FORTIS ALBERTA

HOW TO READ YOUR ELECTRICAL METER

Your electric meter is designed to accurately measure the amount of electricity your home is using. At FortisAlberta, we understand how important accurate meter reading and billing is to our customers. The following information will help you understand how your meter works and how you can assist our meter readers to read and record your meter reading each month.

Your Electric Meter

The electricity you buy from FortisAlberta is measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh). This measure reflects the number of kilowatts of electricity you use in a given period of time. A kilowatt (kW) is equal to 1,000 watts (W). If you turn on ten 100-watt light bulbs for one hour, you will use one kilowatt-hour of electricity.

Digital Meters & Automated Metering Meters

A digital meter measures the amount of electricity you use and displays this usage on a liquid crystal display (LCD).

Monitoring your energy use

By reading your own meter, you can monitor the electricity you use. To determine how much electricity you have used over a certain period of time, simply subtract the present reading from your previous reading.

	Automated Meter	Dial Meter
Present reading (kWh)	53,859	19,911
Previous reading (kWh)	-52,316	-17,801
Kilowatt-hours (kWh) used	**1,543**	**2,110**

The difference is the kilowatt-hours (kWh) you have used since your previous reading.

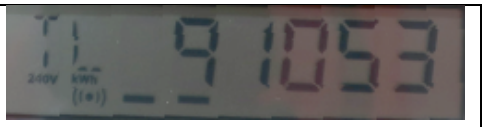
What is an automated meter?

Automated metering is a specialized type of digital meter that is read automatically by a remote computer system.

How do I read my automated meter?

The display on this type of digital meter changes every few seconds. Depending on the type of meter you have, you may have multiple displays. First, determine the type (model) of meter you have, then use the following table:

Type (Model)	Display	Description	Display Sample
FOCUS AXR/AXRe-SD	**DEL**	The total electricity delivered to your site measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh)	
	MAX	The peak demand used by the site measured in kilowatt (kW)	
	REC	The total electricity exported to the grid measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh)	

FOCUS ALF	**TL**	The total electricity delivered to your site measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh)	
Itron Centron	**kWh**	The total electricity delivered to your site measured in kilowatt-hours (kWh)	

Automated Meter

An automated meter records electricity usage in the same manner that a car's odometer records mileage. You read the numbers from left to right.

	May Reading (Previous)
	June Reading (Present)

$$Consumption = Present\ Reading - Previous\ Reading$$
$$\mathbf{716\ kWh} = 8{,}983\ kWh\ - 8{,}267\ kWh$$

The total consumption between May and June is **716 kWh**.

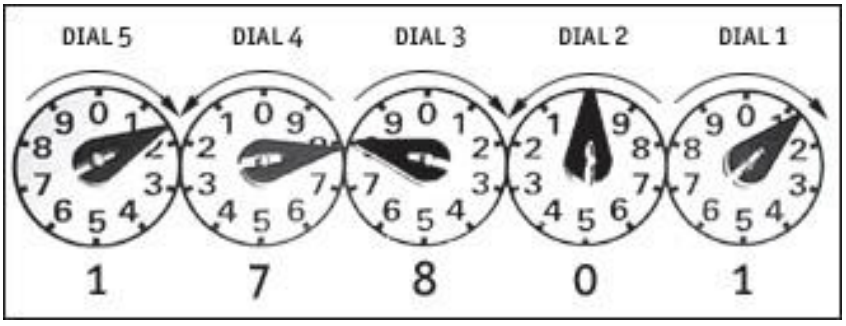
How to read your dial meter

Dial Meter

A dial meter has on its face a revolving disk and a series of dials and pointers. When an electric current passes through the meter, the disk rotates at a speed that depends on the watts of electricity you're using at the time. The more electricity you use, the faster the disk moves. Each revolution of the disk measures a precise amount of electricity, and the measurement is shown by the position of the pointers on the dials.

Some meters have four dials; some have five dials. Each dial has 10 numbers and a pointer and is numbered in an alternating clockwise and counterclockwise manner. The pointers follow the direction of the numbers and advance only when you are using electricity.

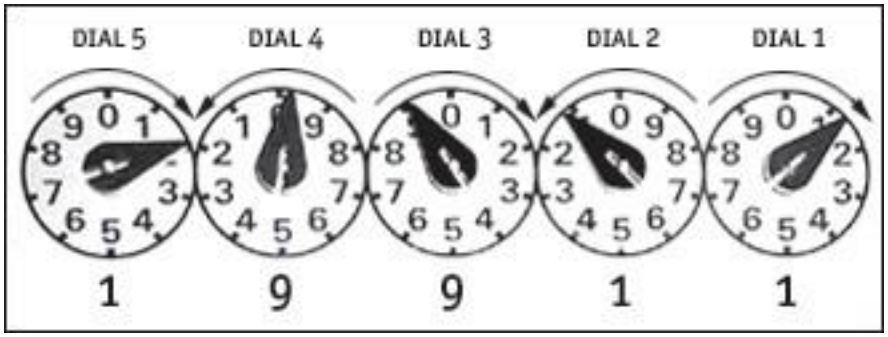
1. Stand directly in front of your meter.
2. Read and record each dial starting from the right and moving left.
3. When the dial pointer is between two numbers, record the smaller number (the number the pointer has just passed).
4. The meter is read from left to right. If the dial is pointing between 2 digits take the lower of the 2 numbers. When the pointer seems to be directly on the number, look at the dial to the right. If the pointer on the dial to the right has passed zero (0), write down the number for the left dial which the pointer seems to be on. If the pointer on the dial to the right has not passed zero, the pointer on the left dial is not yet directly on the number, so record the lower number. Here's one example:



- Dial 1 is on 1; record 1
- Dial 2 is on 0; record 0
- Dial 3 is on 8; record 8
- Dial 4 is between 7 and 8; record 7
- Dial 5 is on 2 but dial 4 hasn't made the full revolution to 0; record 1

The reading is **17,801**.

Now a second example:



- Dial 1 is between 1 and 2; record 1
- Dial 2 is between 1 and 2; record 1
- Dial 3 is between 0 and 9; record 9
- Dial 4 is between 0 and 9; record 9
- Dial 5 is on 2 but dial 4 hasn't made the full revolution to 0; record 1
- The reading on this meter is 19911.