Q1 2016 Report

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Updated: May 2, 2016

Q1 2016 Report

1.0 Executive Summary

Orange and Rockland Utilities, Inc. (O&R or Company) submits this quarterly report on the progress of the demonstration project it is implementing as part of the Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) proceeding, as required by the Order Adopting Regulatory Policy Framework and Implementation Plan, issued by the New York State Public Service Commission (NYPSC or the Commission) on February 26, 2015.

In Q3 2015, O&R submitted its demonstration project the Customer Engagement Marketplace Platform or My ORU Store for approval by Department of Public Service Staff, and the project was approved on August 3, 2015. In Q4 2015; O&R submitted an Implementation Plan to the NYSPSC, for review and approve of the CEMP or Marketplace that O&R created with Simple Energy, a third-party partner specializing in digital customer engagement. Upon approval O&R and Simple Energy partnered with a network of third-party product and service providers to increase customer awareness and education of energy consumption, motivate customers to participate in O&R programs, increase distribution and adoption of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) and develop new revenue streams for O&R and its partner. During the planning and design phase, project kick-off meetings were held with the relevant parties, data integration began, and inputs required for launch were gathered. Effective January 26 2016, a soft launch of the My ORU Store was released to internal O&R employees. On February 2, 2016 O&R successfully launched its first phase of the My ORU Store to 60,000 residential customers. By the end of Q1 a variety of products were successfully launched including programmable thermostats, LED lighting, advanced power strips, and water energy saving products. O&R will continue to implement the project in accordance with its updated work plan (Pg.6) and will launch the next phase in Q2.

1.1 Cybersecurity and Personally-Identifiable Information Protection

Consistent with corporate instructions and Commission policy related to cybersecurity and the protection of personally-identifiable information (PII), each partner agreement executed for the implementation of the REV demonstration projects includes specific protections related to cybersecurity and PII. Assurance of this protection is critical in encouraging customers to sign up with new and innovative services offered by utilities.

2.0 Demonstration Highlights

2.1 Major Tasks Completed

- Program design and planning workshops
 - o Held introductory meetings across the customer facing organizations
 - Customer Energy Efficiency
 - IT
 - Customer Assistance
 - Marketing
 - Corporate Communications
 - o Conducted initial planning meeting with third party suppliers
 - Nest Planning
 - Honeywell
 - Energy Hub
 - ecobee
 - Simple Energy
- Completed CEMP/ My ORU Store design and structure
 - Corporate branding
 - Design and layout of webpage and engagement portal
 - Messaging and content
- Marketplace data integration
 - Establish data requirements
 - Create file format
 - Test data integration
 - Marketplace layout
 - Home Energy Report (HER's)
 - Identify test and control group
 - Sign off on data exchange
- Marketing content creation
 - Developed, reviewed and approved templates for the following key program materials:
 - Bill Inserts
 - Printed HER's
 - Digital HER's
 - Program FAQs
 - Digital content messaging
 - Customer notifications
- User Testing
 - o Soft launch to Company employees
- Training
 - o Customer Service and user training sessions
 - o Customer call flow and inquiry routing

- Marketplace launch
 - o First release of products included smart thermostats
 - Second release of products included LED lighting, advanced power strips, and water energy saving products
- Fixed fee service offerings
 - Focus group discussions with contractors
 - o Creation of fixed fee offerings
 - o Home audit and home performance vendor negotiations

2.2 Activities Overview

In Q1, O&R established timelines, held multiple kick-off meetings with relevant stakeholders, including third party supplier (TPS) installers and began data integration between O&R and Simple Energy. Data integration was conducted through a series of tests using a secure file transfer protocol (SFTP). This was necessary to verify the formatting and content of customer information needed to validate eligibility for rebate redemptions and customer usage for the purpose of creating home energy reports. Content and branding inputs were gathered for the print and email of HER'S, bill inserts, program FAQs, as well as digital content messaging. HER's will be launched in Q2 (Appendix A). Training was provided to Customer Service Representatives to introduce the Marketplace and the customer insight reports. Call flow and routing were defined to provide a timely response to customer questions.

