

# Feedback Form

## Regional Electricity Planning in the North of Dryden Addendum – July 30, 2025

### Feedback Provided by:

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Date: August 12, 2025

To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the North of Dryden Addendum [engagement webpage](#) unless otherwise requested by the sender.

Following the North of Dryden Addendum regional planning webinar held on July 30, 2025, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the results of the options analysis and draft recommendations. 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](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca) by August 13, 2025.**

Topic	Feedback
What feedback do you have regarding the results of the detailed options analysis?	The analysis and options presented reflect an accurate view of the current situation in the North of Dryden area. The options presented are all viable and provide valid alternatives for additional transmission capacity in the area. The analysis does not seem to include an accurate time component reflecting when the various loads will be added to the transmission system, particularly in the Red Lake area. There appears to be little or no consideration to the most likely, and largest projected load from the Springpole Mine on the E1C transmission line.
What feedback do you have on the draft recommendations?	Preliminary indications are that Option 3 Double will be recommended by IESO. This option will not provide service to the single largest forecast load in the area. The Springpole Mine will have a forecast load approaching 60MW. It is the most likely, largest, most advanced development in the entire north of Dryden area and is not accommodated in the recommendations.
How can the IESO continue to engage with communities and stakeholders as these recommendations are implemented, or to help prepare for the next planning cycle?	Engagement with specific communities and stakeholders on a one-to-one basis is recommended. This will give IESO insight into how likely the various developments are to proceed. Also suggested is continued engagement with industry experts to assess the likelihood of a development proceeding. Electrical load allocation is also important when considering management of transmission lines at capacity, as is the case in Red Lake. Allocation of load to consumers not currently utilizing their allocated capacity should be considered available to other consumers, at least in the short term.

## General Comments/Feedback

The Springpole Mine is expected to be the next large open pit gold mine in Canada. The Mine will produce in excess of 300,000 ounces of gold per year, with critical minerals byproducts. It will be the largest economic development in the North of Dryden area over the next 20 years. The Springpole Mine is located approximately 40km north of the E1C transmission line, a critical electrical corridor between Ear Falls and Pickle Lake. Currently the E1C transmission line does not have the

capacity to service the forecast Springpole Mine load (60MW), expected to have an in-service date of 2030. There are several alternatives to the Option Double D expected to be recommended by IESO that would provide adequate service to the Springpole Mine. These include, a) upgrade of the E1C line to 230kVa from Pickle Lake to Springpole, b) E1C conductor upgrade with normally closed at the Pickle Lake TS to provide service to Springpole at 115 kVa. c) similar to option b, at 230 kVa. d) connection of the E1C to the WS4W (Watay Power) line at a remote connection point east of Slate Falls Nation.

Perhaps the best alternative is to upgrade the entire E1C to 230 kVa. This will provide an increase in transmission capacity to Ear Falls and make additional capacity available to Red Lake with an upgrade to the E2R circuit. As a progressive upgrade to the north of Dryden area, this will allow for future improvements as projects progress over the next number of years.

I look forward to further dialogue with IESO on planning for upgrades in this area.