

Stakeholder Feedback and IESO Response On Draft Terms of Reference for the new IESO Stakeholder Advisory Committee

The IESO sought feedback from former members of the IESO and OPA Stakeholder Advisory Committees (SAC) and the broader stakeholder community to help develop a terms of reference for a new Stakeholder Advisory Committee that meets the mandate of the new, merged IESO.

A draft Terms of Reference was posted for stakeholder comment that took aspects from the former OPA and IESO Committees as well as early comments from SAC members on their perspectives of an effective framework for the new SAC (see February 3, 2015 at www.ieso.ca/sac).

The IESO appreciates the comments received on the draft Terms of Reference and offers this paper which summarizes the feedback received in each of the sections of the document and how the IESO considered that feedback to shape the final Terms of Reference – available on the IESO website at: www.ieso.ca/sac.

Section 2: Purpose of the Committee

Feedback	IESO Response
The purpose of SAC be broad enough to include emerging policy issues, but also ensure that the committee be the forum to provide policy-level advice on activities relating to all parts of the IESO's mandate	Section 2.1 incorporates this feedback to include advice in accordance with the mandate of the merged IESO but not limited to that scope.
IESO commitment to demonstrate a review and/or response to feedback	Section 2.1 incorporates this feedback by including an expectation that the IESO will review and respond to the feedback provided by the Committee.
Ensure SAC discussions stay at a high level – help set up stakeholder engagement initiatives to talk about the details	The IESO will continue to provide updates on stakeholder engagement initiatives to the Committee. This feedback will be considered in a review to ensure the IESO stakeholder engagement principles and processes are aligned with the mandate of the merged IESO.
Members to have the ability to represent views on electricity matters outside of their sector	Section 2.1 has been changed to state that members provide advice “both broadly on behalf of the

representation	electricity sector and their constituency”.
SAC has an opportunity to model governance and institutional oversight in transparency and project decisions; Is there a role for SAC to question/dispute policy matters	The SAC’s primary role will be to continue to provide advice to the IESO Board and Leadership Team. At this time it is not being considered as an oversight body.

Section 3: Composition of the Committee

Feedback	IESO Response
There is a need for flexibility in membership in the terms of reference; keeping the numbers flexible within each of the sectors is appropriate recognizing that electricity sector needs/priorities will change	Section 3.1 reflects flexibility for future membership within each constituency
Consideration should be given to identifying a minimum number and a maximum number on the committee; a differences of views suggested that a 16-member committee seemed to be a fair compromise with respect to total number	Section 3.1 reflects the membership consisting of a range between 12 to 18 members.
Maintain an electricity trader position – this is an area that has potential to grow for Ontario and is one of the only true market players	This position is represented in the Related Businesses/Services sector and is currently recognized as a sector that meets the needs/priorities in Ontario’s overall electricity sector
Important to maintain a combination of gas and electric energy on SAC given the focussed discussions on CHP, DG, etc.	This position is represented in the Related Businesses/Services sector and is currently recognized as a sector that meets the needs/priorities in Ontario’s overall electricity sector
SAC membership needs to contain a transmitter representative that can speak specifically to the impact of issues on the transmission grid and electricity operations	The IESO agrees that the views from this sector provide specific contributions to the discussions for the overall function of the electricity system. This position is represented in the Distributors and Transmitters sector with specific mention to maintain a transmitter representative.
Worth noting that member status would be impacted by employment or affiliation changes	Section 3.4.2 updated to reflect this.
SAC is not a voting / decision making body so the emphasis should be on having quality people with	Voting and polling has been removed from these Terms of Reference.

meaningful engagement in the sector represented to provide strong input	
A two-year term is consistent in other committees	The Terms of Reference (subsection 3.5) have been amended to reflect appointments for a two-year term and may serve up to six consecutive years.
Ensure that on first appointment that terms are staggered within each of the sectors	Following the first two-year term of the new SAC, the IESO will look at reappointments for one-third of the membership with the same approach taken for the original appointments for an additional two terms until all first appointments have been up for nomination.

Section 5: Organization and Administration of Meetings

Feedback	IESO Response
The SAC should play more of a role in influencing the development of the meeting agendas	Section 5.1.3 states that agenda call meetings will be scheduled to set the agenda for each meeting
SAC members noted the importance they place on SAC-Board interaction; the purpose of the Board interaction was also discussed and supported the Board as observers at public meetings with the ability to interact at in-camera meetings (more than once per year) and having the Chair of SAC report on SAC discussions at the Board meeting	Interaction between the SAC and the IESO Board is outlined in Section 5.4 and reflects these comments.
SAC is a forum to bring emerging issues from its members and from outside jurisdictions (speakers), that collectively can be identified and prioritized	Section 5.1.5 supports this feedback.
Suggestion to distribute meeting agendas at least 3 weeks in advance of the meeting with materials published at least 1 week in advance of the meeting. This will enable other stakeholders who need to travel to be able to review agendas well in advance of the meetings.	The Terms of Reference state that the IESO shall endeavour to have meeting materials available at least two weeks in advance of meeting. In cases where the agenda is finalized in advance of other meetings materials, the IESO will endeavour to make this available to the broader stakeholder community.

Section 6: Finalization of Meeting Summary

Feedback	IESO Response
Production of detailed minutes not required – a meeting summary best suits what is needed	Terms of Reference have been amended to reflect meeting summaries with the intent to capture the essence of discussions at the meeting rather than verbatim minutes. A draft of the meeting summaries will continue to be reviewed for accuracy by the Committee in advance of posting.

Section 7: Committee Working Groups

Feedback	IESO Response
If working groups are to be established a process that defines the reporting in and out of SAC is needed	The Terms of Reference provide the ability for the Committee to establish a working group comprised of its members to discuss specific matters. The Terms also express the need for regular progress reports to the Committee.

Section 8: Remuneration of Members of the Committee

Feedback	IESO Response
Terms of reference should note that members do not need to accept remuneration (e.g. corporate policies against accepting remuneration)	This has been reflected in the Terms of Reference – see section 8.1.1.