

# Feedback Form

## Regional Electricity Planning in the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph Electrical Region – June 17, 2025

### Feedback Provided by:

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Date: June 16, 2025

To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph Electrical Region [engagement webpage](#) unless otherwise requested by the sender.

Following the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph's electricity planning engagement webinar held on Tuesday May 27, 2025, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the identified electrical infrastructure with priority needs and potential options to address them, as outlined during the presentation. A copy of the presentation as well as the recorded webinar can be accessed from the [engagement web page](#).

Local considerations and feedback are a critical component to the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP). As this phase of the IRRP identifies how to meet priority electricity needs in your community the IESO wants to hear from you.

**Please submit feedback to** [engagement@ieso.ca](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca) **by June 17, 2025.**

Topic	Feedback
<p>In reference to slide 22 in the <a href="#">presentation</a> what community perspectives should the IESO be aware of as high-level wire and non-wire options for priority needs are considered?</p>	<p>The City of Kitchener acknowledges the immediate system needs to address electricity capacity constraints, particularly in areas with high-density land use designations, and supports the development and deployment of various electricity technologies to increase local energy generation. To date, Kitchener Council has not adopted specific resolutions regarding electricity generation technologies within its jurisdiction. It has, however, collaboratively developed and endorsed TransformWR, the community climate action strategy for Waterloo Region. Consistent with objectives of the climate action strategy, non-wires options like demand response, distributed generation, and eDSM programs should align with Kitchener's decarbonization goals and leverage opportunities to improve community well-being by reducing emissions and supporting local economic development. City staff are closely monitoring provincial energy projects, including proposals through the second long term procurement process. The City of Kitchener is the natural gas distributor for most of the area, including around MTS #6, offering opportunities for demand response, distributed generation, and eDSM. The City's involvement in gas distribution provides a unique opportunity to coordinate with the LDC and the IESO on integrated planning for energy needs. This coordination ensures non-wires options align with Kitchener's climate goals related to the clean energy transition.</p>
<p>What additional information should be considered in the assessment of these options to address priority needs?</p>	<p>The City of Kitchener has committed to addressing community greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors, which will increase the demand for electricity from fuel switching and electrification. In the short and medium terms, the demand for heat pumps and electric vehicles is expected to grow substantially. There is also the need for growth and additional community infrastructure given that the Waterloo region is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada. Kitchener is also part of the Toronto-Kitchener-Waterloo innovation corridor and serves as an innovation hub and a major attraction for technology companies. One of the most significant drivers of long-term electricity demand growth is data centres. With numerous new data centre projects seeking to connect to the grid, particularly within this region, it is essential to ensure the grid can</p>

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	<p>accommodate the increased demand while also still reserving capacity for other infrastructure projects. Given our collaborative local work on thermal energy opportunities, Kitchener is particularly interested in applying integrated energy analysis to data centre demand and electricity use planning. Waste heat from data centres is a key and significant resource for meeting our community's space heating and cooling needs and can play a significant role in the efficient and affordable decarbonization of our community. The city is eager to work with partners in the electricity system, including the IESO and our local distribution company, Enova, to collaborate on opportunities to maximize the use of this resource for the benefit of the community. Kitchener also urges the IESO and the Province to consider and explore efforts to offset or reduce demand, such as through district energy systems, to address local electricity system constraints. Kitchener emphasizes the significance of supporting local initiatives to meet such objectives.</p>
<p>What additional information should be provided in future engagements to help understand perspectives and insights?</p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>

## General Comments/Feedback

Click or tap here to enter text.