

Pathways to Decarbonization – February 24, 2022

Feedback Provided by:

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Date: March 9, 2022

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 unproven and costly technology at this point, so much so that it does not seem viable enough to include in the Pathways plan for validating the continued use of natural gas. as a non-emitting resource. However, CCS is continued to be considered, then diligence must be applied in determining the true potential cost, and the most conservative estimate should be employed in the study.</p>

Topic	Feedback
Are there other considerations for the IESO?	Click or tap here to enter text.

Demand

Topic	Feedback
Are the assumptions indicated reasonable and comprehensive in terms of scale and timing?	Click or tap here to enter text.

Topic	Feedback
Are there other considerations for the IESO?	Click or tap here to enter text.

Resources

Topic	Feedback
Are the assumptions indicated reasonable and comprehensive in terms of scale and timing?	Click or tap here to enter text.

Topic	Feedback
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

Given the cautionary message of the IPCC, IEA and other organizations, addressing the impacts of climate change should be a top focus of the Pathways plan. 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.

As a consumer of electricity, 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](#).