

The final GTA North Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) is now posted along with the IESO's response to feedback. The IRRP looks at the unique needs of a region and considers a range of options to meet the area's electricity needs over a 20-year period. Due to the significant growth projected in York Region, a mix of new transmission infrastructure, upgrades to existing infrastructure and incremental electricity Demand Side Management (eDSM) are recommended in this plan. This IRRP builds upon those previous regional and bulk plans to continue to ensure reliable electricity supply across the region.

To ensure the plan reflects the needs of Indigenous communities, market participants, municipalities, stakeholders, customers and the general public, the IESO engaged extensively through a [dedicated webpage](#), targeted discussions, webinars and other communication channels. Input from these efforts informed the development of the report and shaped its final recommendations.

The forecasted growth in the GTA North electrical region is primarily driven by housing targets, economic development, and electrification. To ensure reliability, the Technical Working Group (TWG) - led by Hydro One Networks Inc., Alectra Utilities, and Newmarket-Tay Power - identified the following near-term plan recommendations:

- Incremental eDSM programs, including Distributed Energy Resources (DERs), to help manage electricity demand and ease pressure on the system. Among the plan recommendations is a strong call to action for customers to participate in eDSM and DER program opportunities.
- Improving reliability in southern Vaughan and Richmond Hill by installing new breakers to prevent outages and support development near the Yonge-North Subway Extension.
- Upgrading infrastructure in the Markham area to support new stations and growing demand, with key transmission projects planned through 2034.
- Building new transmission lines in northern Vaughan along the future Highway 413 corridor to support growth across York Region and Simcoe County.

Based on the current forecast, the TWG also identified longer-term recommendations to continue monitoring the need to build new transmission lines in Markham, north of Buttonville, to support residential growth, and to plan ahead for future stations and switching facilities to ensure the system can scale with demand. The TWG will monitor and meet annually to assess whether the longer-term options for additional transmission

infrastructure are required and to discuss the timing and scope of those options in future regional electricity planning cycles.

For background about the study scope, engagement and details about the GTA North region, please visit the [engagement webpage](#).

This concludes the engagement initiative. The TWG appreciates your participation and input received throughout the IRRP development and encourages you to engage your local distribution company on new developments and local energy priorities. Please contact engagement@ieso.ca if you have any questions regarding the GTA North IRRP.

Chiara Cozzi

IESO Regional & Community Engagement

++This email is being sent to municipalities, IESO subscribers for the GTA North region, and active participants in this engagement initiative. To subscribe for regional planning updates or manage your subscription, please visit <https://www.ieso.ca/subscribe>.