

South East Water AMI Scoping Study

the challenge

South East Water Limited (SEWL) engaged Marchment Hill to develop an understanding of whether the Victorian electricity Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) deployment could be leveraged to produce benefits for the water industry and its customers.

The study aimed to identify the potential benefits of AMI for the water industry, the AMI capabilities required to deliver those benefits, and whether the Victorian Electricity AMI deployment could be leveraged to deliver AMI capabilities to the water industry.

what Marchment Hill did

Marchment Hill commenced by using SEWL's current business strategy to define what it would require of an AMI implementation.

From independent research covering current national AMI policy and objectives, we prepared an overview of proposed AMI processes and protocols, and identified where they could interface with SEWL business practices.

We then developed and compared alternative business models for delivering AMI services, using order-of-magnitude cost estimates, and worked with the client's executive team to define and action steps to progressing SEWL's AMI strategy.

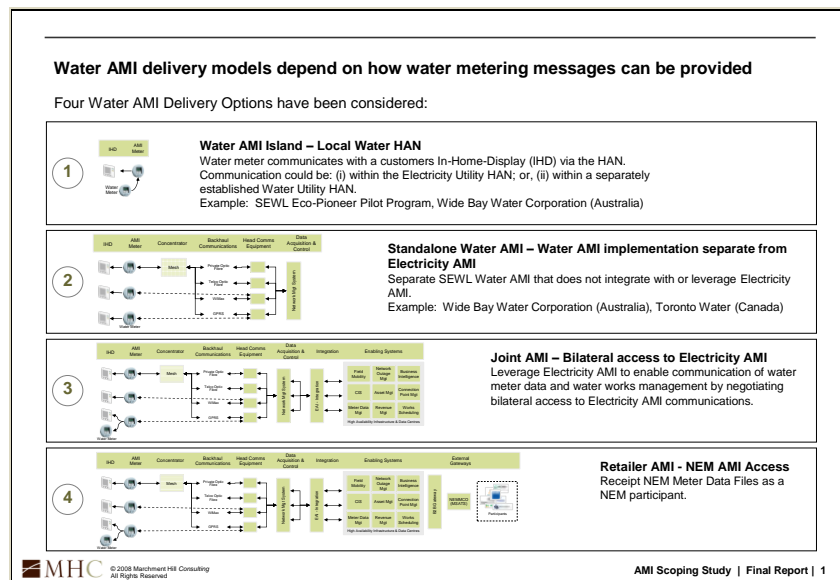


Figure 1: Potential AMI Delivery Models

Four alternative models for the delivery of advanced metering to the water industry were considered.

the benefit

An indicative cost-benefit analysis using benchmark data and client experience highlighted the likelihood of a positive business case. Additionally, the analysis showed that limiting the cost of water AMI meters and their installation would be the major business case driver.

The client developed a clear plan of action, covering the establishment of water representation on national AMI stakeholder forums, the conduction of an RFI to determine available technologies and their capability, and the initiation of a cost benefit study across the domains of infrastructure, business operations, customer response and carbon emissions.

For further information, visit marchmenthill.com