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OPA Merges with the IESO on January 1, 2015

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA), the organization that coordinates province-wide conservation efforts, plans the electricity system for the long term, and contracts for clean electricity resources, is merging with the Independent Electricity System Operator to form a new organization that will carry the name Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). The IESO currently balances demand for electricity against available supply through the wholesale market and directs the flow of electricity across the transmission system.

Mon, 12/22/2014

The current responsibilities of both organizations will continue after the merger, including the operation of the microFIT Program. With regard to existing microFIT Contracts, the IESO will be substituted for the OPA as the counterparty to the microFIT Contracts. Going forward, all new microFIT documents will be branded as the IESO to reflect the new organization.

Both organizations are working to ensure the transition to the IESO is as seamless as possible. All OPA email addresses will transition from the @powerauthority.on.ca extension to the @ieso.ca extension on January 1, however during a transition period all emails sent to @powerauthority.on.ca will automatically be redirected to the new email address. Phone numbers will remain the same. We thank you for your patience as we update our website to reflect the new organization.

Extended microFIT Holiday Maintenance - Updated

The My microFIT Home Page will be undergoing the following maintenance from **December 21, 2014, to January 5, 2015 (inclusive)**:

Mon, 12/22/2014

- **From December 21 to December 27, 2014 (inclusive)**, microFIT Application submission functionality will be unavailable. Applicants will be able to access their My microFIT Home Page but will not be able to create or submit applications. During this period, the OPA will continue to issue Application Approval Notices, offer Contracts, and process Contract Assignments.
- **From December 28 to January 5, 2014 (inclusive)**, all functions of the My microFIT Home Page will be unavailable.

The My microFIT Home Page will return to full functionality on **January 6, 2015**.

microFIT Holiday Maintenance, New Price Schedule and Version Change

Holiday Maintenance of the My microFIT Home Page

Fri, 12/05/2014

The My microFIT Home Page will be undergoing the following maintenance from December 21, 2014, to January 4, 2015:

From December 21, 2014, to December 28, 2014 (inclusive), microFIT Application submission functionality will be unavailable. Applicants will be able to access their My microFIT Home Page but will not be able to create or submit applications. During this period, the OPA will continue to issue Application Approval Notices, offer Contracts and process Contract Assignments.

From December 29th, 2014, to January 4th, 2015 (inclusive), all functions of the My microFIT Home Page will be unavailable.

The My microFIT Home Page will be returned to full service on **January 5, 2015**.

Price Schedule Change

Please be advised that all active microFIT applications that have not received a Pending Connection status from the Applicant's LDC prior to January 1, 2015, will be subject to the new [FIT/microFIT Price Schedule](#).

microFIT Version Change

On January 1, 2015, Version 3.2 of the microFIT Program comes into effect. This new version, and associated program documentation, will be branded to reflect the merger of the OPA and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). No other changes are being made to the microFIT Program at this time. All active applications that have not been set to Pending Connection status prior to January 1, 2015, will automatically be considered under Version 3.2.

microFIT Program Enhancements Being Considered for 2015

Mon, 12/01/2014

On August 29, 2014, the Minister of Energy [directed the OPA](#) to conduct focused stakeholder engagement, in consultation with the Ministry of Energy, to inform potential changes to the microFIT Program for implementation in 2015. As a framework for this engagement process, the OPA has posted a discussion paper that outlines proposed enhancements to the microFIT Program that are being considered. A similar document outlining proposed FIT enhancements has also been posted to the [FIT website](#).

- [microFIT 2015 Discussion Paper](#)
- Feedback form ([Excel](#)  [Microsoft Word](#) )

Interested parties may submit comments by email to microFIT@powerauthority.on.ca by **January 23, 2015**.

A webinar to discuss both the microFIT 2015 Discussion Paper and the FIT 2015 Discussion Paper has been scheduled for **December 11, 2014**. Participants will be able to ask questions and provide feedback either by phone or on the web.

Date: Thursday, December 11, 2014

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US & Canada)

URL: www.meetview.com/opa20141211/

Local Phone: 416-764-8640

Toll-free Phone: 1-888-239-2037

Over the past three years since the Ontario government launched the microFIT and FIT two-year review, the OPA and the Ministry of Energy have received feedback on aspects of the program that are working well and on other aspects that could be improved upon. Feedback on all program aspects, whether noted in the microFIT 2015 Discussion Paper or otherwise, is encouraged and will be considered as the OPA develops the microFIT Rules, Contract and other associated documents for use in 2015.

Interested parties should [subscribe to the microFIT subscriber list](#) to ensure they are kept aware of any updates relating to the microFIT Program. Subscribers will be notified of any additional engagement activities on the microFIT 2015 Discussion Paper which may be facilitated in early 2015.

We look forward to receiving your feedback.

New FIT/microFIT Price Schedule Available

As required by the [August 29, 2014 Minister's direction](#), the OPA has posted an updated FIT/microFIT price schedule. [View the new price schedule here.](#)

Tue, 09/30/2014

The OPA is required to review the prices offered to generators under the FIT and microFIT programs on an annual basis to ensure both ratepayer value and a fair return on investment. The OPA thanks those who provided feedback during the recent price review.

The new price schedule will be effective immediately for the FIT Program and will apply to any FIT contracts that are offered after September 30, 2014, including FIT contracts offered through the extended FIT 3 procurement. The new price schedule will not apply to any FIT contracts offered pursuant to the July 30, 2014, Offer List.

The new price schedule will be effective on January 1, 2015 for the microFIT Program and will apply to Application Approval Notices that are issued on or after January 1, 2015.

The next price review will occur later in 2015 and will be effective on January 1, 2016.

Price Review – Stakeholder, Organization and Association Engagement

Fri, 08/29/2014

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is conducting the annual price review to determine the FIT and microFIT pricing structure for 2015. The OPA is required to review the prices offered to generators under the FIT and microFIT Programs on an annual basis to ensure both ratepayer value and a reasonable return on investment.

Per the [August 29, 2014 direction](#), the updated price schedules will be posted by September 30, 2014, to be effective immediately for the FIT Program and to be effective on January 1, 2015 for the microFIT Program.

To help develop the price schedules, the OPA is asking key stakeholders, organizations and associations, representing a wide membership from electricity consumers, developers, Aboriginal communities, generators and distributors, to complete a FIT pricing questionnaire. Their responses will form an important part of the price review and will help the OPA, together with the Ministry of Energy, develop the price schedules.

The list of organizations and associations that have been invited to provide feedback is set out below. We encourage all interested parties to work through their association to provide input. **If your interests are not captured by any of the organizations listed, please contact the OPA at FIT@powerauthority.on.ca.** The deadline for responses is **Friday, September 19, 2014**.

[Click here for information about current FIT prices.](#)

List of Stakeholders, Organizations and Associations

Generation Industry Groups

Association of Power Producers of Ontario
Biogas Association
Canadian Bioenergy Association
Canadian Solar Industries Association
Canadian Wind Energy Association
Ontario Waterpower Association

Ratepayer Groups

Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario
Consumers Council of Canada
Energy Probe
Low Income Energy Network
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

First Nation and Métis Community Organizations

Chiefs of Ontario
Métis Nation of Ontario

Community

Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Community Power Fund
Federation of Community Power Co-operatives
Ontario Federation of Agriculture
Ontario Sustainable Energy Association

Other Industry Associations /Organizations

Ontario Energy Association
Ontario Energy Board
Ontario Financing Authority/OEFC
Electricity Distributors Association

Changes relating to domestic content requirements for microFIT

On July 25, 2014, the Minister of Energy directed the OPA to not include any domestic content requirements in any FIT or microFIT contracts offered or signed by the OPA after the date of the direction.

Mon, 08/25/2014

To comply, microFIT contracts offered after July 25, 2014, will not contain any domestic content requirements. This applies to all new microFIT applications as well as existing microFIT applications for which contracts were or will be issued after July 25, 2014, regardless of the version of the microFIT Rules in place at the time the microFIT application was submitted.

MicroFIT contracts offered on or prior to July 25, 2014, do contain domestic content requirements, and these contract holders are still obligated to meet the terms of their contracts.

Please view the [direction](#) and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information relating to this change and how it may affect your microFIT application or microFIT contract.

Version 3.1 Rules and Contract

On July 4, 2014, the OPA made a minor update to the microFIT program rules and contract. Version 3.1 rules and contract will allow the OPA to disclose certain information, if necessary, including the details of the facility and location of the facility to other government ministries, agencies, institutions or organizations, for the purposes of promoting public health and safety and allowing emergency services personnel, as well as other public officials, to plan and respond properly in the event of an emergency.

Fri, 07/04/2014

No additional changes have been made from the version 3.0 rules and contract.

Applicants will be able to submit version 3.1 applications on Monday July 7, 2014.

As a reminder, applicants are subject to the rules in effect at the time they are issued an Application Approval Notice.

Please view the [version 3.1 rules](#) and review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) related to this change.



Program update

The OPA is resuming normal operations for the microFIT Program. This includes processing new applications, issuing Application Approval Notices and updating the status of applications as appropriate. Please allow a few weeks for a status update to be issued as the microFIT team works through the volume of applications received during the writ period.

Thu, 06/19/2014

2014 microFIT Procurement Target is 65.3 MW

The total microFIT Procurement Target available for 2014 will be 65.3 MW.

Mon, 01/06/2014

This incorporates the 2013 unused capacity of 15.3 MW, which is added to the 2014 procurement target of 50 MW. The OPA procured 14.7 MW of the 30-MW microFIT procurement target that was in place from August 28, 2013 to the end of 2013.

Information on progress made toward the procurement target and remaining megawatts available can be found in the [microFIT bi-weekly reports](#).

The January 1, 2014 [price schedule](#) is now in effect. Applicants to the microFIT Program are reminded that their contract price will be based on the price schedule in effect at the time their Application Approval Notice is issued.

Please ensure that you regularly monitor your My microFIT Home Page for updates to your application status.