

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?	The Reference forecast appears to be in line with the projected loads of the NW Energy Task Force. Our only concern is that there is sufficient transmission capacity to deliver the required power to the various mines and communities. It may also be that the target of 435 MW may not be sufficient to deal with seasonal fluctuations. The graph on slide 19 indicates the approximate growth of approximately 10 MW between mid 2027 and 2028. As the existing lines are at or near capacity, the plan must identify a short-term solution to enable the system to meet this projected demand.
What feedback do you have regarding the electricity needs identified?	The residential load growth estimate is projected to be 1.6% per year. We are concerned that this projection does not reflect the very real growth in the existing communities as they expand to meet the projected employment for the new mines along with the ancillary growth in businesses supporting the mining operations. The projection needs to take this community expansion into the identification of future needs. Also, the move to have more electric power equipment underground must be factored into the demand projection.
What feedback do you have regarding the options screened to meet the needs?	The NW Energy Task Force recommends option 1 as the most appropriate for the area. The existing radial lines serving Ear Falls and Red Lake and the Watay Power line serving Pickle Lake are in forest fire country and have seen significant disruptions in the past. Option 1 creates a triangle of service that would ensure that all of the customers would receive some level of power in the event that one of the north-south transmission lines are broken. That also applies to the Pickle Lake to Ear Falls transmission line. We support the inclusion of biomass generation in the Non-Wires Options, however we would also recommend including hydro-electric development options that are available adjacent to Watay Power's two transmission lines.

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What additional information should be considered as we evaluate options?	We have been advised that all proposed transmission lines are single circuit. The design of the towers for the lines receiving approval should be for twin circuits even though only a single circuit is planned at the outset. In addition, a further analysis of the load carrying capability of the proposed single circuit lines may find that they are insufficient to meet the projected needs and will need to be twinned during the first phase of construction.
What additional information should be provided in future engagements to help understand perspectives and insights?	Actual MW capacity of each line in each of the options along with the loads that will be connected to those individual circuits.

General Comments/Feedback

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