

External Engagement Plan

Long Lead-Time Resource Procurement

Overview

The IESO is continuing engagement on procuring resources to meet Ontario's growing energy and capacity needs. The Long Lead-Time (LLT) Resource Procurement is part of the IESO's larger Resource Adequacy framework which includes a variety of procurement mechanisms to secure resources to help the province maintain its reliability. This plan provides oversight into the overall timelines and expectations of the engagement. This plan is subject to change and will be updated as required.

Background

Through the E-LT1 and LT1 procurements the IESO has secured over 3,000 MW of year-round capacity services from new build and eligible expansion resources, to be in service by 2028. To address growing energy needs, the LT2 RFP is targeting up to 14 TWh of new energy producing resources, and up to 1,600 MW of new capacity resources over all submission windows, to be in service between 2029-2034. While the current procurement framework helps enable new electricity generation projects with lead times of approximately four years, the IESO recognizes that certain resources, such as hydroelectric generation and certain types of long duration energy storage (LDES) may require longer development timelines. To further evaluate the needs of these resources, the IESO issued two [Request for Informations](#) (RFIs) to gather insights on potential projects, the experience of developers in implementing projects based on these technologies, and the challenges they anticipate facing in a potential IESO procurement for long lead-time resources. The RFIs closed on November 1, 2024 and more information on the findings can be found through the dedicated engagement webpage.

Purpose

The LLT Resource Procurement provides an opportunity to procure additional resources that can be available starting in the mid-2030s to promote a more diverse supply mix by enabling resources that would otherwise not be built under the LT2 RFP and provide a hedge against potential in-service delays of resources that are/will be expected to be operational during this period, further enhancing system reliability.

The IESO is engaging with stakeholders, municipalities, communities and other interested parties to develop the design of the LLT Resource Procurement. Seeking input is imperative to the overall structure of the procurement, ensuring that key policy considerations are shared with the government, and that any potential risks or challenges are identified and discussed ahead of the procurement launch. In addition to feedback received during the engagement period, the IESO will also rely on the substantive feedback received from the RFIs and follow up discussions with respondents and will share these insights with the broader stakeholder audience.

Sector Interest

The IESO invites all interested parties to participate in this engagement. This engagement is of most interest to energy developers, (particularly those with hydro and long duration energy storage resource projects or facilities), generators, municipalities and communities. Information on upcoming sector engagement activities will be posted on the LLT Resource Procurement engagement webpage. While this plan focuses on the specific details related to industry stakeholder engagement, individuals can visit the IESO's [Community Engagement](#) and [Indigenous Relations](#) engagement pages for information on specific engagement activities for these communities. Engagement Objectives

There are two phases to this engagement.

Engagement Objectives	Key Results
Phase 1	Report Back to Government.
Present insights from the RFIs and high-level proposed design principles for the LLT Resource Procurement. Share stakeholder feedback received to date.	Information for stakeholders.
Seek feedback from stakeholders and communities on policy considerations and key design elements.	The information gathered will be used to inform the IESO's report back to the government on the design of the procurement, which will feed into the development of the RFPs and Contracts.
Phase 2	Development of RFPs and Contracts.
Review policy direction provided by the government and IESO proposed design elements	Information for stakeholders.
Seek feedback from stakeholders and communities on key design elements for consideration	Gather results of feedback to help develop procurement documents.

Approach

This is a public engagement process, and all materials will be posted on the LLT Resource Procurement Engagement webpage. Feedback provided by stakeholders and communities will be posted with consent.

This engagement will be conducted as per the [IESO's External Framework Principles](#) and the within each engagement the IESO will utilize one or more of the formal engagement types; Inform, Involve, and Collaborate to ensure clarity and transparency around our engagement activities and the ability to tailor our engagements based on the needs of our audience.

The IESO will use the following tactics for this engagement:

Webinars	Engagement webinars to introduce key design elements and seek feedback on current risks/challenges.
Technical Sessions (Targeted Discussions)	Targeted discussions with stakeholders may be utilized to provide background on technical details or gain further insights from individuals within the energy sector.
Written Feedback	Feedback forms will be available for all participants following an engagement webinar.
RFI – Survey	A request for information used to gather detailed information to inform design and assess issues and challenges in the sector.

Proposed Engagement Schedule

Anticipated timing for this engagement is presented below.

Timing	Engagement Activity
November, 2024	IESO launches Resource Adequacy RFI to seek input into LLT Resources
April 23, 2025	First LLT Resource Procurement Engagement Session
May 9, 2025	Feedback due to IESO from the April Engagement Session
TBD	Community and Indigenous Engagement by Invitation
TBD	IESO Report Back to government on proposed design
TBD	Government provides direction to IESO
Q3-Q4	IESO continues engagement on LLT contract and RFP

Additional Background and Resources

[Resource Acquisition](#)

Related Engagements

[Long-Term RFP](#)

[Request for Information – Resource Adequacy](#)