

Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning in the South Georgian Bay/Muskoka Region – July 27, 2026

Feedback Provided by:

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To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the [South Georgian Bay/Muskoka engagement webpage](#) unless otherwise requested by the sender.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the scoping assessment report. A copy of the report and a narrated video presentation can be accessed from the [engagement web page](#).

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by August 10, 2026.

Topic	Feedback
What additional information, if any, should be incorporated in the proposed scenarios? How can the proposed scenarios best capture the range and	See additional comments for more specific information. As a rural municipality strategically located between Barrie and Orillia, Oro-Medonte has significant long-term growth potential that may not be reflected in current forecasts.

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uncertainty of growth potential while informing near-term infrastructure investments?	Regional electricity planning should consider future population growth, employment land development, airport-related expansion, and emerging economic opportunities along the Highway 11 corridor to ensure sufficient capacity is available to support future investment and development. Considering for future development that may not be formally noted as plans are still developing, but could be significantly impacted if the future electricity isn't considered.
What areas of concern or interest about electricity should be considered as part of the planning process?	While much of the discussion around future electricity demand is often focused on urban centres, it is important that regional planning also recognize the needs and opportunities of rural municipalities such as Oro-Medonte. Electricity planning should consider not only current demand, but also the long-term growth potential of strategically located rural communities. Ensuring sufficient capacity is available to support future investment and economic development opportunities in rural municipalities is essential, as growth and employment opportunities are not limited to cities and often require significant infrastructure planning well in advance of development.
What information is important to provide throughout the engagement? Does the proposed Engagement Plan provide sufficient scope and opportunities for input? What other engagement activities or methods should be considered?	Regular communication and sharing information from the LDC's is helpful, as there can be staff that come in and out of these longer-term conversations and engagement, that need to understand future plans. Making sure all levels of government have an opportunity for input, and consideration for all types and sizes of municipalities.

General Comments/Feedback

The Township of Oro-Medonte encourages regional electricity planning authorities to consider not only current development applications and approved growth projections, but also the longer-term growth opportunities that are likely to emerge over the next several decades. Given the long lifespan of electricity infrastructure and the significant lead time required to plan and implement capacity upgrades, it is critical that future electricity needs be evaluated through both a near-term and long-term lens. While Oro-Medonte is predominantly rural in character, it occupies a strategic location between the Cities of Barrie and Orillia and is situated along the Highway 11 transportation corridor. This positioning creates unique opportunities for residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation-related growth that may not be fully reflected in current development forecasts, we are currently working through a Growth Management strategy. Key considerations include:

Population Growth and Urban Expansion: As growth pressures continue throughout the Greater

Golden Horseshoe and Simcoe County, Oro-Medonte is expected to experience increasing demand for housing, employment and associated infrastructure. The Township's proximity to major urban centres and transportation routes positions it as an attractive location for future developments beyond currently approved projects. Employment Land Development: There remains significant potential for additional employment-generating uses throughout the municipality, particularly within strategic areas along the Highway 11 corridor. Future electricity planning should account for increased electrical demand associated with industrial, commercial, logistics, and advanced manufacturing opportunities that may emerge over time. Lake Simcoe Regional Airport Expansion: The planned growth of the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport represents a significant long-term driver of electricity demand. In addition to terminal and airport facility expansion, there is considerable opportunity for aviation-related businesses, aerospace industries, logistics operations, warehousing, and other employment uses on surrounding lands. These activities typically require substantial and reliable electrical capacity and should be incorporated into long-range electricity forecasting. Oro Station Opportunities: The continued development of the Oro Station area, including the Automotive Innovation Park and related employment uses, has the potential to become a major economic hub within the region. Future electricity planning should recognize the possibility of increased demand associated with research and development activities, advanced manufacturing, electric vehicle technologies, and other energy-intensive operations. Highway 11 Industrial and Commercial Growth: Existing businesses, including expansions such as those undertaken by major employers, demonstrate the ongoing attractiveness of the Highway 11 corridor for investment. Future growth in this area may exceed current forecasts as additional industrial and commercial lands are developed and existing businesses expand. Emerging Technologies and Electrification: Long-term forecasts should also account for broader trends in electrification, including electric vehicle adoption, fleet electrification, increased demand for electric heating systems, distributed energy resources, battery storage, and emerging industrial technologies. These trends are likely to increase electricity demand significantly beyond what traditional population-based forecasting models may predict. Given these considerations, the Township recommends that regional electricity planning incorporate a scenario-based approach that evaluates higher-growth and accelerated economic development scenarios in addition to baseline forecasts. Ensuring sufficient electrical capacity and system resilience will be essential to supporting future investment, economic competitiveness, and sustainable growth throughout Oro-Medonte and the broader region.