

# what you should know about electricchoice interval metering



Your electric metering equipment is furnished, installed, read, maintained and owned by Detroit Edison. To ensure a smooth transfer of your electric service from Detroit Edison Full Service to the Electric Choice Program, you should know the following special requirements that must be met for customers with interval metering.

## Are There Special Metering Requirements for Electric Choice?

No, the metering required for Electric Choice service is the same as that required for customers taking service on the equivalent Full Service rates. This means:

- Detroit Edison customers served at Primary voltages are required to have interval metering.
- Detroit Edison customers served at Secondary voltages may continue to use their current energy or energy/demand metering; however, they may elect an optional interval-metered service, at their expense. Optional Interval Metered Service has a minimum term of 12 months.

## What are the Requirements for Customers who must have – or opt for – Interval Metering?

- A telephone line is required to transmit usage data from your interval meter to Detroit Edison for billing.
- The telephone line must be installed and successful communication between the meter and Detroit Edison's data collection system must be verified before you may begin the interval metered service.
- Where the installation of land-line telephony is impractical, you may request that Detroit Edison install optional digital cellular telephony to the meter. Detroit Edison will furnish, own, install, and maintain the digital cellular device for a monthly customer charge of \$45. You are responsible for activating the service and paying the monthly usage charges. The minimum term for this digital cellular service is 12 months.
- You are responsible for all costs associated with supplying and maintaining the telephone line.
- Detroit Edison does not require that the telephone line be used exclusively for the meter. It can be shared with other devices such as a fax machine. Your AES may require a dedicated telephone line. Contact your telephone company if a telephone line must be installed.
- **When the telephone line is properly installed and operational, please contact Detroit Edison at 888.235.3535.** Detroit Edison will initiate a field visit to verify the telephone line is working and the meter communicates with our data collection system.
- If you fail to **maintain** a working telephone line, Detroit Edison will read the meter manually (one time per month) for a charge of \$37, after the first manual read.
- If the telephone line is inoperative for three consecutive months, Detroit Edison may
  - **For a Primary customer:** terminate retail access service and return your location to Full Service, subject to the provisions of Section 5.3. Term, Commencement and Return to Full Service.
  - **For a Secondary customer:** terminate your Optional Interval Metered Service and place you on the applicable standard energy or energy/demand metered retail access service.
- If you, your AES or Detroit Edison terminates your Optional Interval Metered Service before you complete your minimum term on Optional Interval Metered Service, you will be subject to the monthly charge for the balance of your Optional Interval Metered Service 12-month minimum term.

**Note:** The monthly charge and 12-month minimum term for Optional Interval Metered Service will be waived for customers who had interval meters installed for Electric Choice Service prior to December 18, 2006. This waiver period extends through December 2008.

## typical metering installations for electricchoice interval metering

The diagram below shows typical interval metering installations for customer locations on Electric Choice. Each installation will include:

- 1) An interval meter capable of measuring real energy (kilowatthours) and reactive energy (kilovarhours) and recording them in 30-minute intervals. Detroit Edison will supply, install and maintain the meter.
- 2) A telephone line to be used for communicating with the meter and retrieving the metered data. The customer will supply and maintain the telephone line.
- 3) Data pulse circuits from the meter. Detroit Edison will install the circuits and make them available to the customer for monitoring the meter's registration on a real-time basis.
- 4) A small metal box labeled "CUSTOMER ACCESS ENCLOSURE." Detroit Edison will use this enclosure to connect the meter to the telephone line, and the customer will use it to connect to the data pulse circuits. Detroit Edison will supply and install this enclosure.

Installations not meeting these requirements need to be upgraded before the customer can participate in Electric Choice. The four-step process summarized in the following paragraphs will be used to upgrade the metering installation.

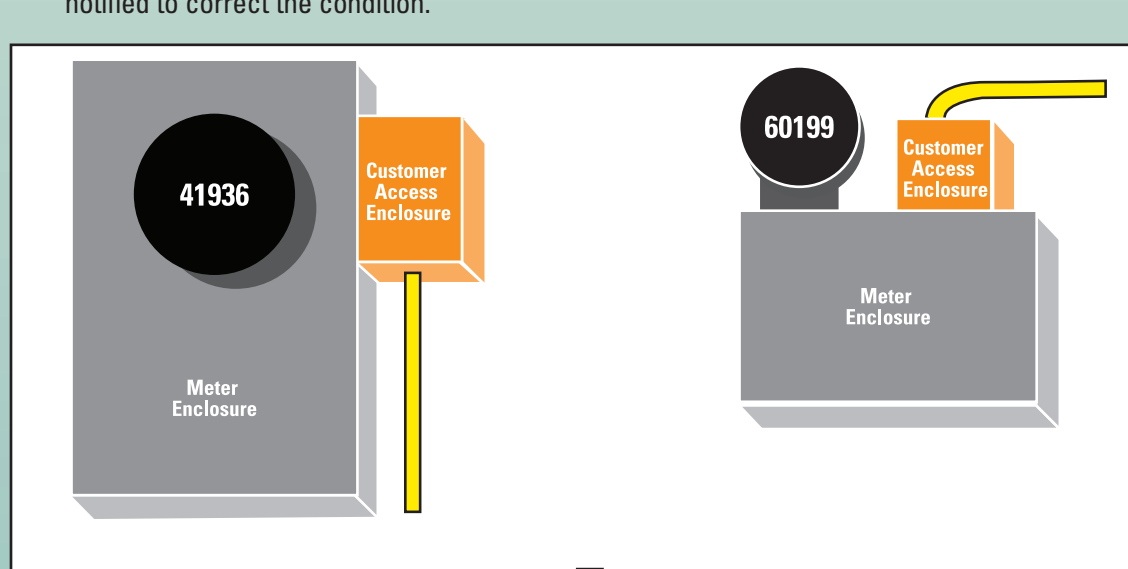
- 1) A Detroit Edison Field Representative installs an interval meter and Customer Access Enclosure at the site. The Field Representative places the meter telephone line connector and data pulse circuit in the Customer Access Enclosure. If the meter and/or enclosure cannot be installed for any reason, the customer will be informed of the reason.
- 2) The customer must provide a working telephone line as follows:
  - A. If the meter configuration is set up as meter answers (MA), typically due to a customer or AES wanting direct access to meter data, a dedicated telephone line is required.
  - B. If the meter configuration is set up as meter calls (MC), a shared telephone line can be used. No more than five (5) devices may share the line.
  - C. The telephone line must be terminated either with an RJ11C or male-end jack inside the Customer Access Enclosure. Detroit Edison will connect the meter to the customer telephone line.

**It is the customer's responsibility to weatherproof the telephone line up to the Customer Access Enclosure.**

**The customer is responsible for all costs associated with supplying and maintaining the telephone line including any conduit.**

- 3) When the telephone line is installed and operational, the customer must notify Detroit Edison by calling 888.235.3535 to provide the meter telephone number and if applicable, any prefixes for the meter to dial an outside line. After this process is completed, Detroit Edison may initiate a field visit to complete the telephone line connection to the meter.

- 4) The Detroit Edison Field Representative will test the telephone line to confirm that it is operational and connect the telephone line to establish communication with Detroit Edison data acquisition equipment. If the telephone line is not operational, the customer will be notified to correct the condition.



**If you have questions regarding interval metering, and its special requirements, please contact your Alternative Electric Supplier (AES) or Detroit Edison at 888.235.3535.**

