

# Improving Whole Sale Metering and Regional Billing Equity Action Plan

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Operating Board Meeting

# Our Goals

## 1. Fairness

- Each of us pay their fair share of regional costs

## 2. Consistency and Predictability

- Avoid billing adjustments
- Establish routine, well understood processes

## 3. Cost Management

# Action Plan Elements

1. Monthly Oversight
2. Annual Review and Adjustment
3. Meter Maintenance and Replacement

# Monthly Oversight

- Consumption review by SPU Audit staff – by service and by customer
- Comparison between SPU meters and customer's meters
  - encourage and expand voluntary validation of SPU billing meters' performance by customer
  - Share the information with SPU ASAP

# Annual Review and Adjustment

- INTERIM Adjustment based on the Customer's recent history of NRW
- FINAL Adjustment based on NRW value from the next year
- Trigger 1 – some NRW drop and known meter problems
- Trigger 2 – large NRW drop
- Trigger 3 – NRW under 4 percent

# Meter Maintenance & Replacement

- Krohne mag meters have been refurbished and recertified by the manufacturer
- Rockwell leaded brass turbine meters – the first one will be replaced soon (WD90)
- Some 12 high use meters tested mid-year, several underperforming meters found and fixed
- Protectus meters - WD125 and WD49 have opted to replace meters entirely instead of replacing UMEs

# Issues raised at the Sept 5<sup>th</sup> OB Meeting

- Do not see the need for a downstream (customer's) meter
  - Downstream meters are optional, no customer would be required to install meters unless it chooses to
- DSL or NRW determination is based on estimates and assumptions which may not be as accurate
  - Doing it the same way every year mitigates inaccuracies
  - NRW to be used when there's no other guidance
  - Need to work with the entire Utility rather than individual services

# Issues raised at the Sept 5<sup>th</sup> OB Meeting

- If a meter is replaced with a mag meter and AMR, then the SCADA system should be able to give real time measurements – won't have the need for downstream metering
  - SPU does not have SCADA on its whole sale services
  - Mag meters may still fail



# Issues raised at the Sept 5<sup>th</sup> OB Meeting

- Make sure meter is sized right for applicability (which is cheaper and then more accurate)
  - Important consideration for new services
  - Changing meter size usually drives up the cost of meter replacements due to the need to revise the piping
  - New meters are fairly accurate at low flows so downsizing not as critical

# Discussion and Questions

