

Parry Sound/Muskoka Regional Electricity Planning Public Webinar #2 – December 8, 2021

Response to feedback received

The IESO hosted a public webinar for the Parry Sound/Muskoka long-term electricity plan – Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) – on December 8, 2021 to seek input on a range of potential solutions being considered to meet the needs of each sub-region’s future electricity needs to be examined as part of the IRRP. The presentation material and recorded webinar are available on the [engagement webpage](#).

Feedback was received from EverGreen Energy Corp. focused on supplying Ontario’s future electricity needs with cost-effective, efficient and clean resources. The full [submission](#) can be viewed on the engagement webpage.

This response to feedback document acknowledges the input received along with the IESO’s response to feedback.

Feedback: Area growth information is needed to best customize potential solutions to meet emerging needs.

IESO response: A demand forecast for the sub-region was developed in collaboration with the local distribution companies (LDCs) as the first major component of the IRRP that indicates how the sub-region is growing and the nature of emerging electricity needs. This forecast takes into account expected changes to demand resulting from growth, known embedded generation, and energy efficiency. Further, through targeted outreach with local municipalities and the IRRP engagement initiative, feedback was sought on key local developments, projects, initiatives and key considerations that has also been considered to inform the demand forecast. The information was included in the September 8, 2021 [presentation](#) and will also be included final IRRP report that will be posted on the [engagement webpage](#) in Q2 2022.

Feedback: Clarification requested on the location and magnitude to emerging electricity needs in the sub-region (e.g. housing growth, hospitals, schools, industrial development, etc.), including areas with approaching end-of-life needs.

Response: Details surrounding the emerging electricity needs in the Parry Sound/Muskoka sub-region are included in the appendix of the December 8, 2021 [presentation](#). Additional information will be included in the final IRRP report that will be posted on the [engagement webpage](#) in Q2 2022.

Feedback: Helping reduce the need for new distribution and transmission through alternative energy solution that can be customized to address system needs will save money.

IESO response: The IESO recognizes the benefit of local solutions playing a role in meeting electricity needs. A variety of solutions will be considered through the economic comparison of options to provide recommended solutions in the next phase of this engagement.

Feedback: There are many small communities within this region on diesel power. It will be good to get these communities off diesel and using clean safe electricity for power and heat in order to reduce carbon and show leadership for the rest of Canada.

IESO response: Details surrounding remote community connection plans for diesel-powered communities in northern Ontario can be viewed on the IESO's [website](#). At present, plans are not underway in this planning region. The IESO delivers Energy Support Programs to Ontario Indigenous communities and organizations programs which in 2020 provided \$7.1 million in [funding](#) to support communities and organizations across Ontario that are moving forward with plans to transform how they meet their energy needs, choosing cleaner, more reliable and more affordable options. For further information about the Energy Support Programs, including eligibility criteria, please visit the IESO funding programs [webpage](#).