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30 October 2026

To: All Applicants for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Systems

Dear Sirs/Madams,

Mandatory Adoption of Wireless AMI Systems for New Developments from 1 April 2027

The Water Supplies Department (WSD) wishes to inform all applicants of an important change to the requirements for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) systems, previously known as Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) systems.

Effective from 1 April 2027, wireless AMI systems will become the standard for all new developments requiring AMI systems. From that date, the WSD will no longer accept new Technical Proposals for wired AMI systems, except in exceptional circumstances where applicants can demonstrate a genuine technical need for a wired AMI system.

This change aims to simplify the design, application and approval processes, reduce installation and maintenance costs, and improve overall operational efficiency.

Background

Since 2018, the WSD has adopted wired AMI systems for new developments. However, wired AMI systems generally involve complicated design and installation arrangements, resulting in higher costs and longer approval processes for both developers and the WSD.

To address these issues, the WSD conducted extensive evaluations and field trials of various wireless technologies for smart water metering.

In November 2025, the WSD confirmed that wireless AMI systems using primarily LTE Category 1 (LTE Cat 1) technology were technically feasible and more cost-effective. The WSD subsequently announced that wireless AMI systems could be adopted as an alternative to wired AMI systems in new developments.

Following the successful implementation of wireless AMI systems and positive feedbacks from the industry since November 2025, and in view of their benefits in simplifying system design, reducing costs and improving operational efficiency, the WSD has decided to fully adopt wireless AMI systems as the standard for new developments.

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Cut-off Date for Wired AMI Technical Proposals

The cut-off date for submitting Technical Proposals for wired AMI systems is 31 March 2027.

From 1 April 2027 onwards, all new Technical Proposals must be based on wireless AMI systems, unless an exception is granted.

Arrangements for Applicants

- **Technical Proposals submitted on or before 31 March 2027**: Technical Proposals for wired AMI systems first submitted on or before 31 March 2027 will continue to be processed under the existing requirements. These proposals may continue to adopt wired AMI systems even if they are subsequently revised or approved after 31 March 2027, subject to the WSD's assessment and approval.

- **Technical Proposals submitted on or after 1 April 2027**: All new Technical Proposals must adopt wireless AMI systems and comply with the WSD's Standard Specification E-89-02 for Wireless Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Systems and the relevant information pack, available on the WSD website at https://www.wsd.gov.hk/en/plumbing-engineering/automatic-meter-reading/index.html.

- **Previously approved wired AMI systems**: Projects with approved Technical Proposals for wired AMI systems may proceed in accordance with the conditions of their existing approvals. The applicant is also permitted to switch to the wireless AMI system.

- **Exceptional cases requiring wired AMI systems**: Where an applicant considers that a wireless AMI system cannot meet the technical requirements of a project, the applicant must provide supporting evidence and justification for adopting a wired AMI system. The WSD will consider such requests on a case-by-case basis. Approval will only be granted where a genuine technical need is demonstrated and the use of a wireless AMI system is not practicable.

Purpose of Early Notification

This announcement is issued in advance to give developers, consultants and other stakeholders sufficient time to make the necessary adjustments to their project planning, system designs and procurement arrangements.

Applicants are encouraged to adopt wireless AMI systems as early as practicable, rather than waiting until the effective date.

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The WSD is committed to ensuring a smooth and orderly transition to wireless AMI systems and appreciates the industry's cooperation and support.

Enquiries

For any enquiries regarding the adoption of wireless AMI systems or the new submission requirements, please contact Electrical and Mechanical Engineer/Technical Development (1) at 3461 9782 during office hours.

Yours faithfully,



(LAW Yiu Yip, Charles)
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