

IESO Engagement Update

April 17, 2025

This engagement update provides a snapshot of all active IESO engagement activities. It also helps support a greater understanding of linkages between engagements, and a foundation for more comprehensive and integrated updates. For the most up-to-date information, visit the individual engagement links or the [Engagement Initiatives](#) web page



Forecasting and Planning

Engagements to support provincial and regional electricity planning over the next 20 years.

Active Engagements	Current Status	Next Steps
<p>Bulk Planning – Northern Ontario Bulk Study This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Northern Ontario Bulk Study initiative. <i>Engagement Lead: Andreea Nicoara</i> <i>Community Engagement Leads: Nadia Mirabelli</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a Northern Ontario Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions, as well as input gathered during direct one-on-one meetings with participants, will be posted on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final report will be posted in 2025.
<p>Bulk Planning – South and Central Ontario Bulk Study This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the South and Central Ontario Bulk Study initiative. <i>Engagement Lead: Andreea Nicoara</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a South and Central Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions, as well as input gathered during direct one-on-one meetings with participants, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on this active bulk plan continues in 2025.

<p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<p>will be posted on the engagement webpage.</p>	
<p><u>Bulk Planning – Eastern Ontario Bulk Study</u> This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Eastern Ontario Bulk Study initiative. <i>Engagement Lead:</i> Andreea Nicoara <i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Nadia Mirabelli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of an Eastern Ontario Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions, as well as input gathered during direct one-on-one meetings with participants, will be posted on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on this active bulk plan will continue in 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Burlington to Nanticoke</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jessica Singh <i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This engagement is complete. The IESO response to feedback and final IRRP report was posted on November 28 and shared via email with participants subscribed to receive updates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on the Hamilton Addendum will take place in 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Ottawa Area Sub-Region</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jessica Singh <i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Nadia Mirabelli</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO’s response to feedback, for feedback received on the needs and potential wire options, was posted on April 8. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public engagement webinar will be hosted in Q2 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph (KWCG)</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead:</i> Brooke Crewson <i>Indigenous Relations Lead:</i> Keir Johnston</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO’s response to feedback, for feedback received on the draft electricity demand forecast scenarios, was posted on April 8. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for this region until Q4 2025.

<p><u>Regional Planning – Toronto</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on December 5 to share the draft regional electricity needs that have been identified based on the forecast scenarios and to seek feedback. • The recording is available for all interested parties to view. Feedback was accepted until January 3. All feedback received has been posted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IESO response to Feedback will be posted in Q2 2025. • Engagement for the Toronto area IRRP will continue throughout 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA North (York Region)</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Chiara Cozzi</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Nadia Mirabelli</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on November 26 to share the draft forecast scenarios and to seek feedback. • The recording is available for all interested parties to view. • Feedback was accepted until December 17. All feedback received has been posted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO’s response to feedback will be shared. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA East</u> Regional electricity planning is underway this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnst</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and narrated Scoping video recording was posted online April 1. • Feedback was due by April 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final scoping assessment outcome report and IESO’s response to feedback will be posted at the end of April. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – GTA West</u> Regional electricity planning is underway this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnst</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO’s response to feedback and the final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on November 28. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement will continue in 2025 with a public webinar to share the draft forecast in Q2.
<p><u>Regional Planning – East Lake Supe</u> Regional electricity planning is underway this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh</i> <i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO’s response to feedback and the final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on January 9, 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.

<p><u>Regional Planning – Peterborough & Kingston</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway this region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Brooke Crewson</i></p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and narrated Scoping video recording was posted online April 1. • Feedback was due by April 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final scoping assessment outcome report and IESO’s response to feedback will be posted at the end of April. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
<p><u>Regional Planning – London Area</u></p> <p>Regional electricity planning is underway this region.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Chiara Cozzi</i></p> <p><i>Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and narrated Scoping video recording was posted online April 1. • Feedback was due by April 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final scoping assessment outcome report and IESO’s response to feedback will be posted at the end of April. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.

