

Feedback Form

Pathways to Decarbonization – February 24, 2022

Feedback Provided by:

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Following the February 24 engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback from stakeholders on the items discussed during the webinar. The webinar presentation and recording can be accessed from the [engagement web page](#).

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by March 16. Please attach research studies or other materials for consideration by the IESO to support your submission.

If you wish to provide confidential feedback, please submit as a separate document, marked "Confidential". Otherwise, to promote transparency, feedback that is not marked "Confidential" will be posted on the engagement webpage.

Policy

Topic	Feedback
Are the assumptions indicated reasonable and comprehensive in terms of scale and timing?	<p>The carbon prices cited are reasonable and in line with the Canadian government's carbon pricing policy.</p> <p>Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) is an emerging and costly technology presently. If CCS is to be considered, then a reasonable conservative cost estimate should be employed in the study.</p>

Topic	Feedback
Are there other considerations for the IESO?	<p>I support the phase out of natural gas for electricity generation in Ontario, targeting net zero emissions as rapidly as possible before 2050. There should be no investment in new natural gas power generating plants. This is in line with recent IEA recommendations. I also support a moratorium on any new nuclear development. Renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydro have now also become the cheapest sources of energy and therefore make economic sense and come with far less safety risks compared to nuclear.</p>

Demand

Topic	Feedback
Are the assumptions indicated reasonable and comprehensive in terms of scale and timing?	

Topic	Feedback
Are there other considerations for the IESO?	<p>The IESO should include the impact of newer alternatives such as use of electric vehicles (EVs) with bidirectional chargers. EVs with bidirectional chargers could meet all of Ontario's peak power demands at a lower price than gas-powered electricity.</p>

Resources

Topic	Feedback
Are the assumptions indicated reasonable and comprehensive in terms of scale and timing?	Click or tap here to enter text.
Are there additional data sources that we should consider	Click or tap here to enter text.
Are there other considerations for the IESO?	Click or tap here to enter text.

General Comments/Feedback

With the IEA and IPCC messages in mind, the objective study period for the Pathways plan is not urgent enough. The pathway study objective should be a complete gas power phase-out and the study period should be brought in to end by 2030.

I am looking for the IESO to develop a least cost, low carbon electricity plan that will lower my current electricity bills. Ways this goal can be achieved are:

- investing in and promoting energy efficiency measures,
- increasing investments in wind and solar power,
- tripling Ontario's spot market purchases of Quebec waterpower using existing transmission lines,
- expanding Ontario's transmission links with Quebec and using Hydro Quebec's reservoirs to act like a giant battery for our wind and solar energy,
- and a wind down of existing nuclear power plants, due to the prohibitive costs of nuclear power.

To address the need for additional power during peak demand, the Pathways study should consider:

- installing bi-directional chargers for electric vehicles (EVs) so that their batteries can provide power to the grid during peak demand hours, and

- keeping OPG's existing gas plants on a stand-by reserve basis only between 2030 and 2040, by which time Hydro Quebec's reservoirs can provide peak demand and back-up power. The stand-by reserve can be used for emergencies when insufficient carbon-free electricity resources are unavailable to meet the extreme event need.

All alternative energy sources presented above are viable options which can be adopted by IESO to allow for decarbonization of the electricity grid by 2030. More information can be found in Ontario Clean Air Alliance's (OCAA) report at this [link](#).