



April 22, 2026

House Energy and Digital Infrastructure S.213 – An act relating to the use of advanced metering infrastructure devices

Background

Green Mountain Power (GMP) has used Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) on our system for more than a decade. AMI enables us to safely and efficiently operate the distribution system with our customers. Insight provided by use of this technology allows customers to sign up for innovative programs and rates (EV rates, energy storage etc.), and it allows customers to see granular information about their own usage. AMI allows for efficiencies including for billing and outage detection (especially during storms).

Opt-Outs

On average in recent years, there are just under 3% of customers who have opted out of a smart meter (8,000 out of 275,000); this number is mostly residential but there are a few commercial customers as well. This number has continued to go down overall since we began deploying AMI technology.

- In any given year, about 60 customers ask for an opt out meter.

Customers (without generation on their home) who choose to opt out receive a mechanical, dial meter. Customers who have generation on site receive an electronic meter that keeps track of generation and usage. Neither of these have communication capabilities and both require a manual meter read by a GMP team member.

Consideration for S.213

GMP supports the language as passed the Senate in S.213. We support customers choosing to continue to have the option to opt out if they choose. However, there is a cost to all other customers when customers opt out. Those costs include the time for field employees to do manual reads and any billing adjustments. The proposal in S.213 is simple – it allows distribution utilities to submit a tariff to account for the costs associated with opt-outs. Consistent with any tariff changes, a tariff imposing a fee would be submitted to and reviewed by the Public Utility Commission, as well as the Department of Public Service, before implementation.