The CEMP/ My ORU Store was initially launched with programmable thermostats to provide O&R with the opportunity to experience and verify the accuracy of the CEMP/ Marketplace functionality and application of customer rebates. Furthermore this trial period provided time needed to validate payment transactions, product quality, and shipping quality/ timeliness. During this period, several discrepancies were found in the application of promotional discounts and customer rebates. In March, the CEMP/ My ORU Store was expanded to include LED lighting, advanced power strips, and water energy saving products including showerheads and other shower devices. O&R held on-going meetings with SUEZ Water to discuss opportunities to collaborate on both energy and water conservation messaging and product offerings. O&R conducted focus group discussions with TPS installers to identify opportunities for fixed and non-fixed price services. Resulting ideas included AC tune-ups and thermostat installation (fixed price) as well as air and heating system installations (non-fixed price) which are still under consideration.

In addition, negotiations were held with home performance service providers to discuss inhome audits, installation of heating and air conditioning and other potential products and services that could be sold through the CEMP/ My ORU Store. These services and products are being considered as future offerings. Marketing of the CEMP/ My ORU Store consists of multi-channel advertising strategies utilizing cross-promotional information from other programs and referral networks. O&R currently has a well-defined strategy for promoting and advertising its energy efficiency and demand response programs. These strategies include radio, email, bill inserts, television commercials, installer promotions, and other ad campaigns. Weekly emails specifically designed to drive traffic to the Marketplace have been released (Appendix C). Current banner ads on the ORU homepage provide a convenient link for customers to directly access the MYORUSTORE. (Appendix D). A recent news release was included on the Simple Energy website as part of their website/blog and linked to both O&R and Simple Energy's social media sites.

2.3 Key Metrics

The original plan called for a full rollout of products and services on January 1, however consideration and provision for Customer PII and privacy, as well as the exchange of customer usage data with Simple Energy resulted in a delayed rollout. As a result, Simple Energy and O&R agreed to a soft launch to company employees on January 26, and a February 2 launch to 60,000 customers with email addresses on file. The product launch was limited to a mix of programmable thermostats. Consequently, sales revenue, engagement transactions, and customer energy savings are just starting to be realized and will be reported in the next quarterly report. Furthermore, the launch of TPS installer's offerings as well as the engagement platform, was pushed from Q1 to Q2. O&R's messaging click through to open rates (CTOR) of 12.13%, although below original projection, are above industry average for specialty retailers (Industry CTOR 9.8%).

All thermostats that were purchased on the CEMP/ My ORU Store and enrolled in the Bring Your Own Thermostat (BYOT) program will provide kW savings for customers enrolled in demand response program. These thermostat resources may be called for system peak-shaving or to alleviate local congestion on the distribution system. Overall, these thermostat resources contribute to improved system reliability, efficiency and resiliency.

3.0 Second Quarter Planned Activities

In Q2 2016, there will be a launch of fixed priced offerings provided by a number of local TPS installers who have agreed to a standard scope of work at a fixed price for NY residential O&R customers. Qualified contractor profiles will be advertised on the CEMP/ My ORU Store, including company information and customer reviews (Appendix B). TPS installers who advertise on the CEMP/ My ORU Store will pay an advertising fee, a referral fee upon enrollment of a product or service and a project conversion fee upon installation. Customers will have access to customer recommended installers who have agreed to the terms and conditions of the program. In Q2 and Q3, planned launches include a variety of products and services such as connected home devices, home security, peripheral HVAC devices, large home appliances, solar, and non-fixed price offerings.

The HER's and the MY ORU Advisor portal will launch in May, providing 80,000 customers with energy insights containing customer usage information along with comparisons to similar/neighboring homes. The HER's reports will also include information on appliance usage and the potential to achieve energy savings through Energy Star appliance upgrades. The My ORU Advisor portal will feature an interactive home profile, which will allow customers to evaluate energy consumed by room and appliance in the home. On the My ORU Advisor portal, customers will have the ability to view and analyze their energy usage, receive energy savings tips, share their individual achievements with other participants, and earn rewards/points by reducing energy usage through energy savings actions.

