

## Cleco Power LLC

### *Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project*

#### Abstract

Cleco Power's (Cleco) Advanced Metering Infrastructure project involves the deployment of smart meters, new metering communications infrastructure, and a meter data management system. All of Cleco's residential, commercial, and small industrial customers receive new meters. The project implements two-way communication and utility applications to: (1) automate meter reading and service activities, (2) identify and respond to customer outages more efficiently, and (3) develop a backbone for future customer systems, advanced electricity service options, and possible time-based rate programs.

#### Smart Grid Features

**Communications infrastructure** includes a wireless radio frequency network. The network transmits customer meter data and provides the ability to remotely update programming in the meters. It includes a meter data management system that organizes the meter data into a single repository and provides the data to the billing, forecasting, customer service, and outage management departments. This scalable infrastructure provides opportunities to add future service offerings and further optimize electricity delivery, system reliability, and customer participation.

**Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI)** involves the installation of smart meters for approximately 279,000 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. These meters digitally record electricity consumption for precise time intervals of an hour or less. This data is analyzed to improve load forecasting, generation planning, and future needs for demand response programs. A remote service switch in the meters will enable Cleco to respond to customer requests more efficiently. Cleco expects operational improvements including: avoided truck rolls, reduced labor costs, and more efficient responses to customer power outages.

#### At-A-Glance

Recipient: Cleco Power LLC

State: Louisiana

NERC Region: Southwest Power Pool

Total Budget: \$69,026,089

Federal Share: \$20,000,000

Project Type: Advanced Metering Infrastructure and  
Customer Systems

#### Equipment

- 279,000 Smart Meters
- AMI Communications Systems
  - Meter Communications Network
  - Backhaul Communications
- Meter Data Management System

#### Key Targeted Benefits

- Reduced Meter Reading Costs
- Reduced Truck Fleet Fuel Usage
- Reduced Costs from Theft
- Reduced Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**Cleco Power LLC** *(continued)*

**Timeline**

Key Milestones	Target Dates
Distribution automation installation start	Q4 2010
Communications infrastructure installation start	Q4 2010
Communications infrastructure installation completed	Q4 2011
Distribution automation installation completed	Q4 2011

**Contact Information**

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