

Feedback Form

Eastern Ontario Bulk Planning Update Webinar

Feedback Provided by:

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To promote transparency, the submitted feedback will be posted on the Eastern Ontario Bulk Plan engagement webpage unless otherwise requested by the sender.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback following the May 27, 2026, presentation of the draft recommendations for Eastern Ontario Bulk Plan. A copy of the presentations as well as recordings of the sessions are available on the engagement web page.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by June 17, 2026.

Eastern Ontario Bulk Plan - Feedback

The May 27 2026, webinar focused on the draft Eastern Ontario Bulk Plan recommendations as presented. With the plan objectives and scope established, we are seeking feedback on clarity, understanding, and considerations important to note as the plan moves toward finalization.

Question	Feedback
What additional data or context would help provide more clarity and for consideration in the final report?	<p>The City of Ottawa offers the following local context to inform the final report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The City is currently in Step 2 of its three-step Growth Management Strategy, evaluating settlement area expansion requests and potential industrial land designations ahead of a Council decision anticipated in early 2027. Power availability has been identified by some landowners as the single most important factor in data centre location decisions, a category of high-demand, location-sensitive land use the IESO may wish to factor into its forecasts and locational analysis.<li>• The City's Economic Development Strategy identifies the knowledge-based sector, including defense, health tech and life sciences, as a key driver of Ottawa's economic growth. Reliable, resilient electricity supply is understood by the City to be a critical input to these sectors' operations and to investment and location decisions made by sector partners. The City encourages the IESO to reflect these sector-specific growth scenarios in its long-term planning and demand forecasting.<li>• The City is developing a District Energy Strategy that will define the City's role in facilitating district energy infrastructure across Ottawa. Outcomes of this work may be relevant to the IESO's demand modelling and to the locational identification of future supply resources for the contingent Phase 2 of the Bulk Plan. Furthermore, the City anticipates this strategy could be a mechanism in helping the region address incremental eDSM targets.<li>• The Kanata North Business Association is currently working with the Ottawa Climate

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	<p>Action Fund on a study exploring the development of an energy-resilient district within Kanata North. Outcomes may provide additional insights into future electricity needs in this major and critical employment area.</p>
<p>What questions or concerns do you have about the draft recommendations that the IESO might consider in future planning activities?</p>	<p>The City's questions and considerations for future IESO planning activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City understands and appreciates the IESO's need to advance procurements rapidly to address growing capacity pressures. However, observations from the LT1 and LT2 procurement processes found that balance with community alignment helps build local support. Clear community engagement early in the process is important to ease acceptance from host communities. • The draft recommendations focus primarily on bulk transmission infrastructure. The City notes that the high electrification scenario and its implications for local generation are not fully addressed. As the City pursues local energy solutions and district energy development, greater emphasis on local generation as a complement to, or in some cases an alternative to, bulk transmission investment would be welcomed. The City requests that future planning iterations give more prominent consideration to distributed and local generation options. • Noting that Phase 1 implementation-ready projects are not eligible for the competitive Transmitter Selection Framework, the City requests early confirmation of the assigned transmitter. Early identification will allow the City to initiate direct, proactive coordination on routing, land use, and community engagement. • Visibility on lead times for future procurement and infrastructure processes will help position municipalities to respond to these processes. Clarity on municipal role and opportunities to understand and contribute to the holistic view of

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	<p>grid planning and procurement process would also be appreciated, to allow the City to prepare and engage proactively, concentrating feedback and input where most important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the draft recommendations include high-level cost information on phases, detailed cost impact analysis for end users is limited. Given the scale of the proposed investments, more information on affordability implications, including projected rate impacts and the distribution of costs across customer classes, would be recommended to support informed municipal and public engagement.
<p>What additional data or local considerations should the IESO be aware of in finalizing the draft recommendations, or for future planning?</p>	<p>The City requests that the IESO consider the following local coordination opportunities as the draft recommendations are finalized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of the IESO’s identification of future supply resources with a locational focus with the City’s Growth Management Strategy, particularly regarding settlement area and industrial land expansion and emerging high-demand land uses such as data centres. • Coordination with the City’s District Energy Strategy as both processes advance. There may be partnership and collaboration opportunities on this work that could support the IESO’s demand side management options for system planning. • Continued consideration of rural and renewable energy opportunities as part of future supply resource planning, to support economic development and resilience across Ottawa’s communities, including on-farm energy solutions.

General Comments/Feedback

The City of Ottawa is broadly supportive of the IESO's draft recommendations and appreciates the opportunity to provide input on Eastern Ontario electricity planning. The proposed transmission investments are critical to regional energy reliability and are expected to strengthen electricity supply for key employment areas, including the Kanata North Tech Park, supporting Ottawa's capacity to accommodate forecast population and employment growth.

The City recognizes the value of the proposed phased approach, which balances infrastructure investment with projected demand. At the same time, the City encourages continued assessment of future electricity needs as growth patterns, technology adoption, and the pace of electrification evolve. Maintaining flexibility within the planning framework will help ensure that electricity capacity does not become a constraint to housing development, economic growth, community resilience, or progress toward local and provincial climate objectives.

The City also notes that while bulk transmission investments are a critical component of the solution, additional consideration should be given to the role of local and distributed energy resources as a cost-effective and resilient means of meeting future demand and enhancing system flexibility.

Finally, the City would welcome additional information regarding the affordability implications of the proposed investments for residents, businesses, and municipalities to support informed decision-making and public engagement.

The City looks forward to continued dialogue with the IESO as the final report is prepared for release in Q3 2026.