

# Burlington to Nanticoke Electricity Planning Public Webinar #2 – June 25, 2024

## Response to feedback received

The IESO hosted a public webinar for the [Burlington to Nanticoke Region](#) electricity plan or Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) on June 25, 2024. During the webinar, the IESO provided an overview of the regional electricity planning process and current status, including an update on the electricity planning underway, an overview of the electricity needs in the region, and a screening of the potential options. The presentation material and recorded webinar are available on the [Engagement Webpage](#).

The IESO appreciates the input received, which will be considered by the Technical Working Group<sup>1</sup> to develop the IRRP. Feedback was received from the following parties and the full submission can be viewed on [Engagement Webpage](#).

- [Brant Municipal Enterprises](#)
- [Enbridge Gas Inc.](#)
- [G. Douglas Vallee Limited](#)
- [Haldimand County](#)
- [Norfolk County](#)
- [The Atmospheric Fund](#)

The section below summarizes feedback received related to key developments, projects, and initiatives, as well as local issues and concerns that should be considered in the electricity planning for the Burlington to Nanticoke Region.

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<sup>1</sup> The Technical Working Group (TWG) consists of IESO as the lead, the local transmitter (Hydro One Networks Inc.), and the LDC (Alectra Utilities Corporation, Burlington Hydro Inc., GrandBridge Energy (formerly Energy+ and Brantford Power), Hydro One Networks Inc., Oakville Hydro Inc.).

## Demand Forecasts Considerations

Feedback submissions shared future developments in the region and requested transparency regarding Hamilton’s demand forecast. Feedback on these topics are summarized below.

Feedback	Response
<p>G. Douglas Vallee Limited and Norfolk County notes the area will experience significant growth and urban expansion over the next 20 to 25 years and welcome the opportunity to discuss these further, these opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A future industrial park (approximately 30-40 MW) and residential development (2 MW).</li> <li>• Significant urban area expansion for future industrial park including manufacturing in Courtland.</li> <li>• An adopted Official Plan Amendment which includes growth expansions in Delhi, Waterford and Simcoe.</li> <li>• New residential and employment growth forecasts with a higher rate of growth at 1% per annum into the future.</li> <li>• Existing areas experiencing constraints impacting reliability and employment expansion.</li> <li>• Norfolk Energy Management Plan 2024-29 that was recently completed and approved with recommendations.</li> </ul>	<p>Thank you for providing this information. The Technical Working Group has confirmed it has considered the adopted plan amendments into the forecast.</p> <p>The Technical Working Group has also confirmed the noted industrial park and residential development loads would fall within the <a href="#">London Area</a> electricity region. Regional planning in the London Area region is scheduled for 2025, however, given that there is significant industrial load growth in the region, is expected to be triggered early, with a transmitter-led Needs Assessment to begin later this year.</p> <p>While regional electricity planning is undertaken on a cyclical basis, local distribution companies (LDCs) continue to update their local-level data to capture any new developments and projects. The Technical Working Group appreciates municipalities, customers and Indigenous Communities keeping their LDC(s) up-to-date on any new local developments to ensure electricity planning is aligned.</p>
<p>Enbridge Gas Inc. would like to review the Hamilton demand forecast.</p>	<p>The IESO strives to make information available throughout the development of the IRRP to enable meaningful feedback.</p> <p>The updated Hamilton draft forecast will be shared ahead of an upcoming public engagement webinar for review and any opportunity to be provide additional input.</p> <p>Any emerging needs in Hamilton that are not addressed in the Burlington to Nanticoke IRRP will be included in an addendum in 2025.</p>
<p>Enbridge Gas Inc., recommended to develop a diversified scenario to include gas and</p>	<p>The Technical Working Group acknowledges the potential benefits of coordination between electricity planning and</p>

Feedback	Response
<p>encouraged a coordinated approach for the electric and gas sectors at the distribution and transmission level.</p>	<p>gas planning processes and welcomes further discussion and input on the options available to meet needs.</p> <p>The Electrification and Energy Transition Panel’s <a href="#">final report</a> consists of recommendations to help Ontario prepare for electrification and the energy transition. One of the panel’s principles are to ensure transparency and effective coordination in energy planning to facilitate the fuel switching, system optimization and enhanced levels of energy efficiency required by the clean energy economy. The IESO looks forward to working with the Ministry of Energy, Ontario Energy Board (OEB), LDCs, municipalities and gas utilities to develop this framework.</p>

### Recommended Solutions and Study Considerations

Feedback submissions requested expanding potential options to further explore non-wire alternatives and improve coordination between the electricity and gas sectors in examining and developing solutions. Community considerations were shared along with a request to further understand how the solutions would be implemented. The feedback on these topics are summarized below.

