



**AUGUST 2026**

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| July 2026   | Gas Rate \$ 1.92/GJ |
| August 2026 | Gas Rate \$ 1.92/GJ |

## AMR – AUTOMATED METER READING

Natural gas automated meters (AMR) use low-powered radio frequency (RF) to transmit data to a Meter Read Data Collector. The technology products that Meota deploys in its meter reading complies with all legislative regulations and exposure limits for radio frequency electromagnetic fields including **Safety Code 6** and **ISED Standards** which incorporates Health Canada's Safety Limits for all wireless and radio devices used in Canada. Meota does NOT use SMART meters that are powered by electricity.

## THREE KEY FACTORS CONTRIBUTED TO RF EXPOSURE FROM ANY TRANSMITTING DEVICE.

**Signal Duration** – Meota's AMR device turns on for only a fraction of a second per day for a total of less than two minutes per year.

**RF Energy** – The RF energy emitted by an advanced meter is significantly less than other items used every day that emit RF such as laptops, cell phones, garage door openers, television remotes, wireless baby monitors, wireless routers and handheld radios.

**Distance from Source** – when an AMR meter is transmitting, the exposure level is thousands of times lower than any exposure limit set by ISED Standards.

## Radio Frequency Emission Comparison Chart

| Natural gas Advanced Meter                                                                             | Using a laptop computer with a wireless internet connection                                                   | Maximum exposure level operating a microwave oven (eight inches from the door)                                  | Talking on a cell phone*                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     |                            |                             |                                |
| <br>Reference level | <br>up to 5,000 times more | <br>up to 500,000 times more | <br>up to 1,000,000 times more |

\*Cell phones are designed to reduce RF output to the minimum required for reliable communication, but may reach peak power output when signal strength is limited.

## WHATS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SMART METER AND AN AMR METER?

The main difference between a smart gas meter and an RF AMR (Radio Frequency Automated Meter Reading) gas meter is communication direction and data flow. Smart use two-way networks for live data, while RF AMR meters use one-way transmission for scheduled billing reads.

### Communication and Data

**Smart Gas Meter (AMI):** Uses two-way communication. It sends continuous usage data to the utility company and receives remote commands or software updates back.

**RF AMR Gas Meter:** Uses one-way communication. It only transmits data outward—usually collected by a worker driving by in a truck (drive-by) or walking past with a receiver.

### Function and Control

**Smart Gas Meter (AMI):** Provides real-time tracking of gas use and can integrate with smart home displays or smart electric meters.

**RF AMR Gas Meter:** Focuses strictly on automated monthly billing. It cannot receive remote operational commands or track live patterns from afar.

### Hardware and Setup

**Smart Gas Meter (AMI):** Often built as a fully integrated digital system connected to a fixed cellular or neighborhood network.

**RF AMR Gas Meter:** Usually a standard mechanical gas meter retrofitted with a battery-powered radio module (an Encoder Receiver Transmitter or ERT)

AMR meters operate on low frequencies (typically 450 MHz to 900 MHz) - Non-Ionizing Radiation - meaning it lacks the energy to break chemical bonds or damage DNA.

**AMR - Intermittent Transmission:** These devices do not broadcast continuously. They remain dormant most of the day, transmitting data packets for a total broadcast less than 60 seconds per day.

### RF SIGNAL STRENGTH COMPARISON IN mW/cm<sup>2</sup>:

- |                                           |              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| • FM radio or TV broadcast station signal | 0.000005     |
| • Itron AMR device at 10 feet             | 0.0001       |
| • Cyber cafe (Wi-Fi)                      | 0.010 - .020 |
| • Laptop computer                         | 0.010 - .020 |
| • Cell phone held up to head              | 0.030 - 10   |
| • Walkie-Talkie at head                   | 0.5 – 42     |
| • <b>Safety Code 6 MPE Limit</b>          | <b>0.6</b>   |



Baby Monitor  
7 x greater



Wii Remote Controller  
30 x greater



Nintendo DS  
with WiFi  
180 x greater



Smart Meter  
900 MHz radio



WiFi Access Point  
400 x greater



Cordless Phone  
1,000 x greater



Cell Phone  
10,000 - 10,000 x  
greater

**If you smell gas inside or outside, or hit a gas line, contact us immediately.**

### DEFINITIONS

**Fixed Charge** – This is the monthly flat rate charged to recover a portion of the total operating costs.

**Cost of Gas** – The cost of natural gas charged to Meota Gas Co-op from its wholesaler, GasAlberta. Meota does not benefit from any increase or decrease in the rate charged per gigajoule (GJ) of natural gas. Meota operates as a not-for-profit cooperative.

**Delivery Charge** – This charge is generated to cover the costs of delivering natural gas to Meota's customers/members and the costs for operating the cooperative. This fee is charged on the number of GJ's consumed.

**Gas Loss Charge** – This is a 'shrinkage' charge that is due to the loss, consumption or unaccounted-for volume of gas within the distribution system. Shrinkage is encountered through unavoidable leakage, metering errors or unidentified theft. Minor variances occur due to the application of regulations for calculating the thermal energy of gas delivered.

**System Improvement Fee** – A monthly fixed fee to fund the replacement of main gas line distribution to ensure continued safe and secure natural gas supply.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

**Cheque** – by mail or deliver to office. An after-hours mailbox is available.

**On Line** – Find Meota Gas Co-op as a payee. When referencing your account number, your financial institution may require more than your 4-digit account number. If so, please add zeros before or after your account number. (ie. 0004567 or 45670000)

**E-Transfer** – payments may be e-transferred to [admin@meotagas.com](mailto:admin@meotagas.com). Please reference your account number in the notes. \*Note: Meota Gas is set up for auto-deposit for e-transfers.

**Auto Debit** – Auto Debit payments are Meota's preferred method. Payments will be processed on the billing due date. If you wish to sign up for Auto Debit, kindly contact our office.

**At your Bank** – Most financial institutions can process in-person payments.

**Payment Terms** - A late payment of 2% will apply on amounts outstanding after the due date. An NSF Charge will be assessed for dishonoured payments.



Alberta One Call is now called Utility Safety Partners

**Any ground disturbance on your property requires locates booked through Utility Safety Partners. Landscaping, new fencing or decks, or even planting a garden is ground disturbance and can cause damage to a buried utility. Some utilities are buried only centimeters below the surface.**

The results of a contact with a buried utility can be loss of an essential service for you or your neighbours, costly repairs, and most importantly serious injury or death.