



## AMI-ABLE COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

To advance the collective desire on the part of water utilities to advance AMR and AMI meter reading processes through the creation and dissemination of standards for AMI and AMR, and to push for interoperability between systems. This is an effort to continue the work initiated through a Water Research Foundation initiative through their research program.

## ALLIANCE FOR WATER EFFICIENCY

The Alliance for Water Efficiency (AWE) has identified seven key tasks to support and enhance water conservation efforts, providing benefit to water utilities, water conservation professionals, planners, regulators, and consumers:

- Stand as a clear and authoritative national voice for water efficiency.
- Provide comprehensive information about water-efficient products, practices, and programs--what works and what doesn't.
- Represent the interest of water efficiency in the development of codes and standards.
- Transform the market for fixtures and appliances.
- Coordinate with green building initiatives to institutionalize water efficiency.
- Train water conservation professionals.
- Educate water users.

The mission of the AMI-ABLE committee is highly compatible with the mission of AWE.

## AMI-ABLE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

### Objective 1

Standardize elements of AMI and AMR products for the benefit of utilities and the water industry in general.

### Objective 1 Actions

- Encourage utilities and the industry in general to create language that will serve to maximize the confidence in and understanding of systems and components of these technologies.
- Through the collective action of utilities, disseminate the language created for the use of all water utilities to promote the language as a de facto guidance until such time that it is formally adopted.
- Review, update new language and other aids. Assist utilities with the introduction of AMI and AMR through education and training.



## Objective 2

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Improve the industry by pressing for interoperability between AMI/AMR functionality and data handling.

## Objective 2 Actions

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- Identify which vendors actually support open architecture and full disclosure to enable interoperability, as well as identify vendors who provide more interoperable equipment and connections.
- Promote interoperability through RFP documents that favor definitive interoperability, either through prequalification, bid rating criteria and subsequent contract language.
- Contribute to the development of interoperability through the identification of technology that promotes it.

## Objective 3

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Increase the coordination of external organizations and programs that encourage spreading AMI/AMR standardization knowledge and general knowledge of AMI/AMR equipment.

## Objective 3 Actions

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- Seek out other organizations that foster standardization and interoperability, through things such as customer contact, conservation programs and associated activities.
- Support organizations who share common goals, such as preparation of AMI or AMR manuals, centers of information, etc.
- Support other activities of AWE that further cooperation on this issue.

## Objective 4

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Increase and improve the variety of information resources through which full and associate members can access information

## Objective 4 Actions

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- Maintain a document on the AWE website, with an explanation of the committee goals and benefits.
- Work with the media on communicating committee activities.
- Coordinate with vendors, suppliers, consultants, data management firms and other related companies to identify proper standards, with an eye towards continuous improvement.



### **Objective 5**

Increase the membership of the organization and foster special membership for non-utility enterprises.

### **Objective 5 Actions**

- Activity speak and present at meetings and conferences about the committee's work.
- Publicize both actions and output (codes) on the AWE website
- Recruit through consultants and other third parties to identify utilities with upcoming AMR/AMI projects.



## AMI-ABLE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

*Full utility members* – The core of the committee (voting rights) will consist of a representative from a utility that has membership with A4WE.

*Associated utility members* – Other utilities are welcomed to be involved with the committee and participate except for voting if they choose. This will pertain to utilities not official members of A4WE – membership in A4WE is strongly recommended.

*Affiliated members* – Non utility companies are welcomed to be part of the process and make important contributions to the development of standards.

*Structure* – The committee will have a traditional leadership format with a chairman, vice chairman and secretary. Election of leaders will be formalized at a later date but an interim leadership team has been formed: Chairman Tommy McClung, City of Houston, Vice Chairman Ed Hackney, United Water and Secretary Dave Hughes, American Water.

*Membership fees* – No fees are proposed for committee membership at this time.