Study Objectives**

The pilot includes a two-year application of experimental rate options on a sample population of SMUD customers with the intent of determining:

- 1. Electricity impacts of each of the treatments
- 2. Customer characteristics associated with behavior changes
- 3. The roles of enabling technology in customers' daily electricity management
- 4. Program impacts on customer satisfaction
- 5. Rate and enabling technology program value to utility
- 6. Expected market penetration for rate and enabling technology programs
- 7. Effective educational and marketing strategies for customers





16/24/2014

### **Key features of SPO pilot & enrollment**



Total enrollment including deferred groups = 12,027; Total # of customers receiving offers (including deferred groups) = 53,798; Total # of customers in SPO including controls = 99,661

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### **Study Overview**

- Summer season only (June-Sep)
- Three rate plans available
  - Time-of-Use / Weekday Value Plan
  - Critical Peak Pricing / Off-Peak
     Discount Plan
  - TOU-CPP / Optimum Off-Peak Plan
- Effective in 2012 and 2013
- In Home Displays- shipped approximately 5,000 pre-provisioned devices to pilot participants
- Web portal with hourly energy use
- Dedicated Microsites for each pricing plan







### **Questions / Discussion**













### **Engaging the Smarter Consumer**

Karen Lefkowicz – PEPCO Gail Allen – KCP&L Dennis Sumner – City of Fort Collins Utility

Moderators: Peter Cappers (LBNL) & Bernie Neenan (EPRI)

### **Speaker Bio**

- Ms. Karen Lefkowitz is the Vice President of Business Transformation and the Chief Information Security Officer for Pepco Holdings, Inc. (PHI)
- She is responsible for leading PHI's enterprise-wide initiatives to implement business processes and advanced technologies, including Smart Grid
- She also leads the Security Steering Committee at PHI
- Ms. Lefkowitz is an industry veteran with more than 30 years experience
- She currently sits on the Boards of the GridWise Alliance, Woolly Mammoth Theater, and Strathmore Foundation for the Arts







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### **About Pepco Holdings, Inc.**

- Approximately 2 million customers in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland and New Jersey
  - Atlantic City Electric, Delmarva
     Power and Pepco provide
     regulated electricity service
    - Delmarva Power also provides natural gas service
- AMI is fully deployed among Pepco and Delmarva Power residential and commercial customers
- PHI has successfully rolled out a critical rebate program in Pepco Maryland and Delmarva Power Delaware, called the Peak Energy Savings Credit



### **Project Overview**

Residential customers in Montgomery County and Prince George's County, MD

490,000 customers

**Enrollment Approach** 

Treatments- Pricing (#)

Treatments- Technology (#)

Treatments- Information (#)

**Recruitment Method** 



Web (Baseline) Phone Notifications

Mail, Phone, Email, Advertising







### The Peak Energy Savings Credit Program

Introduces a new rate structure with a credit option designed to incent customers to reduce consumption during Peak Energy Periods



### **About the Peak Energy Savings Credit**

- Pepco Maryland customers had already been educated about energy management tools on My Account and saving energy as part of AMI education
- First rolled out Peak Time Rebate (PTR) pilot in 2012 to 5,000 customers
- Summer of 2013 did a mass rollout to 533,000 residential customers
  - Introduced the Peak Energy Savings Credit (PESC) to all customers
- Summer of 2014 continued program with residential customers
  - focused on engagement as well as continuing education
  - used 2013 success stories and results to talk about
- Key Lessons Learned: How does everything work together? How do you leverage existing education investments, building a platform for long-term education throughout AMI and dynamic pricing?

Weather plays an important role if you are trying to roll out a PTR program.



### **Building Upon Our AMI Customer Education**

- Rolled out Smart Meters in 2011 with wide scale education effort that focused on customers "taking control" of their energy use using hourly energy data
- The Peak Energy Savings Credit leveraged this existing messaging
- Offering incentives to reduce energy use was a natural evolution and was well received by customers, who were focused on saving money
- New education focused on why customers should reduce energy use on high demand days and the benefits

Evolving your message is critical. Build a platform from which you can build upon.



