

IESO Engagement Update – March 20, 2023

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 recent information, visit the individual engagement links or the [Engagement Initiatives](#) webpage.



Forecasting and Planning

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

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p>Annual Acquisition Report The Annual Acquisition Report (AAR) translates planning and operational information into a series of procurement and market activities using the Resource Adequacy Framework. <i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on February 23 to provide an overview of key topic areas of the 2023 AAR and to seek input on the future participation of existing resources • Thirteen submissions were received following the webinar and have been posted to the engagement webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO expects to post a response to feedback in April • The need for an additional engagement session will be determined
<p>Regional Planning – Burlington to Nanticoke Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Rouselle Gratela</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final Burlington to Nanticoke Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in December recommending the development of Integrated Regional Resource Plans (IRRPs) for the Hamilton, Brant and Caledonia-Norfolk sub-regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement has begun on the development of the IRRPs and individual updates will be provided separately for each sub-region in future updates

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<p><u>Regional Planning – North & East of Sudbury</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Rouselle Gratela</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A final webinar was held on March 15 to provide an overview of, and seek input on, the draft recommendations for the electricity plan for the North & East of Sudbury Region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on the draft IRRP recommendations is due by April 5 The final IRRP will be released, along with responses to feedback, on April 13
<p><u>Regional Planning – Ottawa Area Sub-Region</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Sari Gerwitz</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in March along with the IESO’s response to feedback from the February webinar The report concludes that an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) be undertaken for the Ottawa Area sub-region, and that no further coordinated regional planning is required for the Outer Ottawa East and West Sub-regions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on the development of the Ottawa Area sub-region IRRP will begin in Q2, 2023
<p><u>Regional Planning – Toronto</u> Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. <i>Engagement Lead: Sari Gerwitz</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in March, along with the IESO’s response to feedback from the February webinar The report concludes that an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) be undertaken for the Toronto region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on the development of the Toronto Region IRRP will begin in Q2, 2023
<p><u>Transmission Losses</u> This engagement will review IESO and Hydro One's practices on how transmission losses are considered in planning and operation of the system, a comparison of these practices to those used in other jurisdictions, and seek stakeholder feedback on potential improvements to these practices. <i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO posted a draft transmission losses guideline document in July 2021 for stakeholder review and feedback Two feedback submissions were received and the IESO is developing a response to feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An IESO response to feedback document will be posted in Q1/Q2, 2023 Changes will be made to the guideline document and the IESO will post the final version upon closing the engagement

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: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resource Adequacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An engagement session was held on February 22, to discuss Stream 2 of the 2023 design enhancements• One feedback submission was received following the webinar and has been posted to the engagement webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A webinar will be held on March 30, to discuss draft market rule and manual amendments for the completed design enhancements included in Stream 1
<p><u>Development of an IESO Competitive Transmission Procurement Process</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback to aid in the development of a competitive transmission procurement process.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: TBD</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This engagement was put on hold and the IESO is currently determining the next steps associated with this initiative	
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Market Vision and Design Project</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback from stakeholders on how to cost-effectively enhance the value DERs can provide to Ontario's electricity system by expanding participation in the wholesale markets.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DER Potential Study• DER Roadmap• Enabling Resources Program• Hybrid Integration Project• Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series• Resource Adequacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On December 29, the IESO published recommendations for enhanced DER models• A webinar was held on January 25 to review the results of the enhanced model study and recommendations from the Distributed Energy Resources Market Vision and Design Project report• Two feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An IESO response to feedback document following the January meeting will be posted• The IESO is aiming to finalize the Foundational and Enhanced Model proposals in Q2, 2023

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Potential Study</u></p> <p>To help inform our path forward in enabling DERs, the IESO has commissioned a DER Potential Study. The primary objectives of the study are to determine the types and volumes of DERs that exist and can be expected to emerge in Ontario over a 10-year timeframe, as well as identify the potential for these resources to provide wholesale electricity services.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Hybrid Integration Project • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO published the final DER Potential Study materials to the engagement webpage on September 30 • Twelve feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage • An IESO response to feedback document, with support of the project consultants in responding to technical questions, has been posted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The findings of the DER Potential Study will be used in the ongoing DER Roadmap work • A final engagement summary will be posted to the engagement webpage in Q2, 2023
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Roadmap</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 23 on a Distributed Energy Resources Integration Framework for Energy Innovation • Six feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage • The sixth meeting of the Working Group was held on February 27 (see separate engagement update) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An IESO response to feedback document for the RPPR August webinar will be posted to the engagement page • An IESO response to feedback document following the November meeting will be posted • The next meeting of the Working Group will take place in Q2, 2023 (see separate engagement update)

