Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning in Ottawa Area Subregion – December 12, 2024

Feedback Provided by:

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Following the Ottawa Area Subregion electricity planning engagement webinar held on December 12, 2024, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the potential wire options and Local Achievable Potential Study as outlined during the presentation. A copy of the presentation as well as the recorded webinar can be accessed from the <u>engagement webpage</u>.

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 electricity needs, the IESO wants to hear from you.

Please submit your feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by January 2, 2025.

Regional Planning

Торіс	Feedback
What perspectives do you have on the potential wire options?	Click or tap here to enter text.



Торіс	Feedback
What information should be considered in the evaluation of non-wire options?	Enbridge Gas suggests that the IESO should explore hybrid heating as a viable non-wires alternative particularly in subsystems or downstream of transformer stations that have forecast a large portion of demand coming from residential electrification. Hybrid heating presents an immediate opportunity to facilitate broader electrification while keeping peak electricity demand lower and achieving near-term reductions in GHG emissions. Implementing hybrid heating systems on a large scale, equipped with smart controls, offers a cost- effective behind-the-meter demand response solution that can help alleviate forecasted peak electricity loads and reduce the need for investments in new supply resources and transmission infrastructure. Additionally, for meeting long-term supply needs (as in transmission or distribution connected resources), renewable natural gas (RNG), hydrogen, and natural gas combined with carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) should be considered.
Are there any additional information that should be provided in future engagements to help understand municipal perspectives and insights?	With the demand scenarios evaluated, it would be helpful for IESO to provide information and updates on how forecasted demand vs actuals are measured and compared, especially as electricity demand is projected to rapidly increase. This information would be of use to Enbridge Gas in our demand forecasting process and to ensure on-going energy security for the Ottawa Area Subregion as energy transition unfolds over time.

Local Achievable Potential Study

Торіс	Feedback
Is there any feedback on the scope, methodology and potential uses of the Local Achievable Potential Study that the IESO should consider?	In line with the government's recent proposed legislative amendments that would enable the development of Ontario's first Integrated Energy Resource Plan and foster collaboration between the gas and electricity sectors, Enbridge believes that an "all-of-the-above" approach to energy planning will maintain flexibility in addressing immediate and future energy challenges and ensure customer choice. Enbridge Gas is interested in further discussing the LAPS for the Ottawa and Toronto regions with the IESO to determine if or how Enbridge Gas could support the LAPS. Enbridge Gas believes this to be pertinent, given the provinces direction for enhanced coordination with respect to Demand Side Management via a "One Window" approach.
Are there additional data sources or regional policies/trends that should be considered in the Local Achievable Potential Study?	Click or tap here to enter text.

General Comments/Feedback

Enbridge Gas advocates for a coordinated approach to energy system planning between the electric and gas sectors to identify the most reliable, resilient and affordable pathway to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions. A well-rounded and coordinated planning strategy will help optimize the energy systems in the Ottawa Area Subregion, while also supporting the 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. For example, Enbridge Gas appreciates the efforts made by the IESO in taking the first step towards more collaborative and coordinated energy planning by including Enbridge Gas as an observer in the Ottawa Region working group and providing an opportunity to participate in discussions on the decarbonization scenarios that are considered in the demand forecast. Additionally, Enbridge had material involvement in the development of the Windsor-Essex Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP), further emphasizing the importance of collaboration in planning for gas and electricity systems. Collaboration efforts such as these examples enables more strategic and efficient investments to be made, delivering significant benefits to the subject region. Effective coordination at both the distribution and transmission planning levels is essential to fully utilize existing infrastructure and address the increasing energy demands of the region. This would benefit the residents and businesses in the Ottawa Area Subregion and Ontario more broadly by optimizing existing local energy systems (electric and gas), keeping costs down for ratepayers, while also minimizing GHG emissions. For these reasons, Enbridge Gas is prepared and would welcome the opportunity to work with IESO and the Ottawa Subregion Technical Working Group (TWG) on its IRRP for the region, as well as the LAPS.