



## Newsroom 2014

---

### [December 19, 2014: Contracts Offered for Extended FIT 3 Procurement](#)

The extended FIT 3 procurement has concluded as the OPA prepares to offer 332 new FIT contracts.

### [December 18, 2014: Merger of the OPA and the IESO](#)

The OPA is merging with the IESO on January 1, 2015.

### [December 1, 2015: FIT Program Enhancements Being Considered for 2015](#)

Interested parties may submit comments to a discussion paper by email to [FIT@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FIT@powerauthority.on.ca) by January 23, 2015.

### [October 9, 2014: FIT Contract Version 3.0.2](#)

The OPA has posted version 3.0.2 of the FIT Contract, which includes the requirement to reconfirm Municipal Council Support Resolutions or Aboriginal Support Resolutions, if applicable, as part of the Notice to Proceed (NTP) Pre-requisites as further detailed in section 2.4

### [September 30, 2014: New FIT/microFIT Price Schedule Available](#)

As required by the August 29, 2014 Minister's direction, the OPA has posted an updated FIT/microFIT price schedule. [View the new price schedule here.](#)

### [September 26, 2014: Confirmation of Applicant Participation in the Extended FIT 3 Procurement](#)

To prepare for the extended FIT 3 procurement, the OPA has posted the [Prescribed Form: Confirmation of Applicant Participation in the Extended FIT 3 Procurement](#) for Eligible Applicants to review.

### [August 29, 2014: Price Review and Extending the FIT 3 Procurement](#)

On August 29, 2014, the Minister of Energy directed the OPA to extend the FIT 3 procurement.

### [August 29, 2014: Price Review - Stakeholder, Organization and Association Engagement](#)

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is conducting the annual price review to determine the FIT and microFIT pricing structure for 2015.

### [August 14, 2014: New FIT Contract Version 3.0.1 posted](#)

To comply with a July 25, 2014 directive issued by the Ministry of Energy, the OPA has posted version 3.0.1 of the FIT Contract which does not reflect any domestic content requirements.

### [July 30, 2014: FIT Version 3 contracts offered](#)

Ontario's clean energy economy continues to grow as the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) offers 500 new Feed-in Tariff (FIT) renewable energy contracts.

### [July 24, 2014: Terminated FIT Contracts](#)

In response to inquiries and to increase transparency, the OPA has posted a list of FIT contracts that the OPA has terminated.

### [June 19, 2014: Program Update](#)

During the transition period until the new government is fully in place, the Ontario Power Authority will continue to work on routine business. Decisions on launching initiatives or on the execution of new agreements may be deferred, pending government direction.

### [April 7, 2014: Update for FIT 3 Applicants](#)

The OPA has completed an initial review of 1,779 FIT applications totalling about 436 megawatts (MW) from across the province. The applications were received during the application window open from November 4 to December 13, 2013.

### [April 7, 2014: Update for URSP Applicants](#)

The OPA has completed an initial review of 151 Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP) applications totalling 35.5 megawatts (MW) from across the province. The applications were received during the application window open from November 4 to December 13, 2013.

### [April 4, 2014: Independent Evaluation Monitor's Report for FIT 2](#)

The OPA has published the independent evaluation monitor's report on the FIT 2 application review process for the December 14, 2012 to January 18, 2013 application window.

### [February 14, 2014: Approach for FIT Contracts that have Renewable Energy Approvals Appealed to the Environmental Review Tribunal](#)

In response to concerns raised by Suppliers and other stakeholders, the OPA will contractually address appeals of Renewable Energy Approvals to the Environmental Review Tribunal.

### [January 24, 2014: FIT 3 application summary](#)

During the most recent FIT 3 application window from November 4 to December 13, 2013, the OPA received 1,982 applications representing a total of 493.71 megawatts (MW).

### [January 17, 2014: Deadline to withdraw a FIT Application or a URSP Application](#)

In accordance with Section 3.4(b)(ii) of the FIT Rules, the deadline to submit a withdrawal request for a FIT Application or an Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP) application to the OPA is January 22, 2014 at 11:59:59 p.m.

