Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning - North of Dryden Addendum Study

Feedback Provided by:

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To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on this engagement webpage unless otherwise requested by the sender.

Following the North of Dryden Addendum regional planning webinar held on May 7, 2025, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the demand forecast, electricity needs, and options screening. A copy of the presentation as well as recording of the session can be accessed from the engagement web page.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by May 21, 2025.

North of Dryden Addendum Study

Topic	Feedback
What feedback do you have regarding the demand forecast?	Click or tap here to enter text.
What feedback do you have regarding the electricity needs identified?	Click or tap here to enter text.
What feedback do you have regarding the options screened to meet the needs?	
What additional information should be considered as we evaluate options?	Click or tap here to enter text.
What additional information should be provided in future engagements to help understand perspectives and insights?	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. 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 Northwest region and Ontario more broadly by optimizing existing local energy systems (electric and gas), and keeping costs down for ratepayers. Given Enbridge Gas operates both the gas distribution and gas transmission systems, bringing Enbridge Gas into the IRRP Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Northwest region would facilitate planning between the gas and electric systems for both levels of systems.

Enbridge Gas appreciates the efforts made by the IESO in including Enbridge Gas as an observer in the Ottawa Region working group and providing an opportunity to participate in discussions on the scenarios that were considered in the demand forecast. Collaboration efforts such as these examples enables more strategic and efficient investments to be made, delivering significant benefits to the subject region.

For these reasons, Enbridge Gas is prepared and formally requests the opportunity to work with IESO and the Northwest region TWG on the Northwest Region IRRP Addendum, and to explore scenarios that leverage the benefits of both energy systems to meet the local energy needs.

In developing the IRRP Addendum, Enbridge Gas recommends considering a scenario that includes both electric and gas system solutions, such as low-carbon gas (i.e., renewable natural gas [RNG] and hydrogen). Examples of electric and gas systems working in a coordinated manner are gas-fired power generation (on a system level) and hybrid heating and combined heat and power (on a site

level). 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 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 lower-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 Northwest region.