

## METRO POWER CORPORATION

# The AMPERE Protocol

## *Brief and Frequently Asked Questions for Adopting Bodies*

Accompanies AMPERE Protocol Version 5.1 • Issued September 22, 2026

### 1. What AMPERE Is

The AMPERE Protocol is a decision-gated framework for planning, piloting, deciding on, deploying, and operating Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) in Philippine distribution utilities and electric cooperatives. It divides an AMI program into six stages (Assess, Model, Pilot, Evaluate, Roll Out, Evolve), each ending in a gate with defined evidence and a named decision owner. It comes with a utility Toolkit workbook, a Sector Toolkit workbook for an Adopting Body, and fifteen document templates.

Metro Power developed AMPERE as a contribution to the Philippine electric power industry. It is free to use, adapt, and reissue under a perpetual, royalty-free license (Protocol Section 30.4).

### 2. The Problems It Addresses

- AMI investments approved on vendor claims or assumed benefits rather than measured evidence
- Pilots that demonstrate a product but do not answer the investment question
- Programs that scale before billing integration, data quality, and consumer processes are ready
- Consumer harm from remote disconnection, prepaid service, or billing errors introduced at scale
- Security and privacy obligations treated as afterthoughts
- Results that cannot be compared across utilities because each defines its measures differently
- Smaller utilities without the scale to run specialist functions on their own

### 3. What Adoption Involves

Part III of the Protocol is written for an Adopting Body: a government agency, regulator, supervising body, or association that adopts AMPERE for the utilities it funds, supervises, or represents.

| Question                          | What the Protocol provides                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Forms of adoption</b>          | Reference (voluntary good practice), reissue under the Adopting Body's own name, or a condition of support for programs it funds or supervises (Section 23.2)                                                          |
| <b>What must stay the same</b>    | A defined core: the stages and gates, the minimum mandatory set, the evidence rules, the consumer safeguards, and the advisor conflict-of-interest rules (Section 23.3). Targets, formats, and roles may be localized. |
| <b>Who decides</b>                | The utility remains the decision owner at every gate. The Adopting Body sets common rules, gives or withholds concurrence where it funds or supervises, and monitors (Section 24).                                     |
| <b>Existing powers</b>            | Nothing in AMPERE limits the powers of regulators, supervising agencies, or auditors. ERC rules and approvals always prevail (Sections 14, 23.2, 23.4).                                                                |
| <b>Programs already under way</b> | A single transition rule: map to the nearest stage, record gaps, apply AMPERE from the next gate, and do not reopen past decisions unless consumers, security, or billing accuracy are affected (Section 23.4).        |

| Question                             | What the Protocol provides                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Common minimums</b>               | A sector baseline for metering, interoperability, data, security, privacy, time, retention, safeguards, and reporting, with a path to a sector companion specification and conformance testing (Section 25). |
| <b>Comparable reporting</b>          | A fixed reporting dataset with shared definitions, anonymized benchmarks by peer group, and a minimum group size before publication (Section 26; Annex H).                                                   |
| <b>Support for smaller utilities</b> | Joint procurement, shared platforms with defined safeguards, and shared specialist services such as security testing and a reference test lab (Section 27).                                                  |
| <b>Independent review</b>            | A pool of accredited reviewers, with rotation and conflict declarations, so that every utility can obtain the reviews required at Gates 2 and 4 (Section 28.2).                                              |

#### 4. What It Asks of an Adopting Body

A small standing capability: a secretariat to maintain the adopted edition and run reporting; a technical committee to advise on revisions; and a coordinator for the reviewer pool (Section 24.2). The Sector Toolkit provides the registers and reports. Adoption checklist T15 lists the decisions to record before adopting.

