**Ministry of Energy** 

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto ON M7A 2C1 Tel.: 416-327-6758 Ministère de l'Énergie

Bureau du ministre

Toronto ON M7A 2C1

Tél.: 416-327-6758

77, rue Grenville, 10<sup>e</sup> étage



MC-994-2021-720

November 10, 2021

Ms Lesley Gallinger President and Chief Executive Officer Independent Electricity System Operator 1600—120 Adelaide Street West Toronto ON M5H 1T1

Dear Ms Gallinger:

Thank you for bringing to the Ministry of Energy's attention that there remain a small number of conservation and demand management (CDM) projects initiated under the 2015-2020 Conservation First Framework (CFF) that have not yet been commissioned into service, due to ongoing delays related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I would like to communicate to you, and to the program participants who are continuing to face obstacles in completing these projects, that the government is considering options to help mitigate these COVID-related impacts. These may include enabling the IESO to take steps to allow affected participants in CFF programs additional time to complete installations, and other activities under their agreements.

I have asked my staff to continue to work with the IESO as we explore options and I look forward to communicating with you once we have determined the most appropriate course of action. It is my sincere hope that the challenges presented by the pandemic will continue to improve and that proponents who remain committed to advancing their projects will be able to complete them.

I want to thank the IESO for your ongoing support in responding to the challenges of COVID-19 and your progress in implementing new programs under the 2021-2024 CDM Framework, which is helping to follow through on the government's commitment to deliver reliable, affordable and sustainable energy for consumers in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Todd Smith Minister