IESO Engagement Update
November 16-19, 2026

This engagement update provides a snapshot of all active IESO engagement activities. It also helps support a greater understanding of linkages between engagements, and a foundation for more comprehensive and integrated updates. For the most up-to-date information, visit the individual engagement links or the Engagement Initiatives web page.



Forecasting and Planning

Engagements to support provincial and regional electricity planning over the next 20 years.

Active Engagements	Current Status
Northern Ontario Connection Study This study will develop options to connect remote First Nations communities to the grid that currently rely on diesel generators for electricity, improve reliability for First Nation communities that are already grid-connected, support critical minerals mining development in the region, and enable the development of new hydro and renewable resources. The study was initiated in response to a request from the government of Ontario. *Engagement Lead:* **Rouselle Gratela** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Sonia Fazari**	• Final report is in development.
Bulk Planning – Niagara This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the	• The IESO is planning to host a public webinar on the Niagara Bulk Plan before the end of the year. Invitations will be sent to subscribers with all relevant details,

Niagara Bulk Plan. *Engagement Lead:* **Mitchell Wilson** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	including the webinar date, time, and participation information. Engagement on this bulk plan will take place through 2026.
Regional Planning – Niagara Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Mitchell Wilson** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• The Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was published on October 16, 2026. • Regional planning is now fully underway in the Niagara Region. The Technical Working Group is currently developing the regional demand forecasts for the Niagara region. • Engagement on this bulk plan will take place through 2026.
Regional Planning – Burlington to Nanticoke (Hamilton Addendum) Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Mitchell Wilson** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• The IESO is planning to host a public webinar on the Hamilton Addendum before the end of the year. Invitations will be sent to subscribers with all relevant details, including the webinar date, time, and participation information. Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2026.
Regional Planning – GTA East Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Jessica Singh** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• The GTA East IRRP and IESO response to feedback was posted on October 26, 2026. • This concludes the engagement initiative for the GTA East IRRP.
Regional Planning – St. Lawrence Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Jessica Singh** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• A public engagement webinar will take place in Q4 2026 to provide an overview of the regional electricity planning process, share the draft electricity demand forecast scenarios and proposed engagement plan. Feedback will be welcomed through early Q1 2027. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2027.
Regional Planning – GTA West Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Sari Gerwitz** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• The IESO's response to feedback collected following the August 20, 2026 engagement webinar will be posted on the engagement webpage. • An engagement webinar took place on November 2, 2026, to share the draft recommendations. Feedback will be accepted until November 16, 2026. • The GTA West IRRP will be posted by November 27, 2026.

Regional Planning – Peterborough to Kingston Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Samra Amir** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• An engagement webinar was held on July 29, 2026, to present and seek feedback on needs and screening of potential options. Feedback was accepted until August 12, 2026. All submissions, along with the IESO's response will be posted on the engagement webpage. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through Q4 2026.
Regional Planning – London Area Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Mitchell Wilson** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• Feedback has been received regarding the webinar held on October 2, 2026 on electricity needs and the screened-in options being considered for the London area. Responses to the feedback will be posted by the end of November 2026. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2026.
Regional Planning - Northwest Regional electricity planning is underway for this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Samra Amir** *Indigenous Engagement Leads:* **Nadia Mirabelli, Sonia Fazari**	• The IESO published the Scoping Assessment Report on September 19, 2025. • A webinar was held on June 11, 2026, to share the draft electricity forecast scenarios for the Northwest electrical region and seek early feedback. Feedback was accepted until July 2, 2026, and the IESO's response have been posted. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through Q4 2026.
Regional Planning – South Georgian Bay Muskoka Regional electricity planning is underway for this region. *Engagement Lead*: **Jessica Singh** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• A public engagement webinar will take place in Q4 2026 to share the electricity needs and screening of options being considered. Feedback will be welcomed through early Q1 2027. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2027.
Regional Planning – Sudbury/Algoma Regional electricity planning is underway for this region. *Engagement Lead*: **Sari Gerwitz** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• A webinar was held on July 16, 2026, to share the draft electricity forecast scenarios for the Sudbury/Algoma electrical region and seek early feedback. Feedback was accepted until July 31, 2026. All submissions have been posted on the IESO webpage. The IESO's response will be posted on the engagement webpage. • An engagement webinar will take place on December 8, 2026, to share the needs and options screening. Feedback will be accepted until January 5, 2027. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2027.

