



# MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE

## KENHTEKE KANIENKEHA

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE / TECHNICAL SERVICES / ENVIRONMENT  
24 Meadow Drive, Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory, ON K0K 1X0

April 14, 2025

Sent by Email

Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)  
120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 1600  
Toronto, ON M5H 1T1

Re: Peterborough to Kingston Area Draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report | Peterborough to Kingston Regional Electricity Planning

IESO Indigenous Engagement Team:

### Existing Conditions:

The Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory receives hydro services through two D.S Stations. One is located on Shannonville Rd in Shannonville and the other is on Mowbray's Rd in Marysville. The community has access to 3 phase servicing in limited areas, along Mowbrays/Bell's Rd to Old Highway #2/ Hwy #49/York Rd. Approximately 13kms on the east end and approximately, 5km along Old Hwy #2 in the Shannonville area.

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte (MBQ) is a First Nation located in eastern Ontario along the shores of the Bay of Quinte, centrally located between Belleville and Kingston, Ontario. It is the Sixth Largest FN in Ontario and the Tenth Largest in Canada. Current assets include:

- approximately 1,400 homes
- 30 community buildings for service delivery
- 200 businesses with critical above and inground infrastructure
- Operate and maintain a water treatment plant with low lift station with approximately 50 kms of water distribution
- 11 wastewater liftstations and approximately 8kms of wastewater collection distribution.

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte are a dynamic and growing First Nation with a highly successful mortgage and rental housing program. New business development is increasingly annually. Geographically, we are situated centrally between Toronto and Montreal and immediately adjacent to the 401 and is attracting regular business investment. However, we are unable to maximize our economic development potential in the absence of sufficient hydro capacity and sufficient (3) phase distribution servicing to support commercial/industrial development. Access to a safe reliable hydro servicing is necessary to support community infrastructure operations and business investment.

### Community Concerns:

#### 1. Wooden Pole Replacement

There remains a significant amount of distribution poles throughout the community that require replacement due to the age of the poles. There are some poles that are quite old and would not withstand extreme weather events

The Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte are currently in the process of finalizing a funding agreement under the Indigenous Energy Support Program through the IESO to perform a feasibility study on the electrical infrastructure. The purpose of the study is to better understand and provide precise metrics of where replacements and upgrades are needed to improve the sustainability of the local electrical grid, and better plan for future developments.

## **2. Reliability of the Distribution System**

On average our area experiences approximately 10 outages per year lasting several hours and one lasting several days. Our water operators have documented power interruption occurrences at the water plant. Reliability of the distribution is paramount given the age demographic and the essential services provided by our water and wastewater infrastructure.

In addition, our area has experienced significant extreme weather events from two flood and drought events to more recently a significant ice storm and one tornado in June 2022.

## **3. Lack of Power Distribution Investment**

The burden of extending hydro servicing lines in our community has fallen onto the First Nation. There is a housing shortage in our community and there are areas where there is no hydro service. As a First Nation with limited financial resources, we do not have the ability to finance the construction of power line extensions required for housing. This has been raised with the Indigenous Relations Director, Matt Jackson, with no response.

In 1994 Ontario Hydro revised the policy to deny the costs for line extensions. This is a significant financial burden placed on First Nations to cover the costs. In addition, we have approximately 10kms of unopened road allowances that will require hydro servicing.

## **4. Lack of Investment in 3ph Servicing**

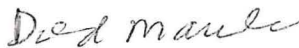
Southern First Nations have emerging markets and require three phase servicing to support economic development initiatives. In our community three phase service is limited to specific areas. Approximately 20 kms out of the 80kms of road has access to 3 phase servicing.

Any hydro interruption has significant impacts to the community. The Scoping Assessment Outcome Report mentions specific municipalities however the report is silent on the regional impact to First Nations. Sections specific to First Nations in the regional area should be incorporated into the report. The future demand from First Nations will likely be significantly higher than other jurisdictions as communities continue to grow and develop.

Therefore, the Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte are requesting an in person meeting to further understand the engagement process and to discuss our hydro/electricity concerns with the IESO Indigenous Engagement Team.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours truly,



Chief R. Donald Maracle  
Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

cc     Tyendinaga Mohawk Council  
        Angela Maracle, CAO  
        Todd Kring, Director of Community Infrastructure  
        Erika Dawson, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Relations, Hydro One  
        Michael O'Byrne, Regional Director General  
        Kyle Wier, A/Associate Director General  
        Nico Paul, Director, Community Infrastructure