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Hybrid Integration Project</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback on the development of participation model(s) to enable hybrid resources in the IESO-administered markets and have the capability to support Ontario’s future system needs. The changes will be implemented after the implementation of the Market Renewal Project.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held on January 26 to review the results of the enhanced model study and recommendations from the Hybrid Design Vision • Three feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage • At the February 21 Technical Panel meeting, the enabling co-located hybrid model market rule amendments were voted to recommend to the IESO Board for approval 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An IESO response to feedback document following the January meeting will be posted • Target effective date for implementation in the IAMs in April, 2023
<p><u>Long-Term RFP</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on the development of a Long-Term RFP (LT RFP) that will seek resources that can be in service between 2026 and 2028 to address global and regional needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Hybrid Integration Project • Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final E-LT Procurement RFP and Contract and RFP were posted on December 6 • Information on the Expedited Process Final Procurement Documents can be found here 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar will be held on March 28 to provide an update on the upcoming LT1 RFP, including procurement timelines, sequencing between the E-LT1 RFP and LT1 RFP, and areas of design on which the IESO will be seeking feedback
<p><u>Resource Adequacy</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders to further develop a long-term competitive strategy to meet Ontario’s resource adequacy needs reliably and cost-effectively while recognizing the unique needs of different resources.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Long-Term RFP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several Resource Adequacy initiatives such as the Procurements and Capacity Auction Enhancements have branched off into their own respective engagement streams (see separate engagement updates) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next steps will be communicated

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><u>Adjustments to Intertie Flow Limits</u></p> <p>The IESO is proposing to add clarifying language to the market rules specifying when internal transmission constraints will be considered by the IESO in setting intertie flow limits.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At its July 12 meeting, a majority of Technical Panel members voted to recommend the proposed market rule amendment to the IESO Board of Directors on the Adjustments to Intertie Flow Limits (MR-00468-R00)The IESO Board adopted the rule amendment proposal that specifies when internal transmission constraints will be used by the IESO to set intertie flow limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A final engagement summary will be posted to the engagement webpage in Q2, 2023
<p><u>Cost Recovery for Integrating System Changes</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders on how to recover costs from customers for requested services performed by the IESO and the proposed phase-in strategy. The initiative will seek to bring greater alignment between the costs of the service and the customer initiating the request, as opposed to recovering these costs volumetrically from all consumers.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The IESO filed a request for approval with the Ontario Energy Board in February 2022, and received approval through the OEB’s Decision and Order EB-2022-0002 in August 2022The IESO circulated the Market Manual 1.5: Market Registration Procedures with updates for the Reliable Integration Fee via baseline 48.1Effective December 8, the IESO implemented the Reliable Integration Fee for activities the IESO undertakes to reliably integrate facilities into the IESO-controlled grid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A final engagement summary will be posted to the engagement webpage in Q2, 2023

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<p><u>Improving Accessibility of Operating Reserve</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback on an issue related to the Operating Reserve (OR), whereby the amount of OR scheduled is not fully accessible.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the June Technical Panel meeting, Panel members voted unanimously to recommend the proposed market rule amendments to the IESO Board On September 15, an update was sent to stakeholders indicating that the earliest the inaccessible operating reserve settlement charge can be implemented is Q1, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders will be informed as soon as possible when the next implementation date is confirmed
<p><u>Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation</u></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: Karlyn Mibus</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Adequacy Enabling Resources DER Market Vision & Design Project Hybrid Integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO is in process of responding to stakeholder feedback on the Market Settlement, Metering and Billing market rules and market manuals The Implementation Working Group met on March 1, to provide updates on participant readiness planning, and address outstanding issues and action items; meeting materials are posted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO MRP Team will provide an update to stakeholders on March 30 on the Market Power Mitigation framework, including incremental updates to the market rules, market manuals, workbooks and other documentation
<p><u>Registration Timelines</u></p> <p>IESO Market Registration is proposing new registration timeline guidelines, intended to make the registration process more efficient for both the IESO and market participants.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A webinar was held in October to review the proposed new registration timeline guidelines and seek stakeholder feedback before finalizing One feedback submission was received and has been posted to the engagement webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An IESO response to feedback will be posted The timeline guide is targeted for release as part of the 2023-Q1 baseline

