



Ontario Clean Water Agency Uses POWERLOGIC To Prepare for Deregulation

The Ontario Clean Water Agency in Ontario (OCWA), Canada, wanted to prepare for a deregulated energy environment where they could obtain the best rates possible from their power suppliers. To achieve this objective, the agency needed to obtain load profile information they could use to negotiate the best possible rates.

Through their Project Management Organization, Square D / Schneider Electric supplied Ontario Clean Water Agency with an embedded gateway system solution for over 30 different water and wastewater treatment facilities in Ontario. These embedded gateways, combined with a custom software solution from Square D's Custom Application Engineering Organization, enable the system to automatically push energy information to a central data repository every 15 minutes (with five minute samples). Using this data, analysts determine if the load profile has any anomalies in it and detect what might be causing them.



Competitive systems were not utilized due to older modem based polling technology. Schneider Electric was the only vendor to offer “near real time” data. This was a critical consideration when the objective was to react to hourly pricing signals.

OCWA also appreciated the ability to add automatic control in a future implementation. The servers act as transparent gateways in a WAN environment, a master/slave Modicon PLC configuration is supported using Modbus TCP as the protocol. One master at a central location can independently access meter load parameters at each site. Sending prioritized load shed commands to slave PLCs at various sites would be straight forward.