### **Program Design**

- The Peak Energy Savings Credit offers credits when customers reduce their energy use below their baseline on Peak Savings Days.
  - Customer baselines were calculated by taking the average of the three highest energy use days during the prior 30-day period, excluding the day prior to a Peak Savings Day, previous Peak Savings Days, weekends and holidays
  - Customers received \$1.25 for every kWh reduced below the baseline
  - Customers saw their credit on My Account and on their next bill

We promoted our demand response program, Energy Wise Rewards<sup>™</sup>, with PESC to encourage further participation and automatic reductions

 By helping customers understand how these programs worked together, we increased likelihood for participation and reduced potential confusion as both programs reward for energy reductions during Peak Demand Periods, called Peak Savings Days

Combining education efforts around related programs can help reduce customer confusion.





### **Our Education Approach**

- We work collaboratively with a Commission appointed Maryland AMI Working Group which represents multiple stakeholders in the community
- Targeted research and ongoing tracking of customers as well as a segmentation study helped us understand our customers and their preferred channels
  - Conducted qualitative customer testing for the program name, process, and customer educational materials
  - Used different channels communications to reach all segments of the population (e.g., those without a computer and low income)
  - Focused on incentive-based messaging as well as some combined messaging with the demand response program

Base your messaging on good research.



### "Look and Feel"

### **SAVE MONEY ON PEAK SAVINGS DAYS.**

With the Peak Energy Savings Credit and Energy Wise Rewards<sup>™</sup> you can receive a credit off your bill by reducing your energy use on Peak Savings Days.

Learn more at pepco.com/peak or call us at 1-855-730-PEAK (1-855-730-7325).

more you reduce your energy use, the more money you can save.

energy wise rewards Maryland PEAK ENERGY SAVINGS CREDIT

For more information about how Pepco customers in Maryland can save on Peak Savings Days, visit pepco.com/peak or call us at 1-855-730-PEAK (1-855-730-7325). We exiculate your baseline by taking the average energy use of the three highest workdays within the poet 40 days. This excludes the day prior to a Pask basings Day, precises Peak Sevings Days and military.

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Bill Insert

Postcard

EAK ENERGY **AVINGS CREDIT** Energy Savings Credit, we can help ing you a credit off your bill when rgy use during Peak Savings Days during the summer months when s to be highest. works: LLMENT NECESSARY, You'l ne call the day before a SAVE MONEY ON PEAK SAVINGS DAYS. Day occurs with the hours for nergy use. You can also choose



JR CREDIT. You'll see your credit it bill or online through My Account

by reducing energy use on Peak Savings Days The more you reduce your energy use, the mize your savings by participating y Wise Rewards<sup>1M</sup> and the avings Credit. e or to sign up for Energy Wise ρεροο

t pepco com/rewards or call







nergy Saving Tip



This summer you can earn credits off your bill PEAK ENERGY by reducing energy use on Peak Savings Days.



Last summer, Maryland customers who reduced their energy use on Peak Savings Days earned about \$3.4 million in bill credits.

energy wise rewards

eximize your sevings by participating in

can not may but is writing by participating in The regit Weak Rewards and the Reak Deergy ingt Creatif. Your bill will show the guaranteed sy Wire Rewards credit plus the amount from Peak Drengy Sorings Orelit that exceeds the ng Wire Rewards credit.

learn more or sign up for Energy Was Rewards, wis: pro-com/rewards or call 1 866 353 5758 and use and once FERN1628.

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RK: Fam familiar with the energy usage bar chart. It will compare the month this year with the same month last year. It has information also about why your bill might to different for other research such as a different events such or runnous in the average competative things, ke that After a Peak Sesions Day you can go in the next day and see what your sources has been Watch Richard and other Popeo customers share the nenergy saving tips on popeo.com/ also

To learn more about the Peak Energy Savings Credit, visit pepco.com/peak. usted necesita recibir esta informacida en español, favor de llamar al 1-855-7312-7525.

#### Print Advertising

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**Print Advertising** 



Visit pepco.com/peak or call 1-855-730-PEAK (1-855-730-7325) to learn more.









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SAVINGS CREDIT

This summer you can earn credits off your bill

more money you can save.

### **Results**

- Participants:
  - Over 350,000 customers participated in the 2013 season
- Bill Credits:
  - \$3.4 million in bill credits were received in 2013
  - \$4 million in bill credits were received in 2014
- kWh Saved:
  - -2.3 million kWh were saved in 2013
  - -2 million kWh were saved in 2014



### What Our Customers Had to Say



"There are people like me that are on a limited budget and really need to save money."