## Contracts Offered for Extended FIT 3 Procurement

---

The extended FIT 3 procurement has concluded as the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) prepares to offer 332 new Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) renewable energy contracts. These contracts represent 100 megawatts (MW) of power, enough to power almost 13,000 homes. On August 29, 2014, the Minister of Energy [directed the OPA](#) to award up to 100 MW of FIT contracts to FIT 3 eligible applicants who were not offered a contract on July 30, 2014. Successful applicants, who confirmed their interest in participating in the extended FIT 3 procurement during the Prescribed Form submission period from October 1, 2014 to October 10, 2014, will be offered a FIT contract.

The breakdown of contract offers are as follows: 330 solar PV projects and 2 bioenergy projects. The projects announced today include 121 projects (31.4 MW) with Aboriginal participation, 60 projects (18.6 MW) with community participation, and 151 projects (50 MW) with municipal or public sector participation.

[See the complete list of extended FIT 3 procurement contract offers.](#)

[See a summary of the extended FIT 3 procurement Participation Project contract offers.](#)

Successful applicants whose applications evidenced Municipal Council Support Resolutions or Aboriginal Support Resolutions will be required to reconfirm such support for their projects through new support resolutions to be provided as part of the Notice to Proceed Pre-requisites in the FIT Contract.

On January 1, 2015, the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is merging with the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). The new organization will combine the OPA and IESO mandates. As a result of this merger, successful applicants will receive a FIT Contract from the IESO rather than from the OPA. This change will not affect their FIT Contract offer.

All applicants will receive information on their My FIT Home Page regarding the status of their application.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### 1. How did the OPA determine which projects were offered contracts?

The OPA offered contracts to Eligible Applicants who submitted the required Prescribed Form during the submission period in October 2014 and whose applications passed the connection availability testing based on Contract Capacity Set-Asides (CCSA) and priority point rankings, until 100 MW of the 150 MW 2014 FIT Procurement Target had been reached. Eligible Applicants were those applicants whose applications (i) were received during the FIT 3 application period, (ii) were deemed complete and eligible, and (iii) were not included in the Offer List posted on July 30, 2014.

#### 2. Why was there 100 MW of CCSA available in the extended FIT 3 procurement?

[On June 12, 2013](#), the Minister of Energy directed the OPA to award up to 150 MW of contracts for Small FIT Projects in each of the next four years, starting in 2014. This direction also provided for access to Contract Capacity Set-Asides (CCSA) in each of the next four years, starting in 2014, for Small Fit Projects involving greater than 50 percent equity participation as follows: 50 MW for municipalities and public sector entities, 25 MW for Aboriginal communities, and 25 MW for communities.

[On August 29, 2014](#), the Minister of Energy directed the OPA to extend the FIT 3 procurement by allocating up to 100 MW of

the 150 MW 2014 FIT procurement target to eligible FIT 3 applicants provided there is available connection capacity. The remaining 50 MW will be included in the 2015 FIT Application Period. The CCSA allocation outlined above was also applied to the extended FIT procurement target.

As with all FIT procurements, if there are not enough eligible applications to fulfill each CCSA, the remaining CCSA capacity is allocated to non-CCSA projects based on ranking, until the applicable procurement target is reached.

### **3. My application was terminated, is there an appeals process?**

There is no appeals process. The decision of the OPA is final as per the FIT Rules, version 3.0. A message will be posted to each applicant's My FIT Home Page with information about why their application was terminated.

### **4. I passed the TAT/DAT connection testing and I am on the contract offer list. What happens next?**

Applications appearing on the FIT contract offer list will receive an Offer Notice, together with the applicable version of the FIT Contracts in accordance with the applicable FIT Rules. Contracts will be sent out via email to the Primary Contact's e-mail address provided on the application form.

This process is anticipated to commence in January 2015 and will take several weeks to complete. For more information, please refer to the application-specific message sent to the My FIT Home Page.

### **5. Why was my URSP project not included in the extended FIT 3 procurement contract offer list?**

The URSP was not renewed as part of the extended FIT 3 procurement.

The OPA is currently undergoing a review of the URSP to determine whether it will be renewed in subsequent FIT procurements.



## December 18, 2014: Merger of the OPA and the IESO

---

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA), the organization that coordinates province-wide conservation efforts, plans the electricity system for the long term, and contracts for clean electricity resources, is merging with the Independent Electricity System Operator on January 1, 2015, into a new organization that will carry the name Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO). The IESO currently balances demand for electricity against available supply through the wholesale market and directs the flow of electricity across the transmission system.

