Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines

Office of the Minister

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May 7, 2021

Mr. Terry Young Interim President and CEO Independent Electricity System Operator 1600—120 Adelaide Street West Toronto ON M5H 1T1

Dear Mr. Young:

I am writing to update you that I and my colleague, the Honourable Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy, are considering bringing forward options to provide relief to entities that may be facing obstacles related to the COVID-19 pandemic, in terms of their ability to complete conservation and demand management (CDM) projects approved under the 2015-2020 Conservation First Framework (CFF).

On July 22, 2020, I issued, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor and with the support of Associate Minister Walker, a Directive authorizing the IESO to take steps to extend in-service deadlines and other time periods to June 30, 2021 for certain projects initiated under the CFF.

It has come to our attention that there remain CDM projects initiated under the CFF which 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 implementing these CDM projects across the province, that the government is again 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. As was the case before, I expect that my staff will continue to work with the IESO as we explore options. I look forward to communicating with you once we have determined the most appropriate course of action.

I want to thank the IESO for your ongoing support in responding to the challenges of COVID-19, including your successful launch of the new 2021-2024 CDM Framework, which is providing ongoing energy management opportunities to customers and is helping support Ontario's business community on a path to recovery.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Greg Rickford Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines

c: Hon. Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy, Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines