

# Memorandum

To: Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
From: Chuck Farmer, Director, Stakeholder & Public Affairs  
Date: February 21, 2018

**Subject: IESO Business Update – Stakeholder & Community Engagement**

This memorandum provides an update on recent IESO engagement initiatives, including updates on regional and community engagement, Indigenous Relations, active stakeholder engagement initiatives including the Smart Metering Entity's: Third Party Access Implementation Plan as well as an update on the IESO Technical Panel business.

Updates on active stakeholder engagement initiatives can be found in the monthly [Engagement Update](#) or on the [Active Engagements webpage](#).

## Regional and Community Engagement

The IESO met with communities across the province towards the end of 2017 to discuss local electricity matters through a number of outlets including the IESO-hosted Regional Electricity Forums as well as Local Advisory Committee (LAC) meetings, and has continued this into 2018.

- Regional Electricity Forums:
  - The IESO hosted five Regional Electricity Forums in fall 2017 in Northwest Ontario (Thunder Bay), Northeast Ontario (Sudbury) and Eastern Ontario (Ottawa), Southwest Ontario (London), and the GTA and Central Ontario Region (Vaughan). Forums were well-attended, showing an average attendance of approximately 100 participants at each. Feedback provided after the forums was generally positive, with participants expressing an appreciation for hearing more about local issues from local voices, learning more about sector updates as well as energy policy updates. It has been expressed in all regions that communities would like the forums to be held on a regular basis.
  - The IESO is currently in planning stages for the next series of regional forums; proposed to begin in the fall of 2018. Opportunities to strengthen the value of the

forums include providing more time for interactive discussions and broadening the representation of both the speakers and participants.

- Local Advisory Committee (LAC) meetings - Three LAC meetings were held in Q4 2017: Barrie/Innisfil, York Region and Toronto.
  - The Barrie/Innisfil LAC continues to work on the implementation of the regional plan released in 2016, with discussions on distributed generation; to help prepare the focus for the next regional planning cycle. The next LAC meeting is planned for Q4 which is expected to coincide with the anticipated progression of the Local Achievable Potential Study in that area.
  - The York Region LAC continues to talk about options for distributed generation to potentially meet the longer-term need for Vaughan and Northern York Region. The area is also commencing a new regional planning cycle, and the next LAC meeting is expected to be in Q2 2018 to discuss the outcomes of the Needs Assessment.
  - The Toronto LAC continues to explore the concept of non-wires solutions with the next meeting planned for March/April 2018 to discuss the demand forecasts for the area.
- Upcoming engagement initiatives for Q1 2018 include community energy planning alignment workshops in partnership with Quality Urban Energy Systems of Tomorrow (QUEST); one has already been held in York Region and two additional sessions are being planned for Kitchener/Waterloo, and Ottawa. The purpose of the workshops is to explore opportunities for key linkages between the community energy planning and regional planning processes, and to engage with municipalities about the next cycle of the Integrated Regional Resource Plans (IRRP) that is getting underway. Other near-term activities will include engaging with municipalities in the Hamilton, Toronto and Windsor-Essex regions to support regional planning activities that have now commenced in these regions.

## **Indigenous Relations**

### Regional First Nation Sessions

In recognition of the unique energy challenges and opportunities within First Nation communities, the IESO met with First Nation communities following each Regional Electricity Forum. This provided an opportunity to speak about the IESO Implementation plan and to have a more tailored discussion on the needs of First Nations, with focused discussions on conservation programming for on reserve First Nations and IESO support programs. Four sessions were held across the province with representation from approximately 50 communities and organizations. These sessions were well received and planning is underway to hold similar sessions in the Fall of 2018 with an anticipated focus on the planning initiatives outlined in the LTEP direction.

### Metis Energy Session

The IESO is currently planning a similar full day engagement session with the Métis Nation of Ontario and member councils to build energy awareness and capacity amongst their members. The day will also include focused facilitated discussions on how the IESO can support Metis citizens through conservation and Energy Support Programs.

### Aboriginal Energy Working Group

The Aboriginal Energy Working Group (AEWG) met in December to discuss the various items in the LTEP directive and the IESO's Implementation plan. The group discussed the feedback heard at various Regional engagement sessions and gathered further input into conservation and support program funding for communities. Additionally, the AEWG provided valuable perspectives on the role and requirements of Indigenous communities among potential Transmission Procurement processes.

### **Smart Metering Entity: Third Party Access Implementation Plan**

The SME continues with the implementation of Third Party Access to the data within the Province's Meter Data Management/Repository (MDM/R), in a de-identified manner, as per OEB Orders (EB-2015-0297 and EB-2016-0284).

Six test cases were submitted for review by members of the Data Strategy Advisory Council (DSAC), including 2 from the IESO's Planning and Operations group. These test cases were reviewed by the privacy consultant, Privacy Analytics, for the risk of re-identification (RRD) and the proposed recommendations received in January indicates that the consumption data must be aggregated to a minimum of five premises to ensure that the risk of re-identification is sufficiently low. The SME is currently working on aggregating the data extracts for delivery. The Data Strategy Advisory Council met in January to discuss the results of the test cases and identified potential areas to explore additional value propositions from the data. The group also provided input on the development of a data sharing agreement and potential costing models.

Materials for this initiative are available on the following webpages:

- [Data Strategy Advisory Council](#)
- [SME: Third Party Access Implementation plan engagement webpage](#)

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on December 22 for consulting services to assist in the development of a Market Analysis & Costing Model for electricity consumption data. MNP was the successful candidate and they are currently performing the market research and preparing the options for the pricing of the consumption data.

### **Technical Panel**

The Technical Panel (TP) proposes and review amendments to the Market Rules, and as requested, advised the IESO Board of Directors on specific technical issues relating to the operation of the IESO-administered market. Members of the TP are representative of stakeholders in Ontario's electricity sector. A current list of membership can be found on the [Technical Panel Membership webpage](#).

Panel member Martin Longlade (formerly representing Industrial Consumers) completed his membership term at the end of 2017. Completing more than six years on the Panel, Mr. Longlade brought perspectives from this sector to many market rule changes. The IESO Board

acknowledges and appreciates his efforts. Phil Lasek (Shell Canada) has recently been appointed to represent the Market Participant Consumer sector on the Panel.

At their January 23 meeting, the Panel discussed and determined that the following two proposed market rule amendments were ready to post for broader stakeholder comment:

- Regulated Settlement - Deletion of Rural and Remote/Debt Retirement Charge
- Enabling System Flexibility - Thirty-Minute Operating Reserve

The IESO will consider the comments received on these two proposed amendments and will consult with the Panel at the March 6 meeting whether the amendments are ready for the IESO Board's consideration.

Also expected at the March 6 meeting are proposed amendments relating to Station Service Obligations along with other items.

For more information or to review the materials from the January 23 meeting, visit the Technical Panel [webpage](#).