



## **A SMALL RURAL UTILITY REQUIRED A FAST-TRACK IMPLEMENTATION TO SIDESTEP COSTLY PARALLEL PROCESSES**

Lane Electric Cooperative is a rural electric distribution cooperative serving approximately 12,800 meters spread across 2600 square miles between the Pacific Ocean and the Cascade mountains in central Oregon. With approximately 50 employees and \$19 million in operating revenues, LEC faced significant challenges implementing an AMI system on a fast track approach.

### **THE CHALLENGE**

The workforce distribution and density issues confronted by this small cooperative mandated an accelerated project timeline that avoided lengthy conversion from legacy processes to full implementation of the chosen technology. Analysis of the legacy system indicated that a significant amount of annual revenue – 1.0% (or greater) of total revenue - was lost to metering equipment inaccuracies.

### **THE STRATEGY**

After completion of a substantial due diligence process, LEC consolidated its efforts and streamlined its approach to implementation through its selection of Katama Technologies, Inc as the primary project facilitator. KTI supported the collaboration from contract signature through system acceptance testing and full operational implementation in a twelve-month period.

### **THE TECHNOLOGY**

Due to topographical constraints, and low density of meters, the proven reliability of power line carrier-based AMI technologies was deemed the most appropriate for this client as they provided a low risk solution and enabled the simultaneous adoption of industry best practices across multiple internal processes.

### **THE RESULTS**

After a successful Systems Acceptance Test, LEC successfully installed all of its residential meters within the projected 6-month timeframe. With the help of Katama Technologies, LEC was able to fully implement this system on a truncated timetable, support rapid internal process changes, and recognize significant early return on investment, as evaluation over the 12-month period following deployment indicated the reduction of system losses by 1.2% exceeding pre-implementation expectations.