The current responsibilities of both organizations will continue after the merger, including the operation of the FIT program. As a result of this merger, applicants who receive a contract in 2015, including successful extended FIT 3 procurement applicants, will receive IESO branded contract documents to reflect the new merged organization.

Both organizations are working to ensure the transition to the new IESO is as seamless as possible. All OPA email addresses will transition from the @powerauthority.on.ca extension to the @ieso.ca extension on January 1, however during a transition period all emails sent to @powerauthority.on.ca will automatically be redirected to the new email address. Phone numbers will remain the same. We thank you for your patience as we update our website to reflect the new organization.

## December 1, 2014: FIT Program Enhancements Being Considered for 2015

---

On August 29, 2014, the Minister of Energy [directed the OPA](#) to conduct focused stakeholder engagement, in consultation with the Ministry of Energy, to inform potential changes to the FIT Program for implementation in 2015. As a framework for this engagement process, the OPA has posted a discussion paper that outlines proposed enhancements to the FIT Program that are being considered. A similar document outlining proposed microFIT enhancements has also been posted to the [microFIT website](#).

A webinar to discuss both the FIT 2015 Discussion Paper and the microFIT 2015 Discussion Paper has been scheduled for **December 11, 2014**. Participants will be able to ask questions and provide feedback either by phone or on the web.

**Date: Thursday, December 11, 2014**

**Time:** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (US & Canada)

**URL:** [www.meetview.com/opa20141211/](http://www.meetview.com/opa20141211/)

**Local Phone:** 416-764-8640

**Toll-free Phone:** 1-888-239-2037

Over the past three years since the Ontario government launched the FIT two-year review, the OPA and the Ministry of Energy have received feedback on aspects of the program that are working well and on other aspects that could be improved upon. Feedback on all program aspects, whether noted in the FIT 2015 Discussion Paper or otherwise, is encouraged and will be considered as the OPA develops the FIT Rules, Contract and other associated documents for use in the 2015 Application Period.

Interested parties should [subscribe to the FIT subscriber list](#) to ensure they are kept aware of any updates relating to the FIT Program. Subscribers will be notified of any additional engagement activities on the FIT 2015 Discussion Paper which may be facilitated in early 2015.

We look forward to receiving your feedback.

## October 9, 2014: FIT Contract Version 3.0.2

---

The OPA has posted version 3.0.2 of the FIT Contract, which includes the requirement to reconfirm Municipal Council Support Resolutions or Aboriginal Support Resolutions, if applicable, as part of the Notice to Proceed (NTP) Pre-requisites as further detailed in section 2.4. Other changes include check boxes under a new item 10(j) of the FIT Contract Cover Page to indicate whether support resolutions were evidenced as a part of the original application and will therefore be required as a part of the Supplier's NTP Request.

All successful extended FIT 3 procurement Applicants will be offered version 3.0.2 of the FIT Contract, which can be viewed [here](#).

## September 30, 2014: New FIT/microFIT Price Schedule Available

---

As required by the [August 29, 2014 Minister's direction](#), the OPA has posted an updated FIT/microFIT price schedule. [View the new price schedule here.](#)

The OPA is required to review the prices offered to generators under the FIT and microFIT programs on an annual basis to ensure both ratepayer value and a fair return on investment. The OPA thanks those who provided feedback during the recent price review.

The new price schedule will be effective immediately for the FIT Program and will apply to any FIT contracts that are offered after September 30, 2014, including FIT contracts offered through the extended FIT 3 procurement. The new price schedule will not apply to any FIT contracts offered pursuant to the July 30, 2014, Offer List.

The new price schedule will be effective on January 1, 2015 for the microFIT Program and will apply to Application Approval Notices that are issued on or after January 1, 2015.

The next price review will occur later in 2015 and will be effective on January 1, 2016.

