MRP Energy – Detailed Design Engagement

Meeting Summary

Background:

The IESO hosted another technical session on the Hydroelectric Dispatch Data section of the Energy detailed design within the Market Renewal Program (MRP) on February 6, 2020 in downtown Toronto (IESO Offices) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The focus of the discussion was operational constraints for dispatchable hydroelectric facilities on cascade river systems, and was an extension of the previous discussion on this topic hosted in November of 2019. Required reading material on these design topics was shared two weeks in advance to support the discussion on February 6.

The purpose of the in-person session was to answer stakeholder questions and understand their perspectives on the design based on the reading material provided in advance. Stakeholder perspectives will help to inform the upcoming release of the draft detailed design section. The design section when fully released will be open to additional engagement, feedback and discussion with stakeholders.

Attendance:

The following organizations participated in the session:

- Bruce Power
- Capital Power
- Evolugen
- Gemini Power Corp
- H20 Power
- Northland Power
- Ontario Energy Association
- Ontario Power Generation
- Ontario Waterpower Association
- Power Advisory
- TransAlta

Discussion Topics:

Overall, the discussion with stakeholders focused around the opportunities and challenges around respecting cascade hydroelectric operating constraints in the IESO Administered Markets. The following themes emerged from stakeholder questions and comments during the session:

- The IESO opened the discussion with a recap of the previous meeting, and the considerations and work underway since the last discussion. Specifically, the IESO noted that the detailed design will include for stakeholder review:
    - An hourly must run parameter (previously discussed with stakeholders as a 'hard' minimum hourly output parameter);
    - Forbidden regions will be available as hourly dispatch data and that registered forbidden region data will only be used to validate the dispatch data is being submitted within registered ranges;
    - The ability to update the initial day-ahead market submission of new dispatch data parameters after the day-ahead market and during the pre-dispatch timeframe; and
    - Private market participant reports that track the calculation engines' use of daily energy limits and maximum starts per day.
- Stakeholders brought forward their perspectives and made a presentation on the benefits and challenges of cascade hydroelectric operations, the range of potential scenarios where inflows can originate, and the role of ponding/forebays/storage.
- Stakeholders discussed the challenges and changes with the transition to a renewed market, including the removal of the day-ahead resubmission window, and the management of operational and financial risks between the day-ahead and real-time markets. IESO clarified the registration and dispatch data aspects of the proposal for capturing cascade hydroelectric dependencies.
- Stakeholders provided their advice on the registration requirements for linked cascade resources owned by the same market participant and frequency for updating resource linkages and time lags as dispatch data., and
- From stakeholder advice, the IESO will consider an increase in the number of forbidden regions for market participants.

Next Steps:

The feedback and discussion with stakeholders at these sessions is being used to inform the detailed design sections which will be released, and subject to stakeholder comment and discussion in the upcoming few months.