Feedback Form

Enabling Resources Program (ERP) – Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Integration Project – Data Sharing Design

Meeting Date: October 16, 2026

Feedback Provided by:

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Following the **October 16, 2026**, engagement session, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the items discussed during the webinar. The presentation and recording can be accessed from the engagement web page.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by **October 30, 2026**. If you wish to provide confidential feedback, please submit it as a separate document, marked "Confidential." Otherwise, to promote transparency, feedback that is not marked "Confidential" will be posted on the engagement webpage.

ERP's DER Integration Project

Please provide your feedback and comments on the information presented this engagement which included the following topic areas:

LDC-to-IESO Operational Visibility

How does having an activation materiality threshold in "MW" or "% loading of transformer station" affect the effort on the LDC end to provide this information? **Why is the IESO asking:** To inform how IESO should stipulate the Materiality threshold	The IESO should provide the materiality threshold in MW for each transmission station in Ontario.
Based on LDC capabilities today, are LDCs able to provide the following proposed distribution equipment information for DER assets participating in local NWS programs, when the NWS has a material impact on the IESO-controlled grid (ICG): • feeder name • bus name • station name For aggregated information: • Resource type • Capacity (MW) • Location (substation / TDI) If LDCs do not have the capability to provide any part of this information, please specify which information is unable to be provided, and what investment (e.g. tool upgrade, etc.) would be required to enable the LDC to provide this information. **Why is the IESO asking:** To better understand current LDC capabilities.	It would be helpful to establish a technical working group to: i) Understand why this information is needed ii) Develop the operational data sharing requirements, processes, and protocols between the IESO and LDCs, to ensure practical and efficient exchange of information in both directions (IESO to LDC and LDC to IESO).

In order for LDCs to maintain TDI applicability for local NWS programs, is there any information that LDCs require from the IESO? **Why is the IESO asking:** To better understand how to support LDCs and maintain TDI applicability.	OEA recommends establishing a technical working group to develop the operational data sharing requirements, processes, and protocols between the IESO and LDCs, to ensure practical and efficient exchange of information in both directions (IESO to LDC and LDC to IESO).
Initial plan for the notification mechanism is to utilize phone calls to the IESO control room and use of the IESO's CROW tool. Do stakeholders have any feedback on this approach? **Why is the IESO asking:** To better coordinate operational visibility by the stakeholders	Any manual notification process would be operationally burdensome. To minimize operational impacts and improve reliability, notifications between the IESO and LDCs should be automated wherever possible.

Static Data Sharing – Transmission-Distribution Interface (TDI)

Topic	Feedback
What distribution-level criteria should the IESO take into consideration when identifying a TDI? **Why is the IESO asking:** To ensure effective integration of the TDI Framework	OEA recommends establishing a technical working group to develop this framework and determine the full range of applicable criteria. As an example, transformer stations that solely supply an LDC station may warrant consideration as a criterion.

Topic	Feedback
Are there any challenges that LDCs foresee facing when recommending the initial TDI assignment? **Why is the IESO asking:** To understand LDC capabilities in supporting the development of TDIs	TDI is a relatively fixed transmission system node, however distribution and transmission system configurations can change over time due to switching, planned outages, and other operational requirements. As a result, there should be a robust change management process to maintain the relationship between TDIs and the underlying system configuration, ensuring that TDI boundaries and associated resources continue to accurately reflect real-world system conditions. Overall, system configuration changes can create additional challenges for the identification and administration of TDIs, as network topology and power flows may vary over time. OEA recommends that these considerations be examined through a joint technical working group.
Is there any static data does the LDC may need from the IESO to help support distribution system reliability and operability across the TDI? **Why is the IESO asking:** To ensure effective integration of the TDI Framework	It would be beneficial for the IESO to provide customer information, such as location and MW capacity, to support the identification and assessment of TDIs. Additional data requirements and information-sharing protocols could be further refined through a technical working group involving the IESO and LDCs. The IESO should collaborate with LDCs to define what static data is required and how frequently it is expected to be updated.

General Comments/Feedback

See below for additional recommendations and considerations for the IESO related to IESO to LDC operational visibility.

Bi-Directional Operational Visibility (IESO to LDC)

Data Sharing

System Operations requires greater visibility into DER dispatch activities initiated through IESO-administered programs. This visibility should include, at a minimum:

- Dispatch status (on/off)
- Dispatched MW/kW levels
- Timing and duration of dispatch events
- Participating program (e.g., Capacity Auction, ICI, Commercial HVAC, etc.)
- Available capacity data (MW and, where applicable, MWh)
- SCADA telemetry where available

This information is needed for both direct LDC DER customers and embedded DERs connected through LDCs, particularly where dispatch actions may affect operations within a TDI or have upstream transmission system impacts.

Note that this is not an exhaustive list of information that would be needed by LDCs. OEA recommends establishing a dedicated technical working group to further discuss and develop detailed information-sharing requirements and protocols from the IESO to LDCs.

Notification Framework

Any manual notification process would be operationally burdensome. To minimize operational impacts and improve reliability, notifications between the IESO and LDCs should be automated wherever possible.

Additionally, Ontario's LDCs are working together to create and test a shared platform that can be used to automate information sharing.

Coordination of Market and Operational Signals

When responding to emergency outages, distribution reliability and public safety must remain the highest priority. In these circumstances, LDC operational actions should take precedence over market dispatch signals.

For planned outages, the IESO should clarify how conflicting operating instructions, dispatch signals, or schedules will be coordinated and prioritized. As DER participation increases, coordinated operations may require distributors and transmitters to have visibility into market schedules, dispatch instructions, and control signals to avoid operational conflicts.

Materiality Threshold

The proposed threshold of the greater of 15 MW or 10% of annual peak demand at the impacted station may address IESO bulk-system notification requirements but does not necessarily reflect material distribution-level constraints. The coordination framework must also accommodate localized feeder and equipment constraints, including circumstances where different DER combinations within the same TDI create different operational impacts.

Operational Coordination

The proposed reliance on CROW and direct control-room notifications from LDCs, while providing much of the corresponding IESO information through a website, creates an asymmetrical coordination arrangement. A website provides visibility but is not a substitute for direct operational coordination. The framework should establish automated, bidirectional communications between IESO and LDC control rooms, including schedules, operating restrictions, acknowledgements and emergency interventions, building on the principles developed through TDWG.