**FIT/microFIT PRICE SCHEDULE**  
**(Effective September 30, 2014 for FIT and January 1, 2015 for microFIT)**

Renewable Fuel	Project Size Tranche*	Price (¢/kWh)	Escalation Percentage**
<b>Solar (PV) (Rooftop)</b>	≤ 10 kW	38.4	0%
	> 10 kW ≤ 100 kW	34.3	0%
	> 100 kW ≤ 500 kW	31.6	0%
<b>Solar (PV) (Non-Rooftop)</b>	≤ 10 kW	28.9	0%
	> 10 kW ≤ 500 kW	27.5	0%
<b>On-Shore Wind</b>	≤ 500 kW	12.8	20%
<b>Waterpower</b>	≤ 500 kW	24.6	20%
<b>Renewable Biomass</b>	≤ 500 kW	17.5	50%
<b>On-Farm Biogas</b>	≤ 100 kW	26.3	50%
	> 100 kW ≤ 250 kW	20.4	50%
<b>Biogas</b>	≤ 500 kW	16.8	50%
<b>Landfill Gas</b>	≤ 500 kW	17.1	50%

\* The FIT Program is available to Projects generally ≤ 500 kW.

\*\*Escalation Percentage based on the Consumer Price Index will be applied to eligible Renewable Fuels as calculated in the FIT Contract. The Base Date is January 1 of the year in which the Project achieves Commercial Operation, unless the Project achieves Commercial Operation in October, November, or December, in which case the Base Date is January 1 of the following year.

**FIT PRICE ADDERS**

	Aboriginal Participation Project		Community Participation Project		Municipal or Public Sector Entity Participation Project	
	> 50%	≥ 15% ≤ 50%	> 50%	≥ 15% ≤ 50%	> 50%	≥ 15% ≤ 50%
<b>Participation Level (Equity)</b>						
<b>Price Adder (¢/kWh)</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

Note: The above table applies to all FIT Project sizes and all Renewable Fuels except Solar (PV) (Rooftop).



## September 26, 2014: Confirmation of Applicant Participation in the Extended FIT 3 Procurement

---

On August 29, 2014, [the Minister of Energy directed the OPA](#) to extend the FIT 3 procurement by allocating up to 100 MW to Eligible Applicants provided there is available connection capacity. The remaining 50 MW of the 150 MW 2014 FIT Procurement Target will be available in the 2015 Procurement Target.

Eligible Applicants are those whose applications were:

- (i) received through the FIT 3.0 application period;
- (ii) deemed complete and eligible, and;
- (iii) not included in the contract Offer List posted on July 30, 2014.

To prepare for the extended FIT 3 procurement, the OPA has posted the [Prescribed Form: Confirmation of Applicant Participation in the Extended FIT 3 Procurement](#) for Eligible Applicants to review.

Please note that:

- A separate Prescribed Form must be submitted for each eligible FIT 3 application of an Eligible Applicant
- The OPA will not be accepting new application materials as part of the extended FIT 3 procurement and there will be no opportunity to make any changes or modifications to your Application, including applying for additional Priority Points
- Eligible Applicants whose applications evidenced Municipal Council Support Resolutions or Aboriginal Support Resolutions and are awarded FIT Contracts as part of this extended FIT 3 procurement will be required to reconfirm such support for their projects through new support resolutions to be provided as part of the Notice to Proceed Pre-requisites.

Acceptance of submitted Prescribed Forms by the OPA will result in a status change to the associated Applications from “Terminated” to “Application Complete” status. These applications will be ranked with all other applications submitted by Eligible Applicants for which a Prescribed Form has been accepted by the OPA, to be assessed for connection availability as described in Section 6 of the FIT Rules.

The OPA shall provide Contract Capacity Set-Asides (CCSA) for applications for projects involving greater than 50 percent equity participation as follows: 50 MW for municipalities and public sector entities, 25 MW for Aboriginal communities, and 25 MW for communities. If there are not enough eligible applications to fulfill each CCSA, the remaining CCSA capacity will go to non-CCSA projects based on ranking, until the aggregate capacity reaches the Procurement Target of 100 MW.

The new Price Schedule will be posted to the FIT website on September 30, 2014. **The submission period for the Prescribed Form will open on October 1, 2014 and close on October 10, 2014.** Eligible Applicants who are interested in participating in the extended FIT 3 procurement must save the form and email as a PDF attachment to [FIT@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FIT@powerauthority.on.ca) before 11:59:59 pm EPT on October 10, 2014, in order to have their application be considered. The OPA expects to post the Extended FIT 3 Offer List in December 2014.