In addition, emails containing product specific information will be sent to engage new and repeat customers by providing features and benefits relevant to that customer's preferences (Appendix C). Customers will receive information about the specific product's energy saving benefits and the opportunity to purchase on the Marketplace (Appendix C). Bill inserts and radio advertising will be employed to reach non-digital customers in an effort to encourage them to visit the website. O&R will include targeted Facebook newsfeed ads and search engine marketing to provide customers the most relevant messaging and advertising to meet their energy needs.

Checkpoint *	Projected Date	Completion Date	Progress Status
Marketplace Launch	1/15/2016	2/2/2016	
Add Additional Products	2/5/2016	3/30/2016	
Add Fixed Price Services	2/5/2016	In Progress	\bigcirc
Marketplace Quarterly Check in	3/22/2016	5/1/2016	
Add Variable Priced Services	4/1/2016	In Progress	\bigcirc
Launch HERs and Engagement Platform	5/7/2016	In Progress	\bigcirc
* These timelines are preliminary and subject to change as th	e program evolve	S	
🔵 Complete 😑 In Progress 🜻 Delayed			

3.2 Expected Changes

	20	15						20)16											20	17								201	8	
Phase	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
Phase 0: Implementation - design and develop program components																															
Phase 1: Launch – Implement marketplace with limited offerings																															
Phase 2: Category Expansion – integrate data analytics and implement complete line of product and offerings																															
Phase 3: Decision on Project Expansion – evaluate program performance to determine next steps																															
Phase 4: AMI Integration – upon implementation of AMI evaluate rate design plans for peak time rebates, TOU analytics, integrate TOU enrollment																		-						-							
Phase 5: Revenue Optimization – streamline product and service line to maximize revenue opportunities																															
Project Schedule Completed															1												I				

There are no significant expected changes to the program design at this time.

3.3 Issues

There are no significant issues with the program at this time.

4.0 Work Plan & Budget Review

Budget will be filed confidentially with the NYPSC concurrently with the filing of this document.

4.1 Phase Review

The program has met key milestones and is on target to accomplish the next phases identified in the updated work plan discussed below.

4.2 Updated Work Plan

	N	oven	nbe	r	De	cem	ber		Janu	Jarv		Febr	uarv	,			Marc	:h			Ap	oril	-
Initial Marketplace Plan				•	58			T					Juny		-			Ī	1			<u> </u>	
Planning Workshops and Artifacts		_	_				-										-	┢			\vdash	\vdash	⊢
																		-		-	H	\vdash	-
Program Design Workshop Customer Marketing Workshop				_			1							-	-	-		\vdash		1	\vdash		⊢
Merchandising Workshops					 												-			-		\vdash	-
Rebate Workshop																						\vdash	
Reporting Workshop																						Н	
Final Review of Artifacts																						Н	
Iterative Site Buildout and Configuration																						\vdash	
Deploy Marketplace Infrastructure																						\neg	
Configure Site to Configuration Worksheet Spec																							
Add Site Content and Merchandise				-																			
Configure Customer Support Platform				_																			
Configure Retargeting and SEO Advertisements																							-
Configure Email Service																							
Marketplace Data Integration Activities																							
Integrate Customer Data																							
Create Rebate Reconciliation Process																							
Integration Testing and Shakeout and Launch Prep																							
Marketing Content Creation		1															1	1	1				
Email Copy		1															1	1					
Paper Mailers																							
Press Releases/Earned Media																							
Bill Inserts/Onserts																							
User Acceptance Testing																							
Training																							
Marketplace Launch (1st wave of products)																							
Marketplace Marketing Plan Execution																							
Pre-launch Embargoed Press Release																							
Execute marketing plan (will be detailed as marketing plan is created)																							
Add second wave of products																							
Add third wave of products and fixed fee services offering																							
HER and Engagement Platform			_										_										
Engagment Platform and HER Program Design																						\square	
Create Program Design Document																							
Create Marketing Plan				-																			
Site Configuration				_																			
Tip Content				-																			
Site Configuration																							
Add Site Content																							
Configure Rewards																							
Configure Customer Support Platform																							
Set up Administration Functions				_																			
Engagement Platform Integration Activities																							
Customer Data																							
Monthly Usage Data																							
Set up Automated Reporting Feeds																							
Integration Testing and Shakeout																							
Marketing Plan and Content																							
Create HER Paper Report Templates																							
Create HER Email Templates																							
Create Customer Targeting Strategy																							
Create Engagement Platform Marketing Plan																							
Training																							
Train Customer Support Representatives							1										1	1					
Launch Activities																							
Load Historical Usage Data																		L					
Load Historical Customer and Billing Data																							
User Acceptance Testing																							
Launch Engagement Platform and HERs		_					_	_	 		 		_	_	_		_			-	1		

