

AMI Infrastructure Installation

Umatilla, FL



PROJECT OVERVIEW

CUSTOMER:
City of Umatilla, FL

PRODUCTS:
Gateway R900 v4 Data Collector
Neptune 360 Software

LOCATION:
Umatilla, FL

CHALLENGE:

The City of Umatilla, Florida needed to migrate from an Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across seven different installation sites, with all seven locations featuring different constraints.

SOLUTION:

Ferguson Waterworks put a team together that completed the migration without disrupting the customer's daily operation. Not only did we build a plan to install all locations with minimal disruptions to the city, but we were also able to request a project extension due to a 65-day FAA approval process delay.

PRODUCT ADVANTAGES

- No reprogramming endpoints for fixed network reading
- Daily leak, reverse flow, and other alerts from E-CODER equipment meters
- Maintains compatibility with existing R900s deployed
- Add on-demand read capability

BACKGROUND

The City of Umatilla needed to migrate from an Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) across seven different installation sites, with all 7 locations featuring different constraints.

PROJECT SCOPE

The City of Umatilla had seven site locations, each with unique constraints, which required a migration from an AMR system to AMI. Site visits and evaluations were necessary to determine the correct migration strategy for that location while minimizing disruptions to the city.

As an example of one of these unique constraints, one location required the installation of a solar panel and a collector on a light pole at a county park, which required approval from the county to drive a 15,000-pound boom lift on the property. The county approved the request on the condition that we did not drive on the sports fields and damage irrigation lines or create divots. To meet these conditions, we suggested two options.

Option one used the shortest distance, but we would need to remove a small fence to drive the lift to the light pole. The second option was a longer route that required driving a third of a mile in a lift that operates at a maximum of 3 miles per hour, continuously placing 100-pound mats in front of tires until we reach the location. In that instance, we chose option one.

METHOD

Ferguson Waterworks put a team together that managed all aspects of the project, from start to finish. We coordinated between five different teams on the project, including the sub-contractor, Neptune, Ferguson Sales Team, Ferguson Project Management Team, and the City of Umatilla.

We conducted site surveys to all seven site locations in Umatilla and coordinated team meetings to review each location and create action items unique to each site.

Regular meetings with project stakeholders apprised them of updates as we coordinated and scheduled each install of Neptune R900 V4 Gateway Data Collector. One site also required the installation of a solar panel.

THE SOLUTION: A 5-TEAM APPROACH

Ferguson Waterworks put a team together that completed the migration without disrupting the customer's daily operation. Not only did we build a bullet-proof plan to install all locations with minimal disruptions to the city, but we were also able to request a project extension due to a 65-day FAA approval process delay. In the end, Ferguson Waterworks was able to facilitate the migration from an AMR to an AMI system without the need for special reprogramming endpoints.