- Stephanie J.



"I went online the next day to see what my Peak Energy Savings Credit was, and I was quite pleased."

- Richard K.



"During the months of summer when your bills tend to be the highest, there is nothing better than getting a discount off of those peak bills. Anytime that I can reduce those bills in the middle of summer is a huge benefit to me."



"I will grill in the summer months as opposed to using the stove inside."

- Jacqueline H.

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- Edward G.

### **Questions / Discussion**







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## Gail Allen, Kansas City Power & Light Sr. Manager, Customer Intelligence

- She started in the IT department (15+ years applications and operations) and spent several years working on Six Sigma process improvement for Aquila. She directed a team that launched Aquila's first energy efficiency programs in 2005. When she transitioned to KCP&L she led the Energy Consultants who were responsible for the utility's key accounts.
- She shifted full-time to the Smart Grid project in 2010 where she managed a team who launched several smart grid tools for customers for the DOE Smart Grid Demonstration pilot in KCP&L's urban core.
- Today she leads the Customer Insights team. They perform traditional customer market research (JD Powers), online customer panels and makes recommendations on target customer marketing campaigns. They are launching Oracle's Business Intelligence customer data warehouse repository. Oh yes, in her spare time she serves on the core team that is implementing Oracle's CC&B customer billing system.
- Gail has an MBA and is a Six Sigma Certified Master Black Belt. She has been in the utility industry for over 29 years (although she swears she doesn't look it).









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### **Utility Overview**



### **Project Overview**





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The SmartGrid demonstration improvements will enhance service for the entire Midtown area through improved service reliability, reduced energy delivery costs, more efficient energy consumption, an improved carbon footprint and better information flow.



Demonstrates energy storage benefits integrated with intermittent distributed energy sources such as solar

#### **Smart Distribution** 4 Enhanced Substatio

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Improves reliability and efficiency, and enables integration of renewables, demand response and advanced communication with other parts of the electric grid.

#### Grid Improvements and Switches

Allows for advanced mmunications

#### **Smart Consumption**

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7 Energy Manager



Heips customers understand the impact of their electricity use and encourages them to make decisions that conserve energy, help the environment and save money.







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### **Project Co-located with the Green Impact Zone**

#### **Green Impact Zone**

- 150-square block area (39th to 51<sup>st</sup> between Troost and Prospect).
- Comprehensive set of programs using grant funds and other resources for:
  - Economic development
  - Community policing & service centers
  - Training and employment
  - Energy and water conservation
  - Grant funds (over \$100M) include
    - Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant
    - Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (KC MO, MARC)
    - MDNR Innovative Weatherization Grant
    - KCP&L SmartGrid Pilot Project
    - Brownfields Grant (Pending)
- Involves over 25 stakeholder groups including neighborhood groups, Congressman Cleaver, MARC, MEC, KCP&L, MGE, KCMO water & UMKC





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### **Customer Focused Goals**

- Provide sustainable energy savings for our customers as we increase customer satisfaction by:
  - Educating customers in the demonstration area about how smart grid investments will ultimately impact and benefit them
  - Engaging customers and influence behavior/participation in energy usage management
  - Informing the remainder of KCP&L's customer base about how smart grid investments will ultimately impact and benefit them
- Understand new smart grid technologies and interoperability
- Improve **community relations** with our stakeholders
- Create jobs and focus on economic development
- Streamline processes
- Share information with the broader utility industry on the progress and outcome of the project



### **Project Timeline**



### **Product Offerings**







### **MySmart Portal** Tendril's Energize

Project Goal	2,660
To Date	2,066

Time of Use Rates	
Project Goal	264
To Date	156

MySmart Display <i>Tendril's Insit</i> e	
Project Goal	1,600
To Date	1,100



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<b>MySmart Thermostat</b>
Tendril's SetPoint

