IESO Engagement Update May 15, 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

<u>Bulk Planning – Northern Ontario</u> Bulk Study

This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Northern Ontario Bulk Study initiative.

Engagement Lead: Abby Dancey Community Engagement Leads:

Nadia Mirabelli

- Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a Northern Ontario Bulk Study.
- Feedback from these public sessions is posted on the engagement webpage.
- Final report will be posted in 2025.

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.

Engagement Lead: Abby

- Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a South and Central Bulk Study.
- Feedback from these public sessions is posted on the engagement webpage.
- A webinar will be hosted on May 29 to share updates about the study.
- Engagement on this active bulk plan continues in 2025.



Dancey Community Engagement

Leads: Keir Johnston

<u>Bulk Planning – Eastern Ontario</u> <u>Bulk Study</u>

This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Eastern Ontario Bulk Study initiative. *Engagement Lead:* **Abby**

Dancey Community Engagement

Leads: Nadia Mirabelli

- 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.
- A webinar will be hosted on May 29 to share updates about the study.
- Engagement on this active bulk plan will continue in 2025.

<u>Regional Planning – Burlington</u> to Nanticoke

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir

Johnston

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.

 Engagement on the Hamilton Addendum will take place in 2025.

<u>Regional Planning – Ottawa Area</u> <u>Sub-Region</u>

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh Indigenous Relations Lead: Nadia The IESO's response to feedback on the needs and potential wire options, was posted on April 8.

A public engagement webinar will be hosted in Q2 2025.

Mirabelli

Regional Planning – Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/ Guelph (KWCG)

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: Brooke Crewson

Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir

Johnston

- The IESO's response to feedback received on the draft electricity demand forecast scenarios, was posted on April 8.
- As regional planning is underway a webinar will be held on May 27, to present identified electrical infrastructure with priority needs and discuss potential options to address them.
 Written comments are welcome until June 17.
- As regional planning advances engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for this region until Q4 2025.

Regional Planning – Toronto Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnston •	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.	 IESO response to Feedback will be posted in Q2 2025. Engagement for the Toronto area IRRP will continue throughout 2025.
Regional Planning – GTA North (York Region) Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. Engagement Lead: Chiara Cozzi Indigenous Relations Lead: Nadia Mirabelli	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 and the IESO response to feedback has been posted on the engagement page.	Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
Regional Planning – GTA East Regional electricity planning is underway this region. Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnst	The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on April 25.	Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.
Regional Planning – GTA West Regional electricity planning is underway this region. Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnst	The IESO's response to feedback received and the final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted on November 28.	 Engagement will continue in 2025 with a public webinar to share the draft forecast on June 2.
Regional Planning – East Lake Supe Regional electricity planning is underway this region.	The IESO's response to feedback received and the final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report	 Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.

was posted on January 9, 2025.

Engagement Lead: Jessica Singh

Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir

Johnston

Regional	Planning -	- Peterborough t	•
Kingston			

Regional electricity planning is underway this region.

Engagement Lead: Brooke Crewson Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir

The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and IESO's response to feedback received was posted on April 28. Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.

Johnston

Regional Planning - London Area

Regional electricity planning is underway this region.

Engagement Lead: Chiara Cozzi
Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir Johnst

The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report and IESO's response to feedback received was posted on April 28. Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2025.

Regional Planning – North of Dryden Addendum

Regional electricity planning is underway in this sub-region.

Engagement Lead: Samantha Polito
Indigenous Relations Lead: Keir
Johnston

- The North of Dryden Addendum study is underway and will be published as an Addendum to the 2023 Northwest IRRP.
 - Public engagement was held on May 7th to share the demand forecasts, needs, and options screening
- Feedback will be accepted until May 21.

Resource Acquisition

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

Current Status

Next Steps

Capacity Auction Enhancements

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.

Engagement Lead: Maia Chase Related Engagements:

- Resource Adequacy
- Demand Side Vision

- 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.
- Feedback from stakeholders and the IESO response to feedback is posted.

Transmitter Selection Framework

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. Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun Community Engagement Leads: Nadia

Mirabelli and Andreea Nicoara

- An engagement session to share the feedback from Jan 22 session and to present draft registry program rules was held on April 22.
- Feedback was accepted until May 13.
- Feedback received for the April 22 will be posted shortly.

Current Status

Next Steps

<u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER)</u> <u>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.

Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac Related Engagements:

- <u>Joint Study of DER Incentives</u>
- DER Market Vision & Design Project
- DER Potential Study
- Enabling Resources Program
- <u>Hybrid Integration Project</u>
- <u>IESO York Region Non-Wires</u>
 <u>Alternatives Demonstration Project</u>
- Resource Adequacy

- 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.

The IESO and OEB are preparing to publish the DER Incentives Study in Q2 2025.

Enabling Resources Program

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.

Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac Related Engagements:

 ERP - Storage and Hybrid Integration Project

- 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.
- The two projects are Storage and Co-located Hybrid and Distributed Energy Resource Integration
- Feedback from the November 20, 2024, ERP kick-off session was posted on the ERP program page.
- An IESO Response to Feedback has also been posted.

The next ERP engagement session will focus on the Storage and Co-located Hybrid Integration project and will take place in Q3-2025.

Long-Term RFPs

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. Engagement Leads: **Trisha Hickson** Community Engagement Leads: **Sonia**

Fazari and Andreea Nicoara

Related Engagements:

- Resource Adequacy
- <u>Hybrid Integration Project</u>
- Market Renewal Program (MRP)
 Implementation

Current Status

Stakeholder Engagement:

- A webinar was held on Aril 24th to review the updates to the contracts and RFP.
- Feedback is requested by May
 9, and all feedback will be
 posted on the LT RFP
 webpage.

