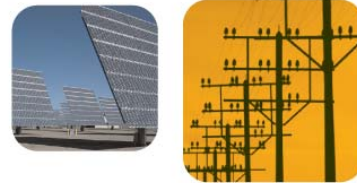


What's Inside

- Message from the Director
- Feature
- Watt's New
- Questions Answered



Fall 2005 • Issue 3

Message from the Director - Steven Hall

This month we witnessed the sheer devastation caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As both New Orleans and Texas now work to rebuild their communities, we extend our sincerest condolences to those who lost family, friends and property.

As the world now copes with the aftermath of the hurricanes we realize the storms have also exposed the precarious realities of today's global energy industry. The events following the hurricanes have highlighted our modern dependence on fossil fuels and the fragile systems that deliver these resources worldwide. It is during these times that concepts of conservation, alternative energy and improved sufficiency take on a new, more poignant meaning. New energy technologies coupled with conservation can make an important contribution in diversifying our energy requirements while promoting sustainable growth for the future. The challenge of rethinking our energy needs may be one of the greatest necessities of our time, but it is also one of the most exciting occasions for positive, constructive change. With so many factors on a provincial, national and global scale coming to put powerful upward pressures on energy prices, the time for change is now.



Watt's New: Interval Metering in Peel

How can something as simple as a meter play such a central role in energy management? The answer is *information*. Admittedly, while meters are merely measurement devices, what they offer is a wealth of tools that record how, where and when one uses energy. In strategic energy management that information is the gateway to controlling costs, improving efficiency and setting future targets.

In Peel, sixty-five interval meters are near the final stages of installation and will monitor consumption at the Region's most energy intensive facilities. These meters will provide a full range of real-time data logging features that tie back into a software system for analysis and reporting. The meters will also form the basis for demand response actions, bill verification, profiling and much more. Watch for further updates on Peel's metering project in the upcoming weeks.

Feature

'Packing Up? Power Down' is Launched!

This September, Corporate Energy in partnership with I&T Services launched its computer energy reduction program which encourages all staff to power down computers during non-business hours. Research reveals that an estimated 32 per cent of computers at the Region are left on during non

Page 1 of 2

Feature continued...

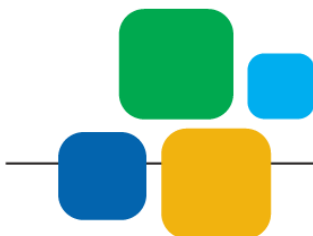
business hours producing approximately 37 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions — that's enough emissions to fill 44 homes!

To help remind everyone to power down their computers and other office equipment each evening, staff received a poster card and decal to place by the power button of their computer. By powering down staff will be able to save nearly 136,000 kWh's of energy each year, which is roughly the same amount of energy used to run 68,386 loads of laundry. Best of all, turning computers off also prevents the excessive use of the hard drive and other internal components. This helps extend the life of hardware and results in less electronic maintenance.

To learn more about this program or to find out how to start a similar conservation initiative in your organization, contact Corporate Energy at energy@peelregion.ca.



Peel's Computer Energy Reduction Program featured decals and poster cards for all staff to place on their office equipment as a reminder to conserve energy



Questions Answered

How Can I Increase My Vehicle's Fuel Efficiency?

With gas prices on the rise, fuel saving tips are always helpful. Here are a few ways to help you reduce your trips to the pump.

- *Use your vehicle's air-conditioning modestly.* With stop-and-go traffic, air-conditioning can increase fuel consumption by nearly 20 per cent.
- *Avoid idling your vehicle.* Idling for 10 minutes a day not only wastes fuel but can also generate almost a quarter tonne of CO₂ emissions annually. If you're parked for more than 10 seconds, turn off your engine and save.
- *Drive the speed limit.* Driving smoothly and steadily makes the best use of your fuel. Increasing your cruising speed from 100 kilometres per hour to 120 kilometres per hour will increase fuel consumption by about 20 per cent
- *Look after your tires.* Keep your tires properly inflated. Under inflated tires require more energy to roll, which not only wastes fuel but also wears the tires faster.
- *Remove excess baggage.* Eliminate empty roof-racks and other unused items that increase aerodynamic drag and force your vehicle to work harder to maintain its speed.
- *Keep up the maintenance.* A poorly maintained engine can cut fuel efficiency by up to 20 percent and increase CO₂ emissions by nearly 50 per cent. Be sure to follow the recommended maintenance schedule to ensure your vehicle's at peak performance.

For more energy savings tips, visit [Natural Resources Canada](http://NaturalResourcesCanada.ca).