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Smart meters implementation by 2021

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MALACCA — Some customers have seen a drop in their electricity bills since Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) implemented its smart meter initiative in December 2014.

Taman Tasik Utama resident E. Matheelaggan, 40, the smart meter at his house allowed him to save between RM50 and RM100 every month.

"My monthly bill used to be between RM300 and RM400, but after using the smart meter it has reduced to RM200 to RM250," he said.

Matheelaggan said he usually monitored his electricity usage at least once a week.

"So far, it's been good and the reading is accurate," he said.

Mohd Arif Yusa, 65, said the smart meter helped him avoid wasting electricity.

"I have been able to check on the electricity usage without having to wait for the bill at the end of the month," he said.

Arif said he was able to save as much as 10 to 15 per cent off his monthly electricity bills.

Public Works and Utilities Committee deputy chairman Datuk Zaidi Atan said the pilot project started in the Malacca



Siti Laila says the initiative aims to provide customers with accurate and efficient billing.

International Trade Centre area and the development of such an initiative by TNB was keenly accepted by the state.

"This initiative allows people to save on their electricity bills while reducing carbon dioxide emissions which indirectly contribute towards Malacca's green state status," he said.

He said TNB had approved the installation of 300,000 smart meters.

TNB chief corporate officer Datuk Roslan Abdul Rahman said Malacca would be the first state to fully utilise the smart meter initiative, a collaboration between the Energy, Green Technology and Water Ministry



Siti Sarah says consumer may check their electricity consumption with the new app.

and the state government.

The pilot project started in October 2014 with 1,000 units installed in homes in selected areas in Malacca and Putrajaya, areas that promote green initiatives.

TNB Smart Billing project senior manager Datin Siti Laila Sri Asih said the initiative's main aim was to provide customers with accurate and efficient billing.

"With the smart meter, we would not have to provide consumers with an estimated bill. The bill would be for exactly 30 days of usage," she said.

Siti said the smart meter mobile

application will feature automatic and remote meter readings, electricity consumption information, outage management and notifications, smart payment system, connection notification, time of use, photovoltaic metering and an electric vehicle feature (a smart grid integration which to enable and promote electric car uses).

"The automatic and remote meter reading enables consumers to check their billing notifications and electricity consumption," she said.

Siti pointed out the electricity consumption information allows customers to better monitor and manage electricity usage.

"The load profile or electricity consumption information allows us to monitor electricity data every 30 minutes," she said.

Users will receive notifications through the mobile application of electricity outage.

The smart meter system will also feature smart energy applications, better known as customer home energy portal.

"A smart plug can be installed for household appliances where consumers can enable the mobile app to turn off appliances that are still on," Siti said.

"It can be controlled even when the owner is away from home."

The smart meter initiative is expected to be implemented throughout the country by 2021.