Resource Acquisition

Engagements to ensure we have the tools and processes to acquire the resources we need to maintain a reliable and efficient system.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Capacity Auction Enhancements</u></p> <p>The annual Capacity Auction is one of the procurement mechanisms included in the IESO’s Resource Adequacy Framework and serves as the short-term balancing mechanism in the framework, securing the capacity required to meet Ontario’s short-term resource adequacy needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Demand Side Vision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public engagement session was held on April 8, 2025, which provided an update on the 2025 Enhancements, the proposed market rule and manuals and stakeholder feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from stakeholders is due on April 22, 2025

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Transmitter Selection Framework</u> The IESO is developing a Transmitter Selection Framework (TSF) to align with the Powering Ontario’s Growth report’s actions and plans, with a progress report due to the Minister by Summer 2024. <i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i> <i>Community Engagement Leads: Nadia Mirabelli and Andreea Nicoara</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder Feedback from Jan 22 session was posted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An engagement session to share the feedback from Jan 22 session and to present draft registry program rules will be held on April 22.
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Roadmap</u> The IESO is seeking feedback on the development of a roadmap to set out approaches and expected timing for enhancing DER participation in the IESO-administered markets for the products/services they are technically capable of providing. <i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i> <i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint Study of DER Incentives DER Market Vision & Design Project DER Potential Study Enabling Resources Program Hybrid Integration Project IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A joint meeting with the Ontario Energy Board was held on November 27, 2023 on the DER Integration Framework for Energy Innovation where updates were provided on cross-cutting issues and the work of the two organizations as it relates to DERs, including on the Joint DER Incentives Study. The meeting also included a panel on the 2021 Grid Innovation Fund and Innovation Sandbox Projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO and OEB are preparing to publish the DER Incentives Study in Q2 2025.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p data-bbox="201 277 586 306"><u>Enabling Resources Program</u></p> <p data-bbox="201 315 683 743">The revised Enabling Resources Program (ERP) is an integrated set of projects that will enable emerging resources to provide required system services and contribute to the safe and reliable operation of the bulk power system in Ontario. The first ERP project will incorporate electricity storage, and hybrid generation-storage pairings into the IESO-administered markets, tools, and processes.</p> <p data-bbox="201 793 634 823"><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p data-bbox="201 831 472 861"><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul data-bbox="201 869 683 928" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="201 869 683 928">• ERP - Storage and Hybrid Integration Project 	<ul data-bbox="764 285 1130 789" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="764 285 1130 512">• ERP is comprised of two projects which will be engaged on separately to provide the appropriate level of focus and technical discussion for each design. <li data-bbox="764 520 1130 667">• Feedback from November 20, 2024, session was posted on the ERP Storage Project page. <li data-bbox="764 676 1130 789">• An IESO Response to Feedback has been posted. 	<ul data-bbox="1159 285 1524 512" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1159 285 1524 512">• The next ERP engagement session will focus on the Storage and Co-located Hybrid Integration project and will take place within next few months.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Long-Term RFPs</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders and communities on the development of a series of Long-Term RFPs that will seek resources to address global needs. Engagements targeted to communities and the broader public are underway.</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads: Trisha Hickson</i> <i>Community Engagement Leads: Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Hybrid Integration Project • Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation 	<p>Stakeholder Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback received following the December 12 engagement session is posted on the LT2 webpage. <p>Community Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on July 30th, 2024, for Indigenous Communities and municipalities to share key updates and understand feedback. IESO Responses to Feedback was posted on November 14th, 2024. • A webinar was scheduled on November 13th, 2024, for Indigenous Communities and municipalities to share key updates and understand feedback. Written feedback was accepted until December 6, 2024. 	<p>Stakeholder Engagement:</p> <p>A public engagement session is scheduled for April 24th to discuss next steps ahead of final document posting.</p> <p>Community Engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the November session will be posted on the website when available. • The IESO is scheduled to host a collaborated Municipal/Indigenous Community engagement session in the coming month. • The IESO remains committed to engaging with Indigenous communities early in its procurement design and planning processes. These opportunities will include formal outreach, targeted webinars and individual meetings, as needed.
<p><u>Medium-Term RFP</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on the development of a second Medium-Term RFP (MT2) aimed at re-committing resources with contracts expiring between 2026-2029 to secure Ontario's future energy needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-Term RFP • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A second engagement session on Q&A to address outstanding technical questions related to MT2 RFP documents was held on November 7. • Following the engagement session, four feedback submissions were received. IESO response to feedback was posted on December 12. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final MT2 RFP documents were posted to the Medium-Term 2 RFP webpage.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is requesting information from existing resource owners whose contracts expire within the next ten years, as well as developers interested in future projects.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p> <p>Medium-Term RFP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An information session was held during September engagement days to explain how the IESO will gather insights to help inform future energy supply procurements in Ontario. • RFI closed on November 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of RFI findings was posted on the engagement webpage.
<p><u>Long Lead-Time Resource Procurement</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging on the proposed Long Lead-Time Resources procurement. This procurement is part of the IESO’s broader Resource Adequacy Framework – an enduring approach to identifying the type of acquisition activity to use to resolve system needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO is hosting an engagement session on April 23 to discuss considerations related to the design of a LLT resource procurement
<p><u>Local Generation Program</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on a proposal to establish a program that will enable re-contracting of existing resources, and consider opportunities for expansions and new build facilities</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A public engagement session is scheduled for April 23, during which the IESO will provide information and gather feedback on the high-level design of the program.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p>Electricity Demand Side Management (eDSM) Framework</p> <p>The IESO is engaging on the new 12-year electricity Demand Side Management Framework, the first 3-year plan and future program opportunities</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun and Maia Chase</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements</i></p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A public engagement session is scheduled for April 24, to introduce the new framework and 3-year plan with opportunity for feedback on the plan and future programs.

