



Preliminary Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 30th

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Eversource Facility Tour (details TBD)

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Welcome Reception

Tuesday, October 1st

7:00 am Registration & Breakfast

8:00 am Welcome Remarks

8:15 am – 9:15 am AMI 2.0: New Technology

Many utilities have been operating the first generation of smart meters for 10-15 years now. While these advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) deployments have been tremendously successful, as the equipment reaches its end of life, utilities need to consider the new features and functionality they wish to see in their metering platforms. The next generation of AMI will support operational functions in addition to their traditional billing function, and new meters will incorporate new computing and communications capabilities. This session will explain these new capabilities and how they will address the challenges facing utilities today.

9:15 am – 9:45 am Networking Break

9:45 am – 10:45 am Fiber to the Pole Top

Utilities that are rolling out fiber-based broadband programs to provide Internet connectivity to their customers need to make sure they don't overlook one important user: themselves! Fiber deployments can enable advanced utility applications like distribution automation (DA) and automated meter infrastructure (AMI) by providing connectivity to operational technology in the field – usually a challenge in the same areas that lack broadband access. This session will cover the technologies and architectures utilities can employ to provide secure, dedicated access to devices they use to serve their customers.

10:45 am – 11:45 am UTC President & CEO Address

11:45 am – 1:00 pm Networking Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm DER: Communications & Scaling

As more Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) like rooftop solar, small scale wind turbines, energy storage systems and similar devices continue to be deployed and grow in size, many utilities will need to deploy communications to these customer owned systems to gather telemetry and implement protective relaying (Direct Transfer Trip -DTT) functions in order to operate the grid reliably. Areas with



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high DER penetration may be particularly challenging, as the utility may be providing real-time communication on a scale never before seen by their internal telecom departments.

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm Distribution Operation Concept: DSO, ADMF, Distribution SCADA

Traditionally, an electric utility’s distribution system moved energy in one direction – from the substation to the customer. However, now that customers are introducing systems like rooftop solar that backfeed power into the distribution system, power may flow in multiple directions. This means as Distributed Energy Resource (DER) penetration increases, operation of the distribution system will become much more complex, often posing challenges only previously seen in transmission. Utilities are beginning to deploy Advanced Distribution Management systems to perform this function, and they will rely on increasingly complex systems to gather and process information to provide situational awareness to their distribution system operators.

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm Networking Break

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm OT Network: IoT Tech Devices

It seems that so many devices are now “Internet enabled” that the Internet of Things (IoT) has become almost impossible to avoid, including in industrial settings like utilities. However, the IoT enablement of devices can be challenging in a critical infrastructure environment, and IoT vendors that are new to the space don’t always understand the operational and cyber concerns of utilities. Utility telecommunications and cybersecurity professionals need to maintain awareness of the devices being deployed in critical infrastructure roles, and be prepared with policies and procedures to mitigate IoT threats to reliability.

4:30 pm – 5:00 pm State of the Union Utility Presentations

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Reception with Exhibitors

Wednesday, October 2nd

7:00 am Breakfast & Registration

8:00 am – 9:00 am Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO)

9:00 am – 10:00 am Utility Case Study: The Installation of Surveillance Cameras and Automated License Plate Readers on Utility Distribution Poles

This presentation will be a case study that will detail the processes and procedures followed by PSE&G to allow for the installation of surveillance cameras and automated license plate readers (ALPRs) on utility distribution poles. Topics covered will include the following: * NDA/Contract with customer (municipalities/law enforcement agencies) * legal issues * design standards * application processes and procedures * review and approval steps * construction processes and procedures * Is labor buy-in required? * metered or non-metered service * operation and maintenance of equipment and utility



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poles * work force safety among cameras and ALPRs * using utility approved contractors * setting up a user-friendly database * as-built photos/sketches sign/off. Many utilities across the nation are having to deal with the growing requests from law enforcement to use their infrastructure for the installation of surveillance cameras and ALPRs at key locations throughout their municipalities. As more grant money becomes available to municipal and law enforcement agencies, this will be a growing request/responsibility for the utility to address in the coming years.

10:00 am – 10:30 am Break

10:30am – 11:30 am PLTE Session

11:30 am – 1:30 pm Lunch with exhibitors

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Utility Only Business Meeting

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm MPLS: Packet Network Transition

The packet transition process is critical to the success of updating critical infrastructure before legacy systems are no longer sustainable for repair and operational needs. This presentation will discuss challenges from different utilities that are at different points along the packet transition process, what others are facing, and what others have learned from lessons along the journey

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Low Orbit Satellite

The satellite industry has undergone rapid transformation driven by the growth of Low Earth Orbit satellite network operators. Providers such as Starlink and OneWeb are already delivering high bandwidth internet, low latency communications and expanded data services virtually anywhere. What do these new services mean for Utilities and what opportunities are they presenting?

4:30 pm Wrap up and adjourn