Project Goal	1,600
To Date	128



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To Date

### **Community Engagement**



**Project Living Proof** 

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### **Key Lessons Learned**

Key Decision	Lessons Learned
Hire local labor	<ul> <li>Ambassadors lacked product knowledge; customer training weak</li> <li>Training curve for local labor; additional processes and handoffs</li> </ul>
Partnerships and Grassroots outreach	<ul> <li>Multi-purpose events held jointly with partners are more successful than utility-only events; strong neighborhood associations will help</li> </ul>
Customer product adoption	<ul> <li>Customer adoption did not always equal customer engagement</li> <li>Testing if tools will fit wide range of customer preferences</li> <li>Only 1 product per customers; restrictive for display users</li> <li>Product participation requirements will limit thermostat enrollment</li> </ul>
Customer tools at the time of meter install	<ul> <li>Technology constraints with meter network stabilization</li> <li>95% adoption (for customers who were home); 50% usage</li> </ul>
Dedicated smart grid support staff	<ul> <li>Non-traditional support tasks include marketing and outreach</li> <li>Segment from normal customer service operations</li> </ul>
Customer Segmentation	<ul> <li>Unable to fully implement true enrollment segmentation model due to EM&amp;V and a non-bias approach for non-proven SG tools</li> <li>Will utilize segment model to evaluate customer enrollment and participation groups during evaluation phase and future marketing</li> <li>Limited segmentation (on usage) will guide equipment purchase</li> </ul>

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### **Questions / Discussion**







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### **Speaker Bio**

- City of Fort Collins Colorado
- BS/EE University of Colorado
- 42 years power industry experience
- Project Manager Fort Collins Smart Grid Projects:
  - Smart Grid Investment Grant
  - Renewable & Distributed System Integration Cooperative Study



### **Dennis Sumner**





### **Utility Overview**

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### **Utility Overview**

### City of Fort Collins Light & Power

- Northern Colorado Front Range
- Population 151,000
- Municipal
- Retail only
- Urban
- 100% AMI penetration
- Policy context, But no CBS





### **Utility Overview** – Policy Context & Community Values



### FCL&P Energy Policy

- 1.5% energy savings
- Reduce system peak by 5% by 2015 / 10% by 2020
- Renewable resources to meet Colorado Renewable Energy Standard
- Provide Highly reliable electric service 12 months ending June 2014
  - Average System Availability Index 99.9981%
  - Customer Average Interruption 39 minutes
  - System Average Interruption Frequency Index 0.260





### **Utility Overview** – Policy Context & Community Values

- Climate Action Plan
  - 20% GHG reduction below 2005
     levels by 2020, 80% by 2050
- Energy Efficiency
- FortZED: Zero Energy District / Demonstration
- Stormwater Management
- Water Conservation Plan
- Water Quality



### **Project Overview**



## **Programs that Support Goals**

- 1. Customer Web Portal
  - 'Manage My Use'
- 2. Demand Response
  - Peak Partners/'Reduce Our Peak'





## **Programs are designed to align with City & Utilities strategic direction.**





## **Web Portal**



# Web Portal: Fact Sheet

- Enrollment
  - Online tool made available to all residential and small commercial customers
- Marketing Approach
  - Limited followed by mass launch
  - Multi-channel campaign
- Results & Metrics
  - Google Analytics
- Monitor Results & Refocus Marketing Based on Analytics







## **Web Portal Analytics Drive Marketing**



### **Demand Response**











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# **Demand Response: Fact Sheet**

- Phase 1: Replaces existing AC load control program
  - Offered to 'Friends & Family' during test phase
  - Offered to legacy program customers
  - Offered to all customers
- Option to decline participation
  - Two conservation events per season
- Incentive
  - Free Wi-Fi programmable thermostat installed at no charge to customers





## **Customer Research Helps Tailor Program**



### **Comfort Level During Conservation Events**





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# Customer Research Helps Tailor Program



# **Marketing Communications**

- Login Dashboard
  - Icons visible to all
  - Drive e-Bill customers to explore WP & DR
- Cross Marketing
  - Energy Reports
  - Water Reports
- All Channels
  - Electronic Media
  - Social Media
  - Traditional Media
- Segmented Approach

#### Residential

 Hazardous Waste Collection 
 Advanced Meters 
 Payment Options Rates 
 Conserve 
 Rainfall & Flooding



The power of the individual in conservation makes a big difference in protecting Fort Collins' quality of life and the health of our environment now and for generations to come.

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ss a selected Action, disable pop up blockers



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### **Questions / Discussion**







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