

LT RFP Feedback and IESO Response

LT RFP Information Session for Indigenous Communities – July 14, 2022

Following the Long-Term Request for Proposals - Indigenous Communities Breakout Discussion held virtually on July 14, 2022, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) invited feedback on the presentation materials shared and on how the IESO can support communities in these discussions. Feedback was received from:

- Bkejwanong Territory/Walpole Island First Nation
- Caldwell First Nation
- Slate Falls First Nation

Summary

This document provides a summary of the key themes that emerged from feedback received along with the IESO responses to the feedback. The IESO appreciates all of the input, which will be considered as the procurement process continues.

Feedback was received from the following parties and posted on the Long-Term RFP [Community Engagement webpage](#).

Topic 1: Indigenous participation concepts in LT RFP

1.1 Indigenous Participation

Feedback

- Barriers to participate in projects faced by communities need to be addressed
- Tight timeframes will not allow for Indigenous participation or will make it very difficult.

- Communities should be prioritized for participation where projects will be located in their traditional territories

IESO Response

The IESO remains committed to facilitating Indigenous participation while ensuring that projects are in service in order to meet emerging reliability needs. The IESO has made reducing barriers experienced by Indigenous communities one of its priorities in the engagement process for LT1 RFP through its engagement activities, feedback opportunities and Energy Support Programs. The IESO looks forward to a continuing dialogue with communities for LT1 RFP and future initiatives.

1.2 Price Adder

Feedback

Engagement participant supports a price adder mechanism to encourage Indigenous participation.

IESO Response

The IESO is exploring mechanisms for Indigenous participation for the LT1 RFP and Expedited Process and notes the support voiced for a price adder mechanism. As well, Indigenous economic interest has been included as a rated criteria in the draft E-LT1 RFP and draft Contract that was posted on August 25 [on the IESO website](#). The IESO anticipates providing further information on participation mechanisms in the coming weeks.

Topic 2: Additional issues informing Indigenous participation in LT RFP

Feedback

- IESO should prioritize renewables rather than a technology agnostic approach
- The LT RFP should better reflect the move towards Indigenizing colonial processes, such as requiring proponents to develop their knowledge of Indigenous communities and engage communities in a more collaborative way.
- Communities should be given a greater say in how they are engaged in order for the process to reflect the unique circumstances and priorities of each community
- Proponents should phone communities that they have to engage with to find the most appropriate staff member to communicate with so as to avoid sending information to the wrong person or to someone who is no longer working for the community

- A database that is visual in nature (i.e. that uses a map interface) should be created in order to assist communities in monitoring projects that are proposed to be sited in their traditional territories

IESO Response

The IESO notes this feedback and will strive to improve engagement by proponents where possible, such as ensuring that applicants possess the required experience with Indigenous communities. The IESO will continue to integrate new non-emitting resources like energy storage and distributed energy resources into the electricity market, gaining lessons that we can build on as we transition to a more sustainable electricity grid of the future.