Feedback Form

2026 Annual Planning Outlook – April 21, 2026

Feedback Provided by:

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Date: May 5, 2026

To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the 2026 Annual Planning Outlook engagement page unless otherwise requested by the sender.

- ☐ **Yes – there is confidential information, do not post**
- X **No – comfortable to publish to the IESO web page**

Following the April 21 engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) welcomes feedback from stakeholders on the information shared. The presentation and recording can be accessed from the 2026 Annual Planning Outlook engagement page.

Note: The IESO will accept additional materials where it may be required to support your rationale provided below. When sending additional materials please indicate if they are confidential.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca **by May 5.**

General Comments/Feedback

Do you have any general comments or feedback regarding the information shared or recommendations for the IESO to consider regarding future outlooks?

The Presentation[1] provides a summary of APO 2027 Demand Forecast Factors for each of the three Scenarios: Reference, High Demand and Low Demand. These factors are virtually identical to what was earlier provided in the November 18, 2025 Presentation.[2]

In turn, the December 2, 2025 feedback previously provided by the PWU on the November 18, 2025 Webinar and Presentation remains highly relevant for the April 21, 2026 Webinar and Presentation. The relevant excerpt of the December 2 feedback is resubmitted below as Appendix 1 for reference.

To summarize, the High-Demand and Reference scenarios generally lack ambition and vision. They are heavily based on a continuation of current BAU (Business as Usual) policies and technologies. This approach is not sufficient for Ontario electricity planning, especially for a forecast period out to 2050, in a period of rapid change and high uncertainties. In particular, this approach will underestimate potential electricity demand, for the Reference scenario and especially for the High-Demand scenario.

IESO demand forecasts continue to significantly underestimate the scale and urgency of Ontario's electrification required to avert an electricity crisis and support economic growth. This systematic underestimation of Ontario's electricity demand has material implications for system planning, resulting in a grid that is less robust and less prepared for emerging demand pressures.

In Ontario's current high demand growth environment, the costs/risks of underbuilding electricity infrastructure are much higher than the costs/risks of right-sizing (or upsizing) infrastructure. Planning should therefore prioritize sufficient and timely capacity to accommodate high-growth scenarios, rather than optimizing narrowly around central forecasts.

[1] 2027 Annual Planning Outlook: Demand Forecast Scenarios, April 21, 2026, pp. 9-12. https://www.ieso.ca/-/media/Files/IESO/Document-Library/engage/apo/2026/APO2027-20260421-Demand-Forecast-Scenarios.pdf

[2] Annual Planning Outlook (APO): 2026 Demand Forecasts & 2027 Demand Scenario, November 18, 2025, pp 13-16. https://www.ieso.ca/-/media/Files/IESO/Document-Library/engage/apo/apo-20251118-presentation.pdf

Appendix 1: Annual Planning Outlook (APO): 2026 Demand Forecasts & 2027 Demand Scenario – November 18, 2025, Feedback of the Power Workers' Union, December 2, 2025 (Excerpt)

Please provide your feedback regarding the IESO's plans for the three scenarios in 2027 APO for the following assumptions:

Driver	Reference	High	Low	General
Building Electrification	The forecast is out to 2050 so unlikely that policy (fed/prov/municipal) will continue to be resistant to building electrification. In other words, this scenario assumes BAU.	The PWU believes that this scenario does not reflect an appropriate high scenario. Assume more stringent standards phased in sooner.		Generally, the ref and high scenarios lack ambition. Also, technology is changing rapidly such that in 25 years there will likely be dramatic shifts, innovations and adaptations related to Building Electrification.
Transportation Electrification		Again, this scenario does not reflect an appropriate high scenario and lacks ambition. This is also an area where technology is changing rapidly (EVs and rail). Rail projects here should be more ambitious and not assume reference.		

Auto/steel Sectors				
Nation building and priority projects	Given the recent federal Budget 2025, the high scenario assumptions here should be moved to reference (re critical mining and housing, especially).	High side should be higher than IESO's high demand scenario here, which are more appropriate to the reference scenario. IESO's high side is too close to BAU. So appropriate high side should be more ambitious and consistent with direction of ON's IEP and Canada's Major Projects Office.		
Industrial Mineral extraction & processing sub-sector	The reference does not consider current plans to build more transmission infrastructure to enable more projects sooner, which is the clear direction of the ON government, as well as the federal government.	The high-side should be based on Ontario's significant potential for exploitation of significant new mineral resources over the next 25 years, with a focus on critical minerals. If ON wishes to pursue these opportunities, it needs to build the electric infrastructure to make them possible.		
Electricity Demand Side				

Management (eDSM)				
Data centre development		The IEP is highly supportive of data centre development. While there is a high degree of uncertainty related to these projects, it is inappropriate and inconsistent with the IEP to forecast growth based on known projects, even with a higher growth rate. We urge the IESO to consider hyper-growth in data centres in other North American jurisdictions.		Data centres typically require high volumes of high-quality water supply in addition to electricity. ON is cooler than many other places and has good water supply and infrastructure. Based on this economic geography, IESO should increase both the high and reference scenarios.