Questions can be submitted to [FIT@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FIT@powerauthority.on.ca). The OPA will endeavor to answer questions in a timely manner through the FIT ticket system.

## August 29, 2014: Price Review and Extending the FIT 3 Procurement

---

On August 29, 2014, [the Minister of Energy directed the OPA](#) to extend the FIT 3 procurement by allocating up to 100 MW of the 150 MW 2014 FIT Procurement Target to applicants whose applications (i) were received through the FIT 3 application period, (ii) were deemed complete and eligible, and (iii) were not included in the Offer List posted on July 30, 2014 (called “Eligible Applicants” in the Minister’s direction), provided there is available connection capacity. The remaining 50 MW from the 2014 FIT Procurement Target will be added to the 2015 FIT Procurement Target; resulting in a minimum 2015 FIT Procurement Target of 200 MW.

This means that the next application period is expected in 2015.

This extended FIT 3 procurement maintains the government’s commitment in the 2013 Long-Term Energy Plan to provide annual FIT procurements. Providing a predictable FIT procurement schedule helps industry to plan more effectively and secure the resources necessary to participate in the renewable energy sector.

The direction also instructed the OPA to conduct the annual price review process immediately, starting with a stakeholder questionnaire, and to post the new price schedule **by September 30, 2014**. The new price schedule will be effective immediately for the FIT Program and apply to any FIT contracts that are offered after September 30, 2014. The new price schedule will be effective January 1, 2015 for microFIT contracts. The new price schedule will not apply to any FIT contracts offered pursuant to the July 30, 2014, Offer List.

[More information on the price review can be found here.](#)

In consideration of the new price schedule, Eligible Applicants will be provided an opportunity in **October 2014** to confirm, through the submission of a new Prescribed Form, their interest in having their Applications considered for the extended FIT 3 procurement. Eligible Applicants will be advised when this new Prescribed Form is available, and the OPA anticipates that it will be posted in advance of the new price schedule being provided.

As also indicated in the [Minister’s direction](#), any Eligible Applicants that had received Priority Points for a Municipal Council Support Resolution or an Aboriginal Support Resolution on their FIT 3 applications, and that are offered a FIT contract as part of this extended FIT 3 procurement, will be required to re-confirm that their projects continue to have such Municipal Council Support or Aboriginal Support through new support resolutions as a Notice to Proceed (NTP) Pre-requisite.

### **2015 FIT Procurement Target and Unallocated 2014 Capacity**

In addition to the 200 MW 2015 FIT Procurement Target described above, any MW remaining from the 2014 microFIT Procurement Target that is not allocated by December 31, 2014, as well as any MW remaining from the 100 MW Procurement Target for the extended FIT 3 procurement, will be added to the 2015 FIT Procurement Target. In 2015, the OPA will still award up to 50 MW under the microFIT Program.

### **Stakeholder Engagement on 2015 FIT Procurement**

This fall, the OPA will also begin to conduct focused stakeholder engagement to inform potential enhancements to the FIT and microFIT programs and report back to the Ministry with recommendations by the end of 2014. Further details on the engagement process will be provided when they are available.

Any questions regarding this process or the changes indicated in the Minister’s direction should be sent to

## August 29, 2014: Price Review – Stakeholder, Organization and Association Engagement

---

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) is conducting the annual price review to determine the FIT and microFIT pricing structure for 2015. The OPA is required to review the prices offered to generators under the FIT and microFIT Programs on an annual basis to ensure both ratepayer value and a reasonable return on investment.

[Per the August 29, 2014 direction](#), the updated price schedules will be posted by September 30, 2014, to be effective immediately for the FIT Program and to be effective on January 1, 2015 for the microFIT Program.

To help develop the price schedules, the OPA is asking key stakeholders, organizations and associations, representing a wide membership from electricity consumers, developers, Aboriginal communities, generators and distributors, to complete a FIT pricing questionnaire. Their responses will form an important part of the price review and will help the OPA, together with the Ministry of Energy, develop the price schedules.

The list of organizations and associations that have been invited to provide feedback is set out below. We encourage all interested parties to work through their association to provide input. **If your interests are not captured by any of the organizations listed, please contact the OPA at [FIT@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FIT@powerauthority.on.ca).** The deadline for responses is **Friday, September 19, 2014**.

