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Harry M. Barton
Senior Counsel
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February 14, 2020

Via Fax and UPS Overnight

Ms. Terri Lemoine Bordelon
Records and Recording Division
Louisiana Public Service Commission
602 North Fifth Street
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

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FISCAL
LA Public Service Commission

Re: AMS Project Semi-Annual Monitoring Report for LPSC Docket No. U-34320

Dear Ms. Bordelon:

On behalf of Entergy Louisiana, LLC ("ELL"), I have enclosed an original and three copies of its Advanced Metering System ("AMS") Project Semi-Annual Monitoring Report for 2020, which is being submitted pursuant to Paragraph 16 of Louisiana Public Service Commission ("LPSC") Order No. U-34320 that was issued on August 25, 2017 in the referenced matter. I have enclosed a check for \$25 to cover the fax filing fee. Please retain the original and two copies for your files and return a date-stamped copy to us in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Thank you for your assistance with this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Harry M. Barton

HMB/ddm

cc: Official Service List (via e-mail)

UPS

BEFORE THE
LOUISIANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF ENTERGY)
LOUISIANA, L.L.C. FOR APPROVAL)
TO IMPLEMENT A PERMANENT)
ADVANCED METERING SYSTEM)
AND REQUEST FOR COST)
RECOVERY AND RELATED RELIEF)**

DOCKET NO. U-34320

Entergy Louisiana, LLC
Advanced Metering System (“AMS”) Project
Semi-Annual Monitoring Report
Pursuant to Order No. U-34320
February 14, 2020





This Monitoring Report is being submitted by Entergy Louisiana, LLC (“ELL” or the “Company”) pursuant to Paragraph 16 of Louisiana Public Service Commission (“LPSC”) Order No. U-34320, which was issued on August 25, 2017 approving the implementation of a permanent Advanced Metering System (“AMS”). The AMS project (“Project”) is currently on schedule for completion by December 2021, and there are no known delays at this time hindering on-time Project completion. The current estimate at completion has increased by approximately 3% or \$11 million since the last report due to delays in system integration and higher than anticipated product development costs. Additionally, \$48 million in contingency funding for all Entergy Operating Companies has been approved to be utilized on an as-needed basis. It is uncertain whether ELL will need to utilize any of this funding. Further discussion on the Project budget increase is described below in Section II. Project Budget Status.

I. SUMMARY OF DEPLOYMENT STATUS

ELL’s AMS deployment is currently on schedule for completion at the end of 2021. The communications network is 23% complete (approximately 1,100 total communication devices installed) with the necessary IT infrastructure in place. As included in its application, ELL’s preliminary meter deployment schedule included the installation of approximately 133,000 electric meters and 34,000 gas communications modules in 2019. As of December 31, 2019, approximately 310,000 electric meters have been installed. Of the meters installed, ~0.6% have failed, which is in line with the rate outlined in the meter supplier contract. Full deployment is on schedule for completion by December 2021. To date, no gas communications modules have been installed due to hardware availability from the gas module supplier, but installations are expected to begin in 2020 and will continue through early 2021.

II. PROJECT BUDGET STATUS

The total cost estimate for AMS deployment has increased by approximately 3% or \$11 million from the as filed amount to \$350 million. The incremental estimated AMS spending is attributed to the complexity and dependencies across multiple projects and programs, which led to delays in integrating the AMI core systems into the legacy systems. Moreover, higher than anticipated DMS/OMS product development issues, longer than anticipated testing resolution turnaround, and refined cyber-security requirements contributed to the need for additional AMI funding. As noted above, \$48 million in contingency funding for all Entergy Operating Companies has been approved to be utilized on an as-needed basis. It is uncertain whether ELL will need to utilize any of this funding and responsibility for these costs has not been allocated to ELL.

Table 1 below outlines the comparison cost information required by Section 5 of General Order dated September 22, 2009, in Docket No. R-29213 consolidated with Docket R-29213 Sub. A:



Table 1

Estimated Implementation Cost for Entergy Louisiana, LLC					
Cost Category (\$ in millions)	Estimate at Certification	Current Estimate At Completion	Variance	Incurred to Date (December 2019)	Remaining
Meters and installation	\$133.5	\$155.9	\$22.4	\$42.7	\$113.2
Communications network & head-end	46.0	34.0	(12.1)	14.9	19.1
MDMS	9.8	19.5	9.8	16.1	3.4
System integration	25.0	26.0	1.0	19.5	6.5
DMS/OMS	17.5	42.7	25.3	32.2	10.6
Other	107.3	72.1	(35.2)	44.1	27.9
Total implementation costs	\$339.0	\$350.1	\$11.1	\$169.5	\$180.6

Notes:

1. The values in the Estimate At Certification column for each cost category reflect the estimated cost without contingency. The project contingency is included in the 'Other' Cost Category, which also include capitalized property taxes, dedicated Entergy resources, the legacy system integration and the customer education expenses.
2. Amounts may not tie due to rounding.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
LPSC Docket No. U-34320

I, the undersigned counsel, hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing has been served on the persons listed below by facsimile, by hand delivery, by electronic mail, or by depositing a copy of same with the United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

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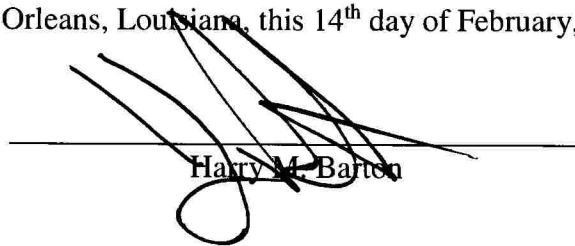
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New Orleans, Louisiana, this 14th day of February, 2020.



Harry M. Barton