Feedback	Response
<p>Brant Municipal Enterprises noted that Brant County is in the process of pursuing a battery energy storage system (BESS) of up to 100 MW to address the capacity constraints identified in the Brant IRRP. This project could mitigate the impacts on the transmission system and 115 kV subsystem. It’ll be located strategically to address the transmission infrastructure limitations.</p>	<p>In order to ensure that Ontario’s electricity system remains reliable, affordable and sustainable, an evaluation of wire and non-wire options to meet the needs is a key step. Wires and non-wires such as Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) and resources including BESS, solar or wind generation, or any combination, are being explored as applicable to address the region’s identified near, medium and long-term electricity needs.</p> <p>Should a non-wires option, specifically a resource option, be recommended in the IRRP, the IESO will look to leverage the <a href="#">Resource Adequacy Framework</a>’s competitive procurement process to secure the required resources. However, the specific procurement approach would be informed based on the level of locational constraint imposed by the transmission need.</p> <p>This framework sets out a competitive strategy for securing new resources in the short, medium and long term and aligns acquisitions with evolving needs, balances ratepayer</p>

Feedback	Response
	<p>and supplier risks and recognizes the unique characteristics of different resource types.</p> <p>The Technical Working Group is conducting a further analysis of all options. Once completed, this information will be shared in an upcoming public engagement webinar. All interested parties will have an opportunity to provide feedback on these findings prior to completion of the IRRP.</p>
<p>Brant Municipal Enterprises, Enbridge Gas Inc., Norfolk County and The Atmospheric Fund have indicated an interest in non-wire alternatives being utilized to support the region’s needs and provide cost-optimal solutions that could provide efficiency and flexibility benefits to the system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brant Municipal Enterprise notes that Brant County encourages a greater emphasis on non-wires alternatives to support immediate and long-term local needs.</li> <li>• The Atmospheric Fund notes it is essential to incorporate a diverse mix of energy solutions and strategies, such as local generation and storage, demand response, efficient electrification and other local conservation and demand management (CDM) measures when securing a reliable energy system for the region.</li> <li>• The Atmospheric Fund recommends the IESO prioritizes flexible solutions that will adapt to local conditions and responds to needs as they change.</li> <li>• The Atmospheric Fund requests transparency in assumptions used in the options analysis around incremental and enhanced CDM to ensure thorough understanding of its potential.</li> <li>• Enbridge Gas Inc. requests consideration of hybrid heating as a non-wires alternative that can be leveraged to reduce peak demand and reduce the</li> </ul>	<p>Thank you for providing this feedback. In order to ensure the electricity system remains reliable, affordable and sustainable, an evaluation of different options to meet the needs is a key step.</p> <p>The IESO agrees that the contribution of CDM can lower the magnitude of the capacity need. The <a href="#">Caledonia-Norfolk and Brant Demand Forecasts</a> include forecast demand savings from committed CDM programs and distributed generation.</p> <p>As discussed in the June 25 public engagement webinar, a combination of both wire and non-wire options will be required to meet the region’s electricity needs, which are being assessed as part of the IRRP work.</p> <p>Due to the technical complexities and scale of the region’s electricity needs, a wired solution is the most suitable long-term option. However, the development of a wired solution involves significant lead time. In the interim, non-wire alternatives such as CDM, battery storage, solar or wind generation, or any combination, are being explored to address the region’s near- and medium-term needs.</p> <p>For the Technical Working Group to evaluate hybrid heating and carbon capture utilization and storage as options to address the needs identified, detailed information on the technical capability, costs and implementation timelines would be required. Further information providing details on these considerations is welcome.</p> <p>The Technical Working Group is conducting a further analysis of all options over the life of the asset, including planning-level estimates of expected costs. Once</p>