Project Schedule	
Complete	
n Progress	
Delayed	

4.3 Updated Budget

The program is running under budget at this time due to lower than projected payroll expenses; two positions remained vacant for longer than anticipated, and timing of invoicing from Simple Energy from Q1 to Q2.

4.4 Lessons Learned

Clear and timely communication between O&R and Simple Energy has been a critical component to the appropriate planning, design and implementation phases of this demonstration project. Continual review and evaluation of executed strategies will allow for suggested business process improvements and enhancements to the customer experience. Simple Energy and O&R have implemented a real-time tracking document used by both to provide information, review project timelines, identify priorities, determine task ownership, and deliver status updates. It is anticipated that this tracking tool will improve communication and the prioritization of the project work plan going forward.

In addition, O&R has learned to adjust its promotions. Following a single product launch of programmable thermostats, customer unsubscribe rates to our digital messaging began to increase. The digital marketing efforts were quickly adjusted to reduce the frequency of messaging from weekly to bi-weekly. Once additional products were added to the digital messaging of the CEMP/ My ORU Store, the unsubscribe rates began to decrease and the weekly digital messaging schedule was resumed. The increase in the unsubscribe rates indicated that customers began to lose interest in the repeated promotion of a single product.

4.5 Recommendations

Key recommendations are to: (1) continue to involve third parties early on in the process to meet timelines, build buy-in and ensure smooth delivery and (2) design multiple work plans to run concurrently to allow the project to evolve and progress in a timelier manner.

5.0 Appendices

Appendix A: Home Energy Report Sample

- Appendix B: TPS Installer profile sample
- Appendix C: Weekly emails containing product highlights
- Appendix D: The O&R current website banner ad and future mobile website application

Appendix A: Home Energy Report Sample





Kilowatt Consumers in the Home Do you know which appliances in your home are responsible for the majority of your energy consumption and your bill? Below are some of the biggest culprits and tips for using them more efficiently. Heating & Cooling Make sure your home is well-insulated and use a programmable or smart thermostat to adjust the temperature when you're asleep or away from home 6 48% 18% Consumer Electronics Plug home office and entertainment devices into a power strip and use the switch smart functionality on the strip to cut all power to the devices when not in use. 🖵 12% Clothes Washers & Dryers Wash full loads of laundry in cold water. Clean your dryer's lint trap betv and do several loads consecutively to keep your dryer from cooling down. 6% 5% Set the temperature of your fridge to 35°-38°F and your freezer to 0°F to safely and efficiently preserve your food. Keep the surrounding area clean and defrost regularly 5% Replace the bulbs in your five most frequently-used fixtures with CFL or LED bulbs. Timers, dimmers and motion-detecting lights can also help you save. Learn more ways to reduce your energy consumption and earn reward points for completing energy-saving tips at Tips.MyORUAdvisor.com Light Up the Night Summer backyard barbecues and patio parties are not complete without the right lighting - and we've got the perfect deal for you. Save 448 on as his-pack of indoor/outdoor Cree Par38 LED Lamps when you purchase from My ORU Store. Each dimmable LED saves the average household over \$10 per year and offers a 25,000 hour life, so you can keep the party going or years to come. View this product, and other energy-saving LEDs, at www.Lighting.MyORUStore.com

