

# Feedback Form

## Transmission Planning Bulk Study Updates (South Central and Northern Ontario) – July 10, 2024

### Feedback Provided by:

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Following the July 10, 2024 Indigenous Relations Webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback from Indigenous communities on the items discussed during the webinar. The webinar presentation and recording can be accessed from the engagement web page.

**Please submit feedback to [engagement@ieso.ca](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca) by July 31, 2024.** If you wish to provide confidential feedback, please submit as a separate document, marked "Confidential". Otherwise, to promote transparency, feedback that is not marked "Confidential" will be posted on the engagement webpage.

Topic	Feedback
What feedback do you have regarding the scope of work proposed?	Work with Grand Council Treaty #3 (GCT3) to facilitate engagements with communities in Treaty #3 to allow the opportunity for full participation and to provide input on community needs. Communicate and coordinate information sharing with Treaty #3 communities that have Community Energy Champions (CEC) or similar. Ensure meaningful engagement is recurring throughout the duration of the study, and First Nation communities in Treaty #3 stay informed on updates as they come. Open communication and engagement early on will ensure Treaty #3 communities have all needs included and considered throughout the study.

Topic	Feedback
What other potential growth assumptions or resource scenarios should be considered as we quantify needs?	Increased population and growth of First Nation communities in Treaty #3; Increased mining activity (i.e. new mines) in Treaty #3; increased need and access to high-speed internet across Treaty #3; increased electricity growth as phase-out of carbon-based power continues to occur in Treaty #3.

Topic	Feedback
What additional information should be taken into account as we develop options?	Ensure that IESO is following Manito Aki Inaakonigewin (MAI) at all times regarding any work or potential development in Treaty #3. Through consultation GCT3 will ensure the Anishinaabe in Treaty #3's right to meaningful engagement is being followed, and any potential effects on the environment are considered. Following MAI creates a meaningful and beneficial relationship between proponents and the Anishinaabe in Treaty #3.

## General Comments/Feedback

Question: What is meant by this statement - *near term "no regrets" recommendations by Dec 2024?* Please explain what no regrets means.

Question: Please explain the correlation of the Northern Ontario System Bulk Study and Ontario's Critical Mineral Strategy? How will the study support the Critical Mineral Strategy and / or vice versa?

Question: Please tell us (GCT3) how can get involved in the two studies mentioned below. To the best of our knowledge, we have not been consulted with on either study. We would also like copies if the study final reports once available.

- Ontario-Manitoba Intertie End-of-Life Joint Study
- Northern Ontario Connection Study

Background Information: *"Transmission alternatives to enable connection of remote First Nation communities and prospective mining developments in remote northwestern Ontario will be considered through the Northern Ontario Connection Study. The study will evaluate socio-economic and environmental benefits of the proposed connection options and explore opportunities to connect new hydroelectric generation to the transmission system."* (p.57 of APO, March 2024).

Comment: GCT3 needs to be involved in the Ontario-Manitoba Intertie End-of-Life Joint Study moving forward as this work directly affects our Treaty #3 communities.

Background Information: *"5.5 Interties with Ontario's Neighbouring Jurisdictions: A second study is underway to assess major equipment at the Ontario-Manitoba intertie, including two PARs and two step-up transformers that are approaching end of life. A joint study was initiated between the IESO, Manitoba Hydro and Minnesota Power to create a plan to replace and/or upgrade this critical intertie equipment."* (p.58 of APO, March 2024).

Question: Can you please explain this statement in more detail explain how the expansion of new non-emitting resources would strain the grid? Can you also explain how increasing demand in the north could stress the interface during periods of low hydroelectric production? *"The potential for expansion of new non-emitting resources including wind, solar and hydroelectricity in the north could strain the grid's capability to deliver the additional flows from the resources to customers in southern Ontario across the Flow South interface. Conversely, increasing demand in the north could stress this interface during periods of low hydroelectric production."* (p.56 of APO, March 2024).

Question: Would First Nation community energy projects be considered in the Northern Transmission Line Bulk Study? If so, how would they be analyzed?

Question: Some First Nation communities have renewable energy projects in which they create and store electricity and sell it back to Ontario (the grid). Is this considered to be a “growth assumption?”

Question: What IESO or Energy related training and education is currently available? Please provide detailed information on training and education opportunities for Treaty #3 First Nation community leadership and staff, as well as for GCT3 staff.

Comment: Please try and make the information presented at the Indigenous Virtual Information Sessions as easy as possible to understand. Sometimes it feels as if we need a degree in an energy related field to understand the IESO topics. If you want “meaningful” comments and recommendations, then you need to empower your audience with knowledge that they can comprehend and understand. Using more examples and tying them to the northwestern Ontario would be a great start.