

IESO Engagement

From: Colleen Lynch
Sent: June 17, 2021 10:44 PM
To: IESO Engagement
Subject: Feedback - Gas Phase Out Impact Assessment

Dear Mr. Farmer, Senior Director, Power System Planning,

Re: Phasing-Out Ontario's Gas-Fired Power Plants

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the IESO's study of the implications of phasing out Ontario's gas-fired plants. To me, this assessment should obviate a parallel one, that of the implications of growing climate costs and the growing threat that climate impacts pose for Ontarians. To list just four things to consider:

- Climate justice shows that as a wealthy province within a wealthy country, it is important that we use our resources to help keep global temperatures down as much as possible. The gains Canada made by phasing out coal plants need to be built on and a decrease in GHGs accelerated. A good goal, to ensure this, is to reduce gas plant emissions to at or below 2017 levels right now and phase out by 2030.
- There are many reasons to shift to renewables, including falling costs of wind and solar, the availability of Quebec Hydro and storage, the potential of energy conservation and demand-side strategies. The fact is, as we transition to more electric heating and transport, we'll need good, non-emitting sources of energy to increase and back up our efforts toward a cleaner, healthier, low-carbon future.
- There are important considerations beyond the traditional economic ones, including social and environmental costs due to pollution and extreme weather events and on the flip side, the many benefits of greater health and wellbeing.
- Every one of us has something we care about and need to safeguard – a child or a nephew or a neighbour, a favourite species, safe housing, secure food sources or healthy living circumstances. This study, if it is comprehensive and holistic, could increase the chances of a future with less dire climate impacts where we are able to protect and maintain these things.

Again, thank you for taking this assessment on and offering the chance for citizens to engage.

Yours with hope that this could make a real difference and support for an outcome that moves us toward a livable future without delay,

Sincerely,

Colleen