Community Engagement:

- 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 14*th*, 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.

Next Steps

Stakeholder Engagement:

An engagement webinar is scheduled for May 21 to discuss updates to the RFP and Contracts and provide further information on next steps ahead of the submission window.

Community Engagement:

- 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 June.
- 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.

Current Status

Next Steps

Medium-Term RFP

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.

Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun Related Engagements:

Long-Term RFP
Resource Adequacy

- 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.
- The IESO has now concluded the evaluation of Proposals for the MT2 RFP.
- Additional information is provided in the <u>Results</u> <u>Table.</u>

Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework

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.

Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun Related Engagements:

Long-Term RFP
Resource Adequacy
Medium-Term RFP

- 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.
- A summary of RFI findings was posted on the engagement webpage on April 16.

Long Lead-Time Resource Procurement

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.

Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson

Community Engagement Leads:

Andreea Nicoara

- The IESO hosted an engagement session on April 23 to discuss considerations related to the design of a LLT resource procurement
- Feedback was accepted until May 9.
- Response to feedback will be posted in June.
- Next public Engagement session is scheduled for June 5.

Current Status

Next Steps

Local Generation Program

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

Engagement Lead: Maia Chase

Related Engagements:

Long-Term RFP

Request for Information – Resource

Adequacy Framework

 A public engagement session was held on April 23, which provided information on the program and to gather feedback on the high-level design of the program.

 Feedback was accepted until May 9. be posted in June.

Response to feedback will

Community Engagement:

 A webinar will be hosted on May 27 to introduce the long lead-time resource procurement and answer questions from Indigenous communities and municipalities.

<u>Electricity Demand Side</u> <u>Management (eDSM) Framework</u>

The IESO is engaging on the new 12year electricity Demand Side Management Framework, the first 3-year plan and future program opportunities

Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun and Maia Chase

Related Engagements

Resource Adequacy

- A public engagement session was held on April 24 to introduce the new framework and 3-year plan with opportunity for feedback on the plan and future programs.
- Feedback was accepted until May 8.
- Response to feedback will be posted by the end of May.

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
Market Renewal Program (MRP)	The transition to Ontario's	If Market Participants have
<u>Implementation</u>	renewed wholesale electricity	any questions relating to the
The Implementation phase of the	market was successfully	renewed market, Market
Market Renewal Program will begin	completed on May 2, 2025.	Participants can contact
by codifying the design into the		IESO's Customer Response at
Market Rules and Market Manuals,		customer.relations@ieso.ca.
and then proceed onto creating		
tools, testing, training, and readiness		

for bringing the renewed market to life.

Engagement Lead: Cynthia Sidalak Related Engagements:

- Resource Adequacy
- Enabling Resources
- <u>DER Market Vision & Design</u>
 <u>Project</u>

Hybrid Integration

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.

<u>Interchange Schedule Code,</u> 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.

Sector Evolution

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

Current Status

Next Steps

Future Clean Electricity Fund

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). **Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun** Community Engagement Leads: Sonia

held in October and November with municipalities to understand insights and recommendations to develop the Fund.

Outreach meetings were

- The IESO recommendations report was submitted to the Ministry of Energy in December 2023.
- Next steps are pending Ministry of Energy and Electrification's review and decisions.

Fazari and Andreea Nicoara

Related Engagements:

Clean Energy Credits

Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot

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.

Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun Related Engagements:

Interruptible Rate Pilot

- The IESO held meetings in July and August 2023 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.
- 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.

<u>Innovation and Sector Evolution</u> <u>White Papers</u>

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.

Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac

Related Engagements:

- DER Potential Study
- DER Roadmap
- <u>IESO York Region Non-Wires</u>
 Alternatives Demonstration Project

- This engagement remains on hold.
- The IESO is reviewing the next steps on this engagement.

Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy

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.

Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac Related Engagements:

• Pathways to Decarbonization

The first group of successful applicants was announced in October 2023, and the second announced in November 2023.

This engagement is now concluded.

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

Group Current Status Next Steps

<u>Strategic Advisory Committee</u> (SAC)

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.

mandate.

Engagement Lead: Claudia

Dessanti

The next SAC public meeting will be scheduled for Q3 2025.

 Details and materials for the next SAC meeting will be posted in advance of the meeting.

Technical Panel (TP)

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.

Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson

- A Technical Panel meeting was held on May 13 to discuss administrative items and updates on Capacity Auction Enhancements.
- The next Technical Panel meeting is scheduled for June 10.

Group Current Status Next Steps

<u>Transmission – Distribution</u> <u>Coordination Working Group</u>

The Transmission-Distribution
Coordination Working Group
(TDWG) works closely with LDCs
and other stakeholders to inform the
DER Market Vision and Design
Project. This is a key focus area of
IESO's Distributed Energy Resources
(DER) integration activities and is
what much of the near-term DER
Roadmap efforts build towards. The
TDWG will provide a forum for indepth engagement on Transmission
- Distribution coordination.

Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun Related Engagements:

- <u>DER Market Vision & Design</u>
 <u>Project</u>
- DER Roadmap
- IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project
- <u>Innovation and Sector Evolution</u>
 <u>White Paper Series</u>

- Feedback from November 25 was due by December 23, 2024. No feedback was received.
- The next and final TDWG meeting is scheduled for May 27.