Regional Planning – Renfrew Regional electricity planning is underway in this region. *Engagement Lead:* **Samra Amir** *Indigenous Engagement Lead:* **Nadia Mirabelli**	• The IESO published the Scoping Assessment Report on September 16, 2026. • Engagement on this IRRP will continue through 2026/2027.
Capacity Accreditation for IESO Procurements The IESO is undertaking evaluation of capacity accreditation approaches for Ontario's evolving electricity system. Through this engagement, the IESO will share information on different accreditation approaches, discuss the trade-offs associated with each method, and share results. Feedback received will help inform future assessment of capacity accreditation in support of Ontario's long-term planning and procurement. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta** *Related Engagements:* • Resource Adequacy Engagement • Technical Paper Webinars: Electricity System Planning Considerations • Long Lead-Time RFP • Long-Term RFP • Medium-Term RFP	• A webinar was held on October 22, 2026, to present an overview of recent feedback received from the September engagement and share the outcomes of both the recommended (Marginal Reliability Impact) approach and alternative methodologies for estimating resource contribution to reliability. • Deadline for stakeholder feedback was October 30, 2026, IESO Response to Feedback expected to be posted shortly.

Resource Acquisition

Engagements to ensure we have the tools and processes to acquire the resources we need to maintain a reliable and efficient system.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Capacity Auction Enhancements The annual Capacity Auction is one of the procurement mechanisms included in the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework and serves as the short-term balancing mechanism in the framework, securing the capacity required to meet Ontario's short-term resource adequacy needs. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• A webinar was held on October 16, 2026, to present an overview of recent feedback and continue discussions on future enhancements to the Capacity Auction. • Deadline for stakeholder feedback was October 30, 2026. • The next engagement session is scheduled for Early December, 2026.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Related Engagements: • Resource Adequacy • Demand Side Vision	
Transmitter Selection Framework The IESO is developing a Transmitter Selection Framework (TSF) to establish a transparent and competitive approach for selecting future transmission projects identified for competitive procurement. The framework is intended to support the timely and cost-effective expansion of Ontario's transmission system while creating opportunities for innovation and Indigenous participation. *Engagement Lead:* **Fatema Khatun** *Community Engagement Leads:* **Nadia Mirabelli and Sari Gerwitz** *Related Engagements:* • Toronto Third Line	• The Transmitter Selection Framework continues to provide the foundation for competitive transmission procurements in Ontario. • The Toronto Third Line (TTL) competitive procurement is currently applying elements of the TSF and has a dedicated engagement stream. • Future competitive transmission project will have dedicated engagement processes tailored to their specific procurement requirements.
Toronto Third Line The IESO is advancing the Toronto Third Line (TTL), a new transmission project identified through the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP), to support growing electricity demand and system reliability in the Toronto region. The Government of Ontario has directed the IESO to undertake a competitive procurement process to select a transmitter to design, build and operate the line. *Engagement Lead:* **Fatema Khatun** *Community Engagement Leads:* **Nadia Mirabelli and Sari Gerwitz**	• Next public engagement session is scheduled for November 16, 2026 to share RFP draft #2 for sector review and comment and will provide a number of additional procurement-design updates.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Enabling Resources Program The Enabling Resources Program (ERP) is an integrated set of projects that will enable emerging resources to provide required system services and contribute to the safe and reliable operation of the bulk power system in Ontario. The first ERP project will incorporate electricity storage, and hybrid generation-storage pairings into the IESO-administered markets, tools, and processes. The second project within ERP is to further enable and integrate Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) into the IESO Administered Markets. *Engagement Lead:* **Jason Grbavac** *Related Engagements:* • ERP - Storage and Hybrid Integration Project • ERP – Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Integration Project	• ERP is comprised of two projects: Storage and Co-located Hybrid (S/H) Integration and Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Integration. **Storage and Co-located Hybrid (S/H) Integration:** The ERP Storage Integration Project met with the sector on November 10 to review and finalize the updated Settlements design memo. Further engagement on the implementation and rules phase of this project is projected to take place in Q1-2027. **Distributed Energy Resource (DER) Integration:** The DER Integration Project met with the sector on October 15 and 16 to review proposed areas of design on Market Integration (Metering and Settlements) and IESO to LDC and LDC to IESO Data Sharing coordination. Additional engagement will take place in December.