Operations

Engagements to ensure that Ontario’s electricity resources are operating reliably within the IESO-administered market, while also undertaking continuous market improvements.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p>Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation</p> <p>The Implementation phase of the Market Renewal Program will begin by codifying the design into the Market Rules and Market Manuals, and then proceed onto creating tools, testing, training, and readiness for bringing the renewed market to life.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Cynthia Sidalak</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Adequacy Enabling Resources DER Market Vision & Design Project <p>Hybrid Integration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO is hosting webinars this month to provide an overview of what will be different after the launch of the renewed market. The last webinar was held on Intertie Traders and Transmission Rights Auction on April 10. The IESO conducted a cutover test from March 31 to April 2, 2025 with Market Participants to verify that both internal and external participants can follow and execute the cutover sequence of activities in the prescribed time as outlined in Table 3-1 of the MRP Readiness Plan for the Market Renewal Launch, in preparation for the transition 	<p>The IESO announced that it is on track to launch the renewed market on May 1, 2025.</p> <p>Stakeholders are encouraged to contact IESOCustomerRelations@ieso.ca with any questions.</p>

	<p>from IESO’s legacy systems to the new and updated systems.</p> <p>The IESO hosted a wrap-up meeting on Friday April 11 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. to provide key takeaways from the test and a second walkthrough of launch activities to prepare for the Production cutover.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO hosted an Overview of the Renewed Market Launch webinar on April 16. This webinar focused on final preparations for the launch of the renewed market and provided market participants and service providers with key information and reminders, including what to expect during the cutover period, and an opportunity to ask questions ahead of the launch. 	
--	--	--

IESO Market Rule Amendments, Chapter 3, Confidentiality, Dispute Resolution and Enforcement

The Market Assessment and Compliance Division (MACD) of the IESO is proposing amendments to Chapter 3 of the Market Rules. The purpose of these proposed changes is to modernize and clarify rules related to some of MACD’s enforcement processes, including confidentiality and how it handles disputes under the IESO Dispute Resolution Process.

Engagement Lead: **Trisha Hickson**

- A webinar was held in February 2024 to discuss the proposed market rule amendments and feedback received from the November 2023 session.
- Feedback following the February 6 engagement webinar is available on the engagement webpage.
- MACD is continuing to undertake stakeholder engagement and outreach to seek further feedback.

Interchange Schedule Code, MrNH

The IESO is hosting a session to inform stakeholders of an upcoming change to the interchange schedule code, MrNH (MISO Ramp/New York Hour-Ahead Market) which relates to managing intertie transactions between Ontario and the corresponding jurisdictions.

