Reading your new smart electric meter is easy. The meter scrolls through several different displays that will show your kilowatt-hour (kWh) usage, date, time, and other system and diagnostic information.

Scrolling Displays

Look at the top left-hand corner. Most of the scrolling digital displays are identified by a number in this corner. This number represents what type of data is being shown:

- "01" = Date. Shown as month/date/year. For example, March 4, 2009 would display as 030409.

- "02" = Time. Shown in "military" or 24-hour time and includes seconds. For example, if it's 7:17 pm and 17 seconds, the display will be 191717.

- "10" = Current meter read.

There is other information that scrolls through the display sequence providing valuable system information to SDG&E®.

Reading Your Energy Usage

Using our example, the initial meter read is 001406. To find out how much energy you use in a given time, subtract this first reading from a second reading taken at a later date. For instance, if you go back to your meter later and it reads 001940, then you have used 534 kWh for that time period (001940 - 001406 = 534).

Detail of kWh Display

A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is 1,000 watts of electricity used for one hour. For example, when you use a one-kilowatt appliance for one hour, you've used one kWh and your meter read display will show an increase in consumption of one. If you used the same one-kilowatt appliance for two hours, the display would increment by two kWh.

Save Energy and Save Money

The energy use information collected by your smart meter will help you understand your energy habits and the best ways to save. In the future, you'll be able to view your usage information through the Internet. Knowing how much energy you're consuming on a daily basis can help you better manage your energy use and save money.

To prepare, sign up for My Account and start managing your bill online. Visit *sdge.com/myaccount* and have your SDG&E bill handy.

For more information about how to read your electric smart meter, visit *sdge.com/smartmeter*. Natural gas meters will continue to have dials. For information on how to read your gas meter, visit *sdge.com/forms* or call **1-800-411-7343**.