[Click here for information about current FIT prices.](#)

### List of Stakeholders, Organizations and Associations

#### *Generation Industry Groups*

Association of Power Producers of Ontario  
Biogas Association  
Canadian Bioenergy Association  
Canadian Solar Industries Association  
Canadian Wind Energy Association  
Ontario Waterpower Association

#### *Ratepayer Groups*

Association of Major Power Consumers in Ontario  
Consumers Council of Canada  
Energy Probe  
Low Income Energy Network  
Vulnerable Energy Consumers Coalition

#### *First Nation and Métis Community Organizations*

Chiefs of Ontario

Métis Nation of Ontario

*Community*

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Community Power Fund

Federation of Community Power Co-operatives

Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario Sustainable Energy Association

*Other Industry Associations /Organizations*

Ontario Energy Association

Ontario Energy Board

Ontario Financing Authority/OEFC

Electricity Distributors Association

## August 14, 2014: New FIT Contract Version 3.0.1 posted

---

On July 25, 2014, [the Minister of Energy directed the OPA](#) to not include any domestic content requirements in any FIT Contracts signed by the OPA after July 25, 2014. For this reason the OPA is posting version 3.0.1 of the FIT Contract, which does not include any domestic content requirements. All successful FIT 3 Applicants (including successful URSP Applicants) that were included on the July 30, 2014 Contract Offer List will receive version 3.0.1 of the FIT Contract. Version 3.0.1 of the FIT Contract is available in the [Program Resources](#) section.

## July 30, 2014: FIT Version 3 contracts offered

---

Ontario's clean energy economy continues to grow as the Ontario Power Authority (OPA) offers 500 new Feed-in Tariff (FIT) renewable energy contracts. These contracts represent 123.5 megawatts (MW) of power, enough to power approximately 15,000 homes. Following the FIT 3 application period from November 4, 2013, to December 13, 2013, the OPA was authorized to offer up to 123.5 MW of contracts to proponents with successful applications.

More than 95 percent of the successful applications received municipal council support resolutions.

The breakdown of contract offers is as follows:

- 490 solar photovoltaic (PV) projects
- eight bioenergy projects
- one wind energy project
- one waterpower project.

Of these, 257 projects (60 MW) are with Aboriginal participation, 81 projects (21.5 MW) with community participation, and 161 projects (42 MW) with municipal or public sector entity participation.

As committed in the province's Long-Term Energy Plan, the FIT Program will have an annual procurement target of 150 MW between 2013 and 2018. More details on the next application window will be provided on the FIT website in the coming weeks.

[See the complete list of FIT contract offers.](#)

[See a summary of FIT participation project contracts offered.](#)

In addition, the OPA is also ready to offer 63 contracts to successful applicants who applied to the Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP). This stream had a separate procurement target of up to 15 MW. More than 93 percent of the successful applications had received municipal council support resolutions.

[See the complete list of URSP contract offers.](#)

[See a summary of URSP participation project contracts offered.](#)

[FAQs](#)

All applicants will receive information on their My FIT Home Page regarding the status of their application.

## July 24, 2014: Terminated FIT contracts

---

In response to inquiries and to increase transparency, the OPA has posted a list of FIT contracts that the OPA has terminated. The list is [available here](#) and will be updated quarterly.

At times, the OPA will terminate a contract if certain contract conditions have not been met or the project has experienced significant delays due to force majeure events.

The OPA provides aggregate information on contracts that have been terminated in each quarter in the [Progress Report on Electricity Supply](#).

## June 19: Program update

---

During the transition period until the new government is fully in place, the Ontario Power Authority will continue to work on routine business. Decisions on launching initiatives or on the execution of new agreements may be deferred, pending government direction.

The OPA will continue to process normal administrative matters contemplated in its contracts, such as changes of control, force majeure claims and assignments to affiliates. The OPA will also continue the normal administration of contracts toward project completion, such as processing FIT Notice to Proceed requests.

The OPA expects to announce the list of successful applicants for FIT 3 and the Unbuilt Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP) in July. The procurement targets for FIT 3 and URSP are 123.5 MW and 15 MW, respectively. Please watch your My FIT Home Page for an update on the status of your application.