Engagement Lead: Maia Chase

- A session was held on May 22 that provided stakeholders with an understanding of the interchange schedule code MrNH, identified issues, modification to the code, and the implementation timeline.
- Feedback from the session has been posted on the engagement webpage.
- The proposed Market Manual changes are included in the Baseline 53 for comment.

Updates to Market Manual 1.4 Connection Assessment and Approval

The IESO hosted an information session to present the revisions to Market Manual 1.4 and the applicable forms. The Manual was revised to provide clarity to several provisions and reorganized to provide greater structure

Engagement Lead: Maia Chase

- The final version of the Market Manual is posted on the website effective December 4, 2024
- A close out summary will be posted in Q3 2025.

Sector Evolution

Engagements that look to the future to see how innovation, innovative technologies and new collaborations can improve how we conduct our business.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Future Clean Electricity Fund</u> Proceeds from the sale of IESO-owned Clean Energy Credits on the Ontario’s Clean Energy Credit Registry will be directed to Ontario’s Future Clean Electricity Fund. The IESO has been tasked by the Ministry with developing insights and recommendations for a Future Clean Electricity Fund (FCEF). <i>Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun</i> <i>Community Engagement Leads: Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</i> <i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Energy Credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outreach meetings were held in October and November with municipalities to understand insights and recommendations to develop the Fund. The IESO recommendations report was submitted to the Ministry of Energy in December 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next steps are pending Ministry of Energy and Electrification’s review and decisions.
<p><u>Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot</u> The Minister of Energy asked the IESO to submit a report by September 15, 2023, outlining a plan for the Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot tailored specifically for hydrogen producers and developers in Ontario. <i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i> <i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interruptible Rate Pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO held meetings in July and August with hydrogen developer organizations that expressed interest in the pilot and solicited feedback on pilot design features that would support participation and leverage the flexibility of electrolyzer-based hydrogen production facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO provided an update that the submission of the plan for the hydrogen interruptible rate pilot to the Ministry of Energy and Electrification has been postponed until there is further clarity on the federal government’s Investment Tax Credit (ITC) related to clean hydrogen production. An updated timeline will be provided once further details on the ITC are available.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Innovation and Sector Evolution White Papers</u></p> <p>The IESO intends to develop and release a series of white papers to support the creation of a shared, fact-based understanding of emerging opportunities and trends.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This engagement remains on hold. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO is reviewing the next steps on this engagement.
<p><u>Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Energy has asked the IESO to investigate and propose program options to integrate low-carbon hydrogen technologies into Ontario’s electricity grid.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways to Decarbonization 	<p>The first group of successful applicants was announced in October 2023, and the second announced in November 2023.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This engagement has now concluded. • A final engagement summary report will be posted to the engagement webpage later this year.

Updates on the Strategic Advisory Committee, Technical Panel and Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC)</u></p> <p>The Committee is a forum for its members to be informed of IESO activities and to provide timely policy advice and feedback both broadly on behalf of the electricity sector and their constituency, directly to the IESO Board and Executive with respect to the IESO's mandate.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Claudia Dessanti</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next SAC public meeting will be scheduled for Q3 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Details and materials for the next SAC meeting will be posted in advance of the meeting.
<p><u>Technical Panel (TP)</u></p> <p>The Technical Panel's mandate is to review amendments to the Market Rules for Ontario's electricity market and provide recommendations to the IESO Board of Directors.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On October 15, the Technical Panel members discussed the implementation of the Market Power Mitigation Working Group. An in-camera session was held for TP members on December 17 A Technical Panel meeting was held on April 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The next Technical Panel meeting is scheduled for May 13.

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Transmission – Distribution Coordination Working Group</u></p> <p>The Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group (TDWG) works closely with LDCs and other stakeholders to inform the <u>DER Market Vision and Design Project</u>. This is a key focus area of IESO’s Distributed Energy Resources (DER) integration activities and is what much of the near-term <u>DER Roadmap</u> efforts build towards. The TDWG will provide a forum for in-depth engagement on Transmission - Distribution coordination.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>DER Market Vision & Design Project</u> • <u>DER Roadmap</u> • <u>IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project</u> • <u>Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from November 25 was due by December 23, 2024. No feedback was received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next TDWG meeting will be scheduled for Q2-2025.