

# Grid Innovation Fund – Call for Indoor Agricultural Proposals

## Stakeholder Feedback & IESO Response from October 3, 2019 Webinar

Following the October 3, 2019 stakeholder webinar, the IESO invited stakeholders to provide comments and feedback on the local impact and proposal evaluation criteria of the Grid Innovation Fund's targeted call for indoor agricultural proposals.

The IESO received feedback from:

- [ICF Consulting Canada Inc.](#)
- [Essex Power Corp](#)
- [Baseload Power Corp](#)

This feedback has been posted on the IESO's [Grid Innovation Fund's webpage for the Indoor Agriculture Call](#).

### Note on Feedback Summary

The IESO appreciates the feedback received from stakeholders outlining their recommendations on the evaluation criteria and local impact of the targeted call. These have been noted and will be considered in the development of the final application guideline for the targeted call. The IESO has provided a summary table below, which outlines specific feedback or questions for which an IESO response was required at this time.

## Stakeholder comments and IESO responses

Topic	Stakeholder	Feedback	IESO Response
Evaluation Criteria	Essex Power	Add evaluation criteria that awards points for both directly and indirectly alleviating congestion or reducing load in the targeted geographic areas.	This feedback will be reflected in the Grid Innovation Fund Indoor Agricultural Call Proposal template.
		Priority points should be awarded to teams comprised of multiple members that accurately represent the affected parties in a targeted geographic area.	The IESOs will prioritize projects with teams comprised with multiple members where this type of structure is essential to the success of the project.
		Highest weighting should go to Potential Impact, Project Purpose, Local Impact and Market Capacity Building Impact.	The IESO has increased the weighting of Local Impact and Market Capacity Building Impact categories.
	Baseload Power	Highest weighting should be allocated toward Market Capacity Building impact.	The IESO has increased the weighting of Local Impact and Market Capacity Building Impact categories.
	ICF	Clarify whether CHP project are eligible.	Grid Innovation Fund dollars cannot be used to fund generation projects.
		IESO should be specific about the desirability of having pre-identified project site(s).	Project site selection will be identified by the applicant.

Topic	Stakeholder	Feedback	IESO Response
		<p>IESO may want to reconsider the suggestion that a partnership with a LDC is desirable.</p> <p>IESO should be specific about funding leverage requirements.</p> <p>IESO should be clear about pre-existing and new intellectual property and where ownership lies as per the contribution agreement.</p> <p>IESO should be more specific around the concept of “potential” as a criteria.</p> <p>Technology readiness levels may vary depending on the audience (e.g. Lighting could be at level 9 but from an application perspective, greenhouses view it as a 7).</p>	<p>IESO will factor LDC partnerships at the discretion of project scope.</p> <p>Maximum contributions that the IESO can allocate to a project depends on the Project Type. The details around these requirements are included in the application guideline document.</p> <p>IESO does not own nor does it wish to own intellectual property as part of Grid Innovation Fund projects.</p> <p>This was intentionally left undefined in order to give applicants an opportunity to make a case for their projects.</p> <p>IESO is open to rationale included in the Grid Innovation Fund Indoor Agricultural Call Proposal document that speaks to technology readiness level’s applicability in different sectors.</p>
General	Essex Power	IESO should prioritize projects that allow additional capacity to connect to the distribution/transmission systems as well as projects that reduce overall demand or consumption in targeted areas.	The Grid Innovation Fund cannot fund generation projects; however, priority will be given to projects that propose demand side solutions that make additional capacity available.

Topic	Stakeholder	Feedback	IESO Response
	Baseload Power	There appears to be conflict over eligible generation projects in the guideline. Please clarify and provide examples.	<p>An innovative project that uses onsite generation from a behind-the-meter resource that is fueled by waste heat, waste power, waste by-product, or waste gas is eligible for funding. For example, if a proponent proposes a project that captures and utilizes the waste by-product emitted from the indoor agriculture sector as fuel in a novel and innovative way such that it improves net-efficiency (increasing the output while maintaining the same input), the IESO will be interested in reviewing the project proposal. Please note that projects that generated electricity from bioenergy was eligible under IESO's Feed-In Tariff Program and, as a well-understood and commercialized technology, is not considered innovative and eligible for the Grid Innovation Fund.</p> <p>The IESO encourages potential applicants with a solution around Load Displacement to contact the Grid Innovation Fund team to discuss the idea and its eligibility.</p>

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