## April 7, 2014: Update for FIT 3 Applicants

---

The OPA has completed an initial review of 1,779 FIT applications totalling about 436 megawatts (MW) from across the province. The applications were received during the application window open from November 4 to December 13, 2013.

The OPA, together with an independent Evaluation Monitor, has now completed its review to determine if the applications were complete and eligible. Over the next week, all applicants will receive a message on their My FIT Home Page on the status of their applications.

More than 80 percent of complete and eligible applications are projects with Aboriginal, community, municipal or public sector participation or projects with municipal or public sector hosts.

More than 95 percent of applications are for solar photovoltaic projects.

A total of 1,398 applications – about 345 MW – that passed both the completeness and eligibility reviews will move onto the transmission and distribution availability testing in the order they were ranked, according to the priority points awarded during the review process. The time stamp has been used to determine the order where applications had the same number of points. FIT 3 is over-subscribed, and the group of applications moving forward for transmission and distribution availability testing is significantly greater than the 123.5 MW target for FIT 3.

Contracts are expected to be offered to applications that pass the transmission and distribution availability testing once testing is complete in the second quarter of 2014.

Applications that did not pass the completeness and eligibility reviews will receive an explanation of why the application did not pass the review. These applications will be terminated and will not be subject to further testing.

[A summary of applications moving forward to transmission and distribution availability testing is available here.](#)

## April 7, 2014: Update for URSP Applicants

---

The OPA has completed an initial review of 151 Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP) applications totalling 35.5 megawatts (MW) from across the province. The applications were received during the application window open from November 4 to December 13, 2013.

The OPA, together with an independent Evaluation Monitor, has now completed its review to determine if the applications were complete and eligible. Over the next week, all applicants will receive a message on their My FIT Home Page on the status of their applications.

A total of 100 applications – almost 24 MW – that passed both the completeness and eligibility reviews will move onto the transmission and distribution availability testing in the order they were ranked, according to the priority points awarded during the review process. The time stamp has been used to determine the order where applications had the same number of points. URSP is over-subscribed, and the group of applications moving forward for transmission and distribution availability testing is significantly greater than the 15 MW target for URSP.

Contracts are expected to be offered to applications that pass the transmission and distribution availability testing once testing is complete in the second quarter of 2014.

Applications that did not pass the completeness and eligibility reviews will receive an explanation of why the application did not pass the review. These applications will be terminated and will not be subject to further testing.

[A summary of applications moving forward to transmission and distribution availability testing is available here.](#)

## April 4, 2014: Independent Evaluation Monitor's Report for FIT 2

---

The Ontario Power Authority is committed to delivering value to the ratepayer and to updating its programs to meet the needs of Ontario's electricity sector today and in the future. In 2011, the Ministry of Energy together with the OPA undertook a review of the FIT program. The changes that were recommended were implemented in 2012 and resulted in the launch of the FIT 2 Program.

As part of its ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability, the OPA engaged Navigant Consulting Ltd. through a competitive procurement process to act as an Independent Evaluation Monitor (IEM) and to compile a report on the FIT 2 application review process for the December 14, 2012 – January 18, 2013, application window.

The purpose of this report is to provide the OPA and FIT applicants with a written opinion on the integrity of the application review and contract offer process.

Navigant's report found that the OPA carried out a transparent and uniform application review process and highlighted the following findings:

- The OPA provided a variety of information resources to support applicants in submitting their applications.
- The OPA's application review followed a structured approach where each criterion during an evaluation stage was generally completed at the same time.
- The OPA reviewed each application on its own merits and even in circumstances where multiple applications were submitted for the same project, every application was reviewed independently.
- The OPA's evaluation criteria were consistent with the FIT 2 rules throughout the six stages of the application review process.
- The OPA conducted thorough and independent quality control testing to ensure all applications were assessed accurately.
- The OPA's ranking of eligible applications was consistent with an independent ranking of complete and eligible applications performed by a third party.
- The OPA adhered to the communications processes described in the FIT 2 program rules.

[See the full IEM report.](#)

After FIT 2 contracts had been offered, the OPA consulted again with stakeholders for their feedback on the updated program. Those recommendations formed the basis for changes that resulted in the FIT 3 program, for which the application window opened on November 4 and closed on December 13, 2013.

