

# Shared Meter Technician Service



The purpose of the Shared Meter Technician Service is to provide interested members with the option for cost-effective access to skilled meter technical resources in an amount that fits individual member needs.

## Overview

Under WPPI Energy's Shared Meter Technician Service, interested members subscribe to a share of a meter technician to perform local electric metering work and distribution thermal imaging.

The service provides fractional staff for smaller and mid-sized members who do not have the metering workload to support a full-time meter technician. It also provides incremental staffing resources and back-up for larger members who already have a full-time (or part-time) meter technician on staff.

To participate, members subscribe to the desired percentage of a meter technician under a five year contract. To the extent practical, WPPI will consolidate member and WPPI's metering needs and will arrange to meet the aggregate technical staffing need. WPPI meets our members' needs with a highly qualified staff of engineers, certified infrared operators and metering electricians.

## Benefits

- » Assurance of metering and billing accuracy
- » Access to expertise in metering
- » Metering and standard testing requirements
- » Increased reliability with cost-effective thermal imaging service
- » Easy scheduling around member needs

## WPPI Role

- » Work with interested members to address resource availability and timing issues.
- » Retain highly qualified staff.
- » Provide the metering staff with the tools and equipment needed to effectively perform their work.
- » Track staff hours to assure that each participating member is receiving the amount of work they have contracted for under the service.
- » Offer the service to participating members at cost (fully loaded; including truck and tools). Nonproductive time (vacation, holidays, sick, travel) will be tracked and allocated proportionately to all participating members. Productive time is estimated to be 40 hours per 2.5% increment.
- » Document the work that each participating member wants to have completed through the service and will manage the meter technician staff to assure that the work is completed.
- » Perform assigned responsibilities as directed by the member. This includes but is not limited to: meter testing, metering installation verifications, burden testing, new installations, volt meter and standard testing, IR inspections and repairs.
- » Follow all applicable member safety rules.

# Shared Meter Technician Service

## Member Role

- » Determine desired level of participation and preferred start date and make WPPI aware of the needs with as much advance notice as practical.
- » Document the work to be provided under the service.
- » Agree to participate in the service for a minimum of five years with three years notice required for termination.
- » Modify participation level over time provided that WPPI is able to 1) accommodate the additional work load, in the case of increasing service participation, or 2) allocate a matching percentage to another member, in the case of decreasing participation. Participating members should understand that although participation level changes can all be accommodated over time, they may not be able to be accommodated promptly without significant disruption to the service and other participating members.
- » Provide a safe working environment for WPPI employees performing the service.
- » Enter into a service agreement specifying the key terms of the service.

## Member Costs

Members can participate in the service in 2.5% FTE increments at an 2018 cost set by WPPI to cover the actual costs of providing the service. The annual cost is \$2,785/year for each 2.5% FTE increment. The service will be billed on a monthly basis through the standard billing process. The service costs are reviewed annually and adjusted as needed to fully recover the actual costs.

This service exemplifies exactly the kind of joint action among members for which WPPI Energy was created. Working together, our members have identified and developed a shared program to cost-effectively and flexibly meet local needs that would otherwise be difficult and expensive to address alone.

## CONTACT



**Chris Chartier**  
Director of Distribution Services  
cchartier@wppienergy.org  
608-834-4514