Feedback Form

Technical Requirements for Large Computational Loads Connecting to the Ontario Power System – May 1st, 2026

Feedback Provided by:

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Date: May 28, 2026

To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on this engagement page unless otherwise requested by the sender.

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

Following the posting of Technical Requirements for Large Computational Loads Connecting to the Ontario Power System, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback from stakeholders on the requirements. The stakeholders can request one-on-one sessions with the IESO for clarification and discussion if needed before submitting feedback. Please submit the meeting request to engagement@ieso.ca.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca **by May 28th, 2026.**

General Comments/Feedback

The proposed technical requirements appropriately recognize that large computational loads, such as data centres and AI-related facilities, may behave differently from traditional industrial loads and can introduce unique reliability and operational considerations to the Ontario power system.

From an LDC perspective, we generally support the IESO's proactive approach to establishing technical and operational requirements for these types of facilities, particularly in the areas of:

- load ramping limitations,
- ride-through requirements,
- restrictions on automatic reconnection,
- enhanced telemetry and monitoring,
- and customer responsibility for mitigation infrastructure and system impacts.

We also support the IESO's recognition that large computational loads may require enhanced operational coordination between the customer, transmitter, distributor, and the IESO.

Please see the following comments and questions organized by topic area below.

1. Clarification of Operational Roles and Responsibilities

Further clarity regarding operational authority and coordination between the IESO, transmitters, and LDCs would be beneficial, particularly with respect to:

- energization and restoration sequencing,
- curtailment implementation,
- reconnection approvals,
- and emergency operating procedures.

Additional guidance on how operational decision-making responsibilities will be coordinated for distribution-connected large computational loads would be helpful.

2. Distribution Connection Process Alignment

Given that the requirements apply to distribution-connected projects above 10 MW, additional guidance regarding how these requirements integrate with existing distribution connection processes would be beneficial.

Consideration should be given to:

- standardized processes,
- study coordination timelines,

- technical review responsibilities,
- and communication protocols between the IESO, transmitters, and distributors.

3. Staged Energization and Restoration Practices

The proposed ramp-rate limitations and ride-through requirements are supported. However, consideration should also be given to developing:

- standardized staged energization practices,
- restoration sequencing expectations,
- and operational guidelines for large computational load facilities.

These practices could help reduce operational risk during commissioning, restoration, and abnormal system events.

4. Mitigation Infrastructure and Cost Responsibility

The document refers to the potential need for:

- SVCs,
- STATCOMs,
- capacitor banks,
- grid-forming batteries,
- Remedial Action Schemes (RAS),
- and other mitigation infrastructure.

Additional clarity regarding:

- cost responsibility,
- ownership,
- operation,
- and long-term maintenance obligations

would be beneficial for both distributors and customers.

5. Telemetry and Monitoring Requirements

The proposed telemetry, synchrophasor, and dynamic disturbance recording requirements are supported, as they improve system visibility and operational awareness.

Additional implementation guidance regarding:

- data ownership,
- communications requirements,

- interoperability expectations,
- and distributor operational access to telemetry data where applicable

would help support consistent implementation across the province.

6. Behind-the-Meter Generation and Energy Storage

Additional clarification regarding the treatment of:

- backup generation,
- battery energy storage systems (BESS),
- and other behind-the-meter resources

would be beneficial.

Additional guidance regarding:

- anti-islanding expectations,
- synchronization requirements,
- operational visibility,
- and restoration coordination

would support consistent implementation and operational coordination across the province.

7. Load Forecasting and Capacity Planning

Large computational loads may materially impact regional load forecasting, distribution planning, and transmission planning processes.

Further guidance regarding:

- long-term load forecasting expectations,
- phased capacity allocation,
- and planning coordination between the IESO, transmitters, and LDCs

would be valuable as these types of projects continue to grow within Ontario.

8. Standardization of Technical Requirements

Given the complexity of the proposed modelling and technical submission requirements, consideration should be given to developing:

- standardized templates,
- model submission requirements,
- and technical acceptance criteria

to improve consistency and reduce administrative burden for all parties involved.

Closing Comments

Overall, the proposed framework represents an important step toward addressing the operational and reliability impacts associated with large computational loads in Ontario.

We appreciate the IESO's proactive engagement on this topic and look forward to continued collaboration as the requirements evolve and implementation approaches are further refined.