#### 5. Safeguards on Metro Power's Role

- **License:** perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, with the right to adapt and reissue under the Adopting Body's own name (Section 30.4)
- **Ownership of the adopted edition:** the Adopting Body owns its edition and has sole revision authority for it; Metro Power maintains only its own edition (Section 30.1)
- **Conflicts of interest:** Metro Power is bound by the same advisor rules as any other advisor, discloses its technology partners, never acts as an independent reviewer, and withdraws from a procurement if it breaches these rules (Sections 13.3, 30.5)
- **Neutrality:** the sector baseline sets minimums and interfaces, never a technology or a vendor
- **Data:** Metro Power does not hold or receive utility-identifiable sector data without the utility's written consent
- **Training:** curricula are open; Metro Power is not the sole or accrediting trainer (Section 28.3)

#### 6. Recommended Path to Adoption

1. Reference adoption: recommend AMPERE as good practice
2. Field validation with two or three utilities of different sizes and conditions, through at least the investment decision, calibrating the provisional defaults
3. Consultation with utilities, regulators and agencies, privacy and cybersecurity authorities, consumer and labor representatives, and technology providers, plus an independent technical peer review
4. Revision of the adopted edition
5. Only then, and only where the Adopting Body has the authority, any mandatory use as a condition of support

##### Validation status

AMPERE has been benchmarked against recognized frameworks, including the UK Gateway Review, the Five Case Model, the EU Joint Research Centre smart-metering cost-benefit guidelines, NIST CSF 2.0, and SPIRIT 2025, and it has been reviewed for internal consistency. It has not yet been applied end to end in a utility program or subjected to public consultation. Its numeric defaults are provisional.

## 7. Frequently Asked Questions

### Is AMPERE mandatory?

No. It has no legal force of its own. Any mandatory effect comes only from an Adopting Body's own instrument, within that body's authority.

### Does it replace ERC approval or ERC rules?

No. A Gate 4 decision is the utility's investment decision, not regulatory approval. Rollout contracts must be conditional on ERC approval and any required supervising-agency or lender clearance (Section 9.7).

### Does it favor Metro Power's products or any technology?

No. It is technology-neutral; requirements are written as outcomes and open standards. Every tender must pass an independent review for vendor bias before issue (Section 13.3).

### Can we rename it?

Yes. An adopted edition may carry the Adopting Body's own name and number, with attribution. It may be called "AMPERE" only if the core is unchanged.

### Who maintains our edition?

The Adopting Body, through its technical committee. Metro Power offers improvements from its own edition but cannot change an adopted edition.

### Is it too heavy for a small electric cooperative?

A lean path reduces effort without removing evidence: smaller samples, fewer strata, short-form business cases, and a fourteen-sheet lean core of the Toolkit. Small strata are measured in full, and shared services cover specialist functions (Sections 2.4, 2.5, 8.6, 27).

### How does it protect consumers?

Remote disconnection follows the same notice and timing rules as a field disconnection and is blocked by the head-end outside permitted windows; protected accounts need human review; prepaid consumers have emergency credit and monitoring; consumers are consulted on the program and its rate impact before the investment decision (Section 17).

### What happens to meter readers?

A Workforce Transition Plan, prepared with employees and their representatives, is a condition of the investment decision (Section 12.1).

### How are pilot results judged?

Against thresholds and statistical rules fixed before procurement, separately for each stratum, so that a pooled average cannot hide a failing area (Section 8.6).

### How does it handle cybersecurity and privacy?

Minimum controls mapped to NIST CSF 2.0, utility-controlled keys, remediation deadlines for findings, supply-chain controls, and Data Privacy Act obligations, including processing agreements and 72-hour breach notification (Section 16; Annex E.6).

### What about island and off-grid areas?

KPIs are measured over supply hours, store-and-forward and satellite options are allowed, and small strata use census measurement (Section 15.7).

### Does it cost anything to use?

No license fee. The costs are the ordinary costs of doing the work well, plus the Adopting Body's own operating costs.

## 8. The Package

- AMPERE Protocol, Version 5.1 (Parts I–III and Annexes A–I)
- AMPERE Toolkit utility workbook (32 sheets)
- AMPERE Sector Toolkit workbook for Adopting Bodies (S1–S10)
- AMPERE Toolkit document templates (T1–T15)
- This brief

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