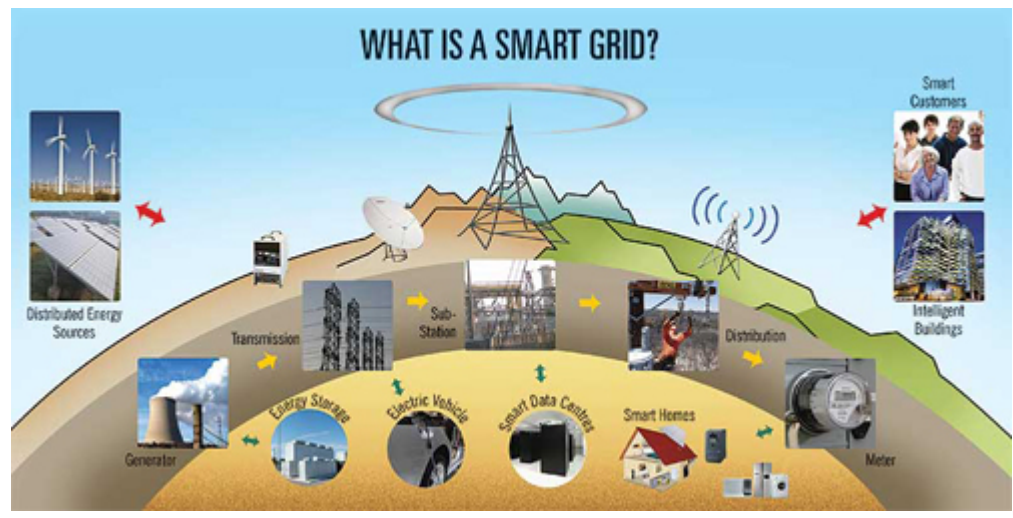


## Maryland Smart Grid

Many Maryland utility companies have started to roll out the first phase of what is planned to evolve into a “smart grid” throughout the state.

A “smart grid” is a modernized electrical grid that uses information and communications technology to gather and act on information, such as information about the behaviors of suppliers and consumers, in an automated fashion to improve the efficiency and reliability of the production and distribution of electricity.



The first phase is the installation of “smart meters” on homes and businesses, which allow for two-way communication between electric meters and the utility companies. As the installation of smart meters and the communication systems expands across the utility’s service territory, the utilities will begin the second phase of the smart grid by offering programs and services that could assist their customers in saving energy and money.



## Smart Meters

If you live in Maryland, you probably live in an electric service territory where you already have an Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) meter, commonly called a smart meter, or you will be getting one.

Smart meters are equipped with technology that allows two-way communication between your home or business and your utility company.

Like a cell phone, these new devices digitally transmit information over wireless networks; the networks are operated by the companies. These transmissions are a form of radio spectrum signal, thus are governed by Federal Communications Commission regulations. These transmissions are a form of electromagnetic radiation called non-ionizing radiation.

Your smart meter will not immediately provide benefits upon installation.

However, over time, as more smart meters are installed and the communications technology is put into place, new features will become available, such as energy budgeting and management tools.

If you have additional questions about Opting Out or why the Public Service Commission is making it mandatory to switch to Smart Meters, go to: <http://bit.ly/1UG5LAE>

## Find out more about your utility suppliers program

- **BGE** - [Smart Meters](#), [Smart Energy Manager](#), [Smart Energy Rewards](#)
- **Choptank** - [Advanced Metering Information](#)
- **Delmarva** - [Smart Meters](#), [My Account](#), [Peak Energy Savings Credit](#)
- **Pepco** - [Smart Meters](#), [My Account](#), [Peak Energy Savings Credit](#)
- **Potomac Edison (FirstEnergy)** - [Smart Meters](#)
- **SMECO** - [Smart Meters](#)