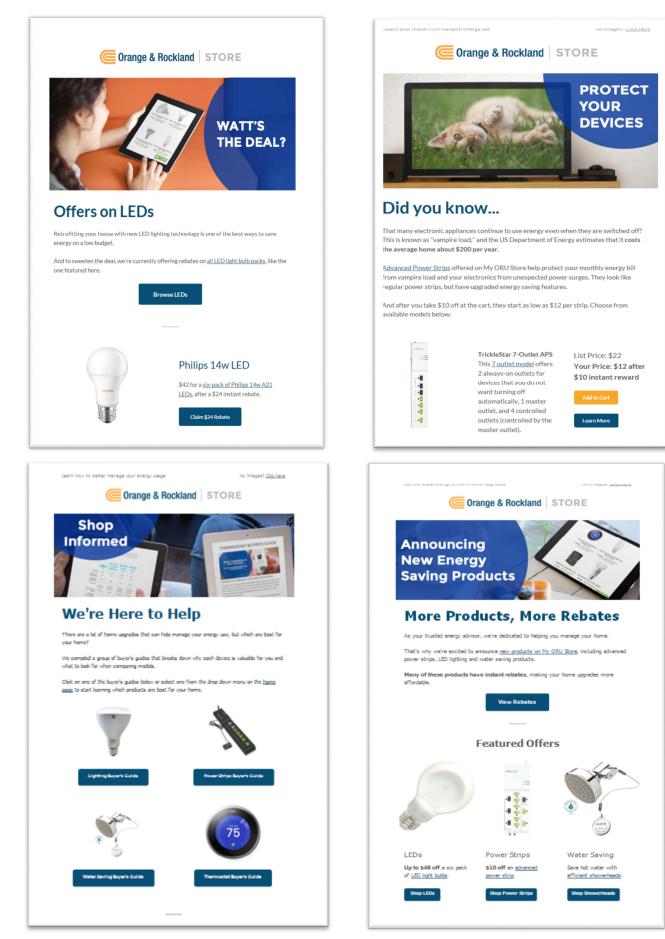
Need help? Email us at: info@MyORUAdvisor.com or call us at 1-877-434-4100

Appendix B: TPS Installer profile sample

	ABC HVAC - Professional Thermostat Installation
HEATING & COOLING, INC. SALES - SERVICE - INSTALLATION Since 1968	PRICE \$ 225.00 No rebate available for this product ADD TO CART
A smart thermostat can lower your utility bills and conserve energy! If have it professionally installed, one of our professionally certified Heat	
Installation to make sure it is connected properly and working smooth courteous team members will call to to schedule your appointment.	ly. Simply checkout with this service to receive the discount and one of our
 What's included Installation of customer-supplied thermostat on a compatible HVAC system. Initial thermostat setup. Basic demonstration of thermostat features. 	Contraction of the second
 90-day labor warrantee. Not Included Price does not include thermostat hardware. HVAC system must be operational, this service does not include HVAC repairs or diagnostic work. No wire-pulling. This service does not include installing additional wires between your HVAC system and thermostat. Please be sure to check your thermostat manufacturer's product page to determine if your thermostat is compatible with your HVAC system prior to scheduling the installation. Additional fees will apply for work that is not included in this offer. Technician will provide a quote based on the additional work needed to install your thermostat. 	
 Other Control Con	
 Other Control Con	rvices since 1968. All of our technicians have been professionally certified

nician to make the job right. From our family to yours, we are sure you will be pleased with ABC HVAC Company.

Appendix C: Sample of weekly emails containing product highlights



Appendix D: The current O&R website banner ad and future mobile website application