Sector Evolution

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

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Clean Energy Credits</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Energy has asked the IESO to assess options for the establishment and ongoing operation and management of a registry to support the creation and/or recognition, trading and valuation, and the retirement of renewable and clean energy credits (CECs) within the province.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IESO provided a report back to government on the establishment of a clean energy credit registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IESO will be meeting with targeted stakeholders to discuss next steps for the Clean Energy Credit Registry
<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: Colin Campbell</i></p> <p><i>Related Active 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">• A webinar was held on February 23 to seek feedback on the next white paper in the series: Applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning and other Advanced Technology in the Electricity Sector• Responses to the AI Whitepaper Survey were due by March 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The IESO is reviewing the AI Whitepaper Survey responses

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<p><u>IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project</u> The IESO, with support from Natural Resources Canada, is undertaking a demonstration in York Region to explore market-based approaches to secure energy and capacity services from Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) for local needs. <i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Final Year 2 Demonstration Program Rules and Contracts were posted on August 25 with the opening of the Initial Year 2 registration • On October 20-21, pre- and post-auction reports were posted for Year 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Evaluation Report including lessons learned will be published in Q2, 2023; this is the last major milestone for this engagement
<p><u>Interruptible Rate Pilot</u> The Ministry of Energy has asked the IESO to design a three-year interruptible rate pilot, which if approved will begin on July 1, 2023 to align with the Industrial Conservation Initiative cycle. <i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) Update • Distributed Energy Resources Survey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final Pilot Rules and Contract were posted on March 13, 2023 • The application window opened on March 13, 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application window closes on March 31, 2023

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy</u> 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. <i>Engagement Lead: Colin Campbell</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways to Decarbonization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On January 26, 2023, the Ministry of Energy directed the IESO to develop and implement a Hydrogen Innovation Fund • A webinar was held on February 22 to provide an overview of the Hydrogen Innovation Fund’s Request for Proposals • Eight feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An IESO response to feedback following the February webinar will be posted • A webinar will be held on March 30 to present a summary of stakeholder feedback, the final program documents and announce the program application period • The proposal intake window will open on April 3, 2023
<p><u>Pathways to Decarbonization</u> The IESO will inform stakeholders on the study approach and provide transparency around the assumptions that will be used in the analysis of the Ministry’s request that the IESO evaluate a moratorium on the procurement of new natural gas generating stations in this decade (reliability, cost, environmental considerations) and develop an achievable pathway to phase out natural gas generation and achieve zero emissions in the electricity sector. <i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i> <i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2021 Annual Planning Outlook • 2022 Annual Acquisition Report • Clean Energy Credits • DER Potential Study • Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO released the Pathways to Decarbonization study on December 15, 2022 • The study provides recommendations on a provincial moratorium on new natural gas generation as well as findings from a potential scenario to achieve zero electricity sector emissions that considers reliability, cost and impacts on broader electrification efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On February 13, the Ministry of Energy posted a consultation on the Environmental Registry of Ontario seeking feedback on the findings of the P2D study and in particular the IESO’s “no-regret” recommendations • The comment period is open for 90 days from February 13 to May 14, 2023

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

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Stakeholder 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: Jason Grbavac</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SAC presented its 2022 consolidated Challenge Statements to the IESO Board and Executive in December and had an opportunity for a discussion in February 2023 to discuss the document and its impacts on the broader energy sector • The 2023 meeting schedule has been posted to the SAC webpage, and the meeting dates are as follows – May 10, August 2, and November 8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO issued a new call for nominations for SAC members on March 16 • Nomination submissions are due by April 13, 2023
<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"> • At the February Technical Panel meeting, members voted to recommend market rule amendments to the IESO Board on the following – enabling the co-located hybrid model and the Replacement of the IESO Settlement System • Members also voted to post the market rule amendment proposal for the MRP Interim Alignment Batch for broader stakeholder comment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The March 21 meeting was cancelled • The next meeting will take place on April 18, 2023

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Transmission – Distribution Coordination Working Group</u></p> <p>The Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group (TDWG) will work 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 in-depth engagement on T-D coordination.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Colin Campbell</p> <p><i>Related Active Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Roadmap • IESO York Region Non Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sixth meeting of the Working Group was held on February 27 to discuss: Conceptual T-D coordination protocol for a Total DSO model, Transmission and Distribution Electricity Planning in Ottawa, A distributor perspective on protocol for Dual Participation model • Two feedback submissions were received following the February 27 meeting and have been posted to the engagement webpage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO is reviewing feedback submissions following the February meeting • The next TDWG meeting is expected to take place in Q2, 2023 and will include a presentation on LDC/DSO functions under the Dual Participation and Total DSO models