

Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning in Burlington to Nanticoke – July 16, 2024

Feedback Provided by:

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Following the Burlington to Nanticoke region electricity planning engagement webinar held on June 25, 2024, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the screening of high-level potential options as outlined during the presentation. A copy of the presentation as well as the recorded webinar can be accessed from the [engagement webpage](#).

Local considerations and feedback are a critical component to the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP). As the options phase of the IRRP continues to identify how to best meet the area's infrastructure needs, the IESO wants to hear from you.

Please submit your feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by July 16, 2024

Topic	Feedback
<p>What perspectives do you have on the high-level wire and non-wire options?</p>	<p>The IESO should give consideration to hybrid heating as a non-wires alternative. Hybrid heating provides a readily available opportunity to reduce peak electricity demand, provide for wider adoption of electrification, and achieve GHG emission reductions in the near term. Wide-scale deployment of hybrid heating systems with smart controls provides an additional opportunity to reduce energy system costs as a form of behind-the-meter demand response, which can be leveraged to mitigate peak electricity demands and reduce required investments in new electricity supply resources and transmission infrastructure.</p> <p>To meet longer term supply requirements, consideration should be given to renewable natural gas (RNG), hydrogen and natural gas paired with carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS).</p>
<p>What additional information should be considered in the assessment of these options?</p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
<p>Are there any additional information that should be provided in future engagements to help understand municipal perspectives and insights?</p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>

General Comments/Feedback

Enbridge Gas advocates for a coordinated energy system planning approach between the electric and gas sectors to identify the most reliable, resilient, and cost-effective pathway to emissions reduction. A well-rounded and coordinated planning strategy will help optimize the energy systems in the Burlington to Nanticoke Region, while also achieving the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets and meeting the region's growing energy demands. Coordination should occur at both distribution and transmission system planning levels to fully leverage existing systems. Enbridge Gas is eager to collaborate with IESO and each core Technical Working Group (TWG) established for the region of the Burlington to Nanticoke Region on their Integrated Regional Resource Plans (IRRP). This collaboration aims to explore optimal scenarios that utilize the benefits of both energy systems to meet local energy needs.

In the spirit of coordination of planning between sectors, Enbridge Gas suggests that the opportunity to review the updates being made to the Hamilton sub-region demand forecast as part of the Burlington to Nanticoke IRRP in order to provide more holistic feedback would be advantageous. Enbridge Gas recommends considering a diversified scenario for Hamilton that includes both electric and low-carbon gas (such as renewable natural gas (RNG) and hydrogen). Examples of electric and gas systems working together include gas-fired power generation and hybrid heating, which could be leveraged as a residential peak demand reduction measure. With the increased transmission and distribution of RNG and hydrogen in Ontario, GHG reductions can be achieved while maintaining system reliability through the use of gas-fired generation plants to meet peak demands. This approach avoids overbuilding the electricity system to handle peak heat loads (including increased agricultural greenhouse needs) in winter, allowing natural gas usage to transition to low and zero carbon fuels over time.

Enbridge Gas believes that Ontario can benefit from a balanced and orderly transition to a low-emission and diversified energy system, incorporating new energy technologies over time. Ontarians expect – and deserve – access to reliable, resilient, and cost-effective energy systems. A collaborative and coordinated approach to energy planning can lead to better investments in both gas and electricity systems, driving optimal solutions for the Burlington to Nanticoke.