Feedback Form

2025 Hydrogen Innovation Fund Engagement– October 1, 2025

Feedback Provided by:

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Date: October 15, 2025

To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the Hydrogen Innovation Fund (HIF) engagement page unless otherwise requested by the sender.

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

Following the 2025 Hydrogen Innovation Fund Engagement on October 1, 2025, engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback from stakeholders on the items discussed. The presentation and recording can be accessed from the Hydrogen Innovation Fund (HIF).

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 October 15, 2025.**

Topic: Draft Application Guidelines (Stream 1 and Stream 2)

Question: Are the KPIs, and project categories practical and easy to apply?

- The development of hydrogen hubs may mean that defined projects are not currently in place (ie. with known GHG emissions & job outcomes). Are the KPI's flexible in accepting that some "hub" concepts may be based in the theoretical (ie. Seek to attract a certain amount of capital investment, GHG emissions, or jobs).

Topic: Overview and Project Evaluation Criteria

Question: Are the Stream 1 and Stream 2 objectives and evaluation criteria clear and appropriate?

Topic: Proposed Application Timelines

Question: Do you see any risks or challenges with the proposed schedule?

Topic: General

Question: Is there anything important that may have been missing in the proposed design?

- Can the IESO provide clarity on their definition of a "hub".
    - Our definition would consider the following verbiage – A project that starts and/or continues to grow an established group of like minded companies, facilities, organizations, research and academia to create the supportive and sustainable climate and ecosystem to recruit, secure, and implement hydrogen projects.
    - Does there need to be defined projects currently or can the funding be more open to assist groups to bring said projects in in the future?
    - Can we consider current facilities associated with the hydrogen value-chain as projects that are already adding to our "hub" and then work on recruiting more. Showing the applicability and sustainability of the hydrogen sector that is currently here as a project, and leveraging it as a tool to drive new development, investment, innovation, decarbonization, and jobs?

- Are defined projects (ie. With known GHG emissions & job outcomes) the only allowable projects for inclusion in the funding? This is asked as it may result in some "hub" concepts being excluded as they may be based in the theoretical (ie. Seek to attract a certain amount of capital investment, GHG emissions, or jobs).

General Comments/Feedback

- The success of hydrogen hubs in some forms will be reliant on the progress of Provincial and/or Federal regulation that provides the necessary environment to accommodate certain types of hydrogen investment (ie. The attraction of at-scale hydrogen investment - which may be reliant on geological CO2 sequestration legislation, CO2 policy, etc).

- Do project partners have to be financial partners in the project? For example, the Ontario's Hydrogen Hub working group is made up of 30+ stakeholders organizations across the hydrogen production, off-take, research, innovation, and academia areas, but many of these stakeholders may not be financial partners beyond being "at-the-table" for Ontario's Hydrogen Hub related programming development, discussion, and implementation.

- Can multiple "hubs" across Ontario work collaboratively to advance one single project?