

NV Energy Short Circuits Data Explosion With Estuate's Solution



Background

NV Energy, Inc. provides a wide range of energy services to 1.3 million customers throughout Nevada and nearly 40 million tourists annually. NV Energy is a holding company whose principal subsidiaries, Nevada Power Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company, are doing business as NV Energy. The company is headquartered in Las Vegas, Nevada.

NV Energy has served citizens in northern Nevada for over 150 years, and southern Nevada since 1906. Nevada Power, Sierra Pacific Power and Sierra Pacific Resources merged in July 1999 to create one of the fastest growing energy companies listed on the New York Stock Exchange. In 2008, both subsidiaries began doing business as NV Energy signaling the commitment to serving Nevada's energy needs.

Business Challenge

NV Energy uses innovative technologies to manage their meter data, including smart meters and smart grids to get unprecedented capabilities for forecasting demand, shaping customer usage patterns, preventing outages, optimizing unit commitment and more. As NV Energy moved towards smarter grids, they were forced to deal with a deluge of data. Data needed to be verifiably accurate to ensure regulatory compliance.

Data growth in the Meter Data Management application was degrading performance, limiting availability, increasing costs and slowing disaster recovery. Continued database growth, long-term data retention regulations and storage requirements were increasing operational costs. Also, around 10 TB of the historical data stored in the high-performance production Oracle database was inactive. NV Energy was looking for a

solution to solve their ever-growing data challenges. They needed a scalable solution that allowed them to add and check data while meeting compliance requirements.

The Estuate Solution

Estuate provided a data archiving solution for NV Energy's Itron En Enterprise Edition Meter Data Management (IEE MDM) application. The solution utilized the IBM Optim Archiving Solution as the underlying archiving tool and provided an automated out-of-box template optimized for the MDM database. The solution:

- ⦿ Archived data out of their production database and stored it in an archive repository with full reporting capability.
- ⦿ Purged data from production to reduce database size.
- ⦿ Enabled business users to restore data back to production for re-billing purposes as needed.

Business Impact

The Archive Solution simplified NV Energy's enterprise data management by accelerating business-critical projects, including upgrade projects. Advantages of the Archive Solution included improved application performance and availability, reduced storage costs and lowered maintenance costs. Other advantages include:

- ⦿ Reduced maintenance, administration, backup and restore operations.
- ⦿ Lowered maintenance costs by reducing purge/archive window by 61%.
- ⦿ Minimized CPU usage with reduced production system size.
- ⦿ Reduced 10TB of production data stored on their most expensive platform.
- ⦿ Stored archived data on a lower (less expensive) tier of storage to maximize cost efficiencies
- ⦿ Minimized downtime for faster upgrades.
- ⦿ Enforced corporate data retention policy by purging data no longer needed.

"The deployment of smart data meters brought with it tremendous opportunity to improve operations while improving our customer service levels. But it also exacerbated our data growth problem. We needed a smart data management solution that enabled us to better manage our applications and control costs while ensuring that archived data was easily retrievable. Estuate's solution exceeded our requirements and their automation-intensive approach ensured that data management would never be as hard ever again."

Tim Arndt
CIS Manager

Get Started Today

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