## February 14, 2014: Approach for FIT Contracts that have Renewable Energy Approvals Appealed to the Environmental Review Tribunal

---

In response to concerns raised by Suppliers and other stakeholders, the OPA will contractually address appeals of Renewable Energy Approvals to the Environmental Review Tribunal. The information provided here is meant for informational purposes only and there will be no amendment, waiver or consent under the FIT Contract unless and until the OPA and Supplier enter into an amending agreement. Until such time as an amending agreement is entered into, the information provided here is not binding on the OPA and may not be relied upon by a Supplier.

The OPA recognizes that it is preferable from a community perspective if construction activities do not proceed during the Environmental Review Tribunal's proceedings and deliberations. Therefore, if a Supplier's Renewable Energy Approval is appealed to the Environmental Review Tribunal, the OPA is proposing to adjust a Supplier's Milestone Date for Commercial Operation for a period equal to the appeal period (defined by the period commencing at the date of the Notice of Appeal and terminating at the date of the Notice of Decision on the Environmental Registry). In order to obtain this relief, Suppliers must cease carrying out specified construction and site preparation activities until such time as the Tribunal renders its final decision in respect of the appeal. Exceptions will be made for specified activities that must proceed during certain periods of the year to avoid potential risks to endangered species or to mitigate environmental impacts. Any relief granted by the Amending Agreement shall be applied toward delay to the Commercial Operation Date as if the delay were due to an event of Force Majeure as set out in Section 10.1(g) of the FIT Contract. No additional Force Majeure relief will be available to Suppliers on the basis of the Environmental Review Tribunal appeal.

It shall remain a Supplier Event of Default (and the OPA maintains its right to terminate the Supplier's FIT Contract) if the Commercial Operation Date has not occurred on or before the following:

- For solar rooftop facilities, the date which is six months after the Milestone Date for Commercial Operation pursuant to section 1.3 of Exhibit A of the FIT Contract.
- For solar ground-mounted projects, the date which is 18 months after the Milestone Date for Commercial Operation pursuant to section 1.3 of Exhibit A of the FIT Contract, as amended by the OPA's letter to Suppliers of August, 2011.
- For all other FIT facilities, the date which is 18 months after the Milestone Date for Commercial Operation pursuant to 9.1(j) of the FIT Contract.

[A sample Amending Agreement can be found here.](#) Suppliers should contact their Contract Analyst if they have questions or require additional information.

## January 24, 2014: FIT 3 Application Summary

---

During the most recent FIT 3 application window from November 4 to December 13, 2013, the OPA received 1,982 applications representing a total of 493.71 megawatts (MW). These applications are for renewable energy projects (solar, wind, waterpower and bioenergy) with a proposed capacity of more than 10 kilowatts (kW) and generally up to 500 kW. The OPA received applications with Aboriginal community participation (30.8 percent of net applications), municipal and public sector participation (26.9 percent) and community participation (11.7 percent). More than 75 percent of applications are for rooftop solar projects. [The complete FIT 3 application summary is available on the FIT website.](#)

Applications are currently being reviewed by the OPA for completeness and eligibility.

Successful applicants are expected to be announced in the second quarter of 2014. The OPA will award up to 123.5 MW worth of contracts as a result of applications received during this application period.

The OPA also accepted applications for the new [Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot program](#), which has a separate procurement target of 15 MW. The OPA received 184 applications for this program, representing a total of 45 MW. Information on these applications is included in the summary.

Applicants are encouraged to monitor their My FIT Home Page and the primary contact's email address provided in their application in case any clarifications are required.



## January 17, 2014: Deadline to withdraw a FIT application or a URSP application

---

In accordance with Section 3.4(b)(ii) of the FIT Rules, the deadline to submit a withdrawal request for a FIT application or an Unconstructed Rooftop Solar Pilot (URSP) application to the OPA is January 22, 2014, at 11:59:59 p.m. All withdrawal requests received after this date will not be processed.

To withdraw your FIT application or URSP application, submit the prescribed form, [available here](#), to [FIT@powerauthority.on.ca](mailto:FIT@powerauthority.on.ca). Please note that the withdrawal of an application will not affect the eligibility of any other application (e.g., an application that was not eligible at the time it was submitted cannot subsequently become eligible by the withdrawal of another application that preceded it). An application fee will not be returned if an applicant withdraws an application.