Feedback	Response
<p>need for new electricity supply and transmission infrastructure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enbridge Gas Inc. requests consideration of natural gas paired with carbon capture utilization and storage (CCUS) to meet longer term supply requirements.</li> </ul>	<p>completed, the analysis will be shared in a public engagement webinar. All interested parties will have an opportunity to provide feedback on these findings prior to completion of the IRRP.</p>
<p>Haldimand and Norfolk County shared their preferences for the potential options including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Haldimand County’s previous council passed a moratorium on wind turbines, and most recently signalled a strong informal position for energy related projects be encouraged within industrially zoned areas and away from sensitive uses. Staff request the opportunity to reach out to the current council following the July 16<sup>th</sup> deadline to determine if their position remains the same or has changed as it relates to wind and battery.</li> <li>Norfolk County supports a wired solution as the primary option, which should include the expansion of Norfolk TS and Bloomsburg MTS.</li> <li>Norfolk County supports non-wires alternatives such as generation and CDM as secondary and tertiary options respectively to assist with peak demand.</li> </ul>	<p>The IESO acknowledges the importance of community preferences and local policies during the options development and appreciates this insight. This feedback will be considered as the detailed options analysis is being completed.</p> <p>To ensure that the IRRP reflects the needs of the municipalities, Indigenous communities, community members and interested stakeholders, the IESO will conduct targeted outreach and host a public engagement webinar this fall to discuss these options further. All interested parties will have an opportunity to provide feedback on these findings prior to completion of the IRRP.</p>
<p>Norfolk County would like to further understand the impacts of solutions including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timeframes of implemented solutions for options.</li> <li>Process steps for planned infrastructure.</li> <li>Confirmation of coverage area.</li> </ul>	<p>Thank you for providing this feedback. The process and timelines for solutions vary depending on the final recommendation(s) in the IRRP.</p> <p>If there is a wired solution, the transmitter, Hydro One, will lead the development of a Regional Infrastructure Plan (RIP), the next step in the electricity planning process after IRRP completion. The RIP will assess and develop a detailed plan on how wires can be implemented to address the needs studied in the IRRP. Learn more about the regional electricity planning process on the IESO <a href="#">website</a>.</p>

Feedback	Response
<p>Brant Municipal Enterprise notes that Brant County would like careful consideration of all the downstream impacts to all local distribution companies (LDCs) on granular, locational and temporal levels and over a longer forecast period.</p>	<p>Should a resource solution be recommended in the IRRP, the IESO will look to leverage the <a href="#">Resource Adequacy Framework</a>'s competitive procurement process to secure the required resource. If CDM is recommended, the IESO will lead the implementation including any program design and delivery.</p> <p>The IRRP recommendations will outline the scope of work needed to implement the required actions, and high-level estimates of the solution timelines, which will be refined as projects proceed through applicable permitting and environmental assessment processes.</p>
	<p>Thank you for this feedback. As part of the options analysis, the Technical Working Group will consider impacts that potential solutions can have on distribution-level infrastructure before arriving at a final recommendation.</p>

## Planned Engagement

Feedback received emphasized the importance of early engagement and collaboration with municipalities, Indigenous communities and other interested parties on the development of potential options and impacts. Feedback also indicated the working group included in the planning process could be expanded. The feedback on these topics are summarized below.

Feedback	Response
<p>Brant Municipal Enterprise supports early engagement and coordination with municipalities, LDCs and Indigenous communities.</p>	<p>The IESO acknowledges the importance of early engagement with municipalities, Indigenous communities, LDCs and stakeholders as part of developing the IRRP. The feedback we receive through early outreach and public engagement webinars will help to inform the final recommendation. The purpose of the June 25 public engagement webinar was to obtain early feedback around community considerations of the proposed solutions before delving into an options analysis.</p>

Feedback	Response
	<p>We are continuously striving to enhance our engagement practices to increase opportunities for input. The IESO regularly communicates with communities and stakeholders and interested parties through emails, IESO weekly Bulletin, public webinars, and targeted outreach meetings to help these groups stay up-to-date on the IESO’s work and opportunities for engagement participation.</p>
<p>Enbridge Gas Inc., is eager to collaborate with the IESO and each core Technical Working Group established for the Burlington to Nanticoke region.</p>	<p>The Technical Working Group recognizes the potential benefits of coordination between electricity planning and gas planning processes, and district energy. The IESO welcomes the opportunity to work with Enbridge as part of the public engagement process. As the work progresses, the IESO will continue to host opportunities to share more details, including additional webinars, and opportunities for feedback.</p> <p>As noted earlier, the Electrification and Energy Transition Panel’s recently released <a href="#">final report</a> consists of recommendations to help Ontario prepare for electrification and the energy transition. One of the panel’s principles is to ensure transparency and effective coordination in energy planning. The IESO is looking forward to working with the Ministry of Energy, OEBLDCs, municipalities and gas utilities to develop this framework.</p>
<p>Haldimand County asks to be notified should they be identified as a preferred area for infrastructure development.</p>	<p>The IESO acknowledges the importance of early engagement with municipalities, Indigenous communities, LDCs and stakeholders in order to understand community considerations while developing potential options.</p> <p>After further analysis of all options is completed, the IESO will proactively engage all impacted municipalities to share outcomes, including how community considerations have been considered, and solicit feedback.</p>