



# Understanding meter technology

Did you know PSE has had wireless meter reading since 1998? PSE was one of the first utilities to adopt Advanced Meter Reading (AMR) technology more than 20 years ago, but the original technology is quickly becoming obsolete. We are currently in the process of upgrading our metering system to Advanced Metering Infrastructure, or AMI, which is now the industry standard. Our new equipment adheres to the same safety and security standards you have come to expect from PSE.

The table below explains the difference between PSE’s old metering technology (AMR) and the new technology (AMI), in addition to an optional, non-communicating meter service that is expected to be available in 2019\*.

	Automated Meter Reading (AMR)	Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)	Non-Communicating Meter (NCM)
Availability	Currently phasing out	Available starting 2018	Available starting 2019
Additional cost	\$0	\$0	\$15 per NCM meter each billing cycle. Subject to one-time installation fee of \$90 for electric; \$50 for natural gas.
Wireless meter reads	✓	✓	✗ Meter reader must visit your property
Communicates via secured, wireless network under a comprehensive cyber-security program	✓	✓	n/a
Remote outage detection	Limited	✓	✗
Remote troubleshooting	Limited	✓	✗
Customer ability to track energy use via web and app	Limited	✓	✗
Ability to integrate with future energy management and conservation tools	✗	✓	✗
Billing schedule	Monthly	Monthly	Every other month
Cumulative transmission per day (approximate)	156 seconds	83 seconds	n/a
Radiofrequency band	917.58 MHz	902-928 MHz	n/a
Customer eligibility	Residential and commercial	Residential and commercial	Residential only**

\*Must be electric Schedule 7 or natural gas Schedule 23; single-family residential customers (up to four-plex dwelling acceptable). Must provide PSE access for manual meter reads. Customer must be in good standing; must not have been disconnected for non-payment twice within a 12-month period, and must have no history of meter tampering, or impeding PSE access to meter.