Long-Term RFPs The IESO is engaging stakeholders and communities on the development of a series of Long-Term RFPs that will procure resources to address needs. Engagements targeted to communities and the broader public are underway. *Engagement Lead:* **Trisha Hickson** *Community Engagement Leads:* **Sonia Fazari and Alyssa Sarkis** *Related Engagements:* • Resource Adequacy • Hybrid Integration Project • Local Generation Project • Long Lead-Time	• A webinar was held on October 14th to discuss design and policy considerations. • Feedback following the October webinar is posted, and a response to feedback will be available shortly. • The next engagement will take place in December.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Medium - Term 3 RFP (MT3) Building on MT1 and MT2, the third Medium-Term RFP (MT3) focuses on re-committing existing electricity resources with contracts expiring in or before 2032. The procurement aims to secure cost-effective energy and capacity to meet Ontario's growing electricity needs later this decade and into the early 2030s. *Engagement Lead:* **Fatema Khatun** *Related Engagements:* • Resource Adequacy • Long-Term RFP	• Public engagement session was held on October 16, 2026, where the IESO introduced the high-level design for the upcoming MT3 RFP and outline key procurement milestones and timelines. • Stakeholder feedback deadline was October 30, 2026. • IESO received ten stakeholder feedback responses.
Local Generation Program The IESO is engaging stakeholders on a proposal to establish a program that will enable re-contracting of existing resources, and consider opportunities for expansions and new build facilities *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang** *Related Engagements:* • Long-Term RFP • Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework	• Engagement is anticipated to resume in late 2026 or early 2027.
Electricity Demand Side Management (eDSM) Framework The IESO is engaging on the new 12-year electricity Demand Side Management Framework and future program opportunities. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang** *Related Engagements:* • Resource Adequacy	• An engagement session on Expanded Energy Management (EEM) program enhancements took place on September 16, 2026. Written feedback has been posted with the response to feedback to be posted soon.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Regulation Service Request for Proposals The IESO will present the need for additional Regulation Service capacity along with the IESO's plans to procure this additional Regulation capacity, technical requirements, and invite feedback on next steps. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang** *Related Engagements:* • Enabling Resource Program (ERP) Storage Integration Project • Updates to Regulation Services Testing and Evaluation	• An engagement session is scheduled on November 18, 2026, which will provide a high-level overview of regulation service, present the need for incremental regulation service capacity, and introduce the competitive procurement process.

Operations

Engagements to ensure that Ontario's electricity resources are operating reliably within the IESO-administered market, while also undertaking continuous market improvements.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Enforcement Modernization The IESO's Market Assessment and Compliance Division (MACD) is seeking input from market participants, consumers, community representatives and other stakeholders with respect to modernizing the enforcement processes to support reliability, market efficiency and market integrity. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang**	• A public engagement session was held on May 22, 2026, to share proposed design changes to IESO's Market Assessment and Compliance Division's (MACD) enforcement processes. • Feedback and response to feedback have been posted on the engagement page.

Technical Requirements for Large Computational Loads Connecting to the Ontario Power System The IESO posted a draft Technical Requirements document for connecting Large Computational Loads to the IESO-controlled grid. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• An engagement session was held on July 23, 2026. • Non-confidential feedback and IESO response to feedback have been posted to the engagement webpage. • Subsequent engagement session scheduled for November 19, 2026.
Changes to Governance of Approval of Market Parameters The IESO is proposing a minor market rule amendment to remove a legacy requirement that the IESO Board directly set certain technical market parameters used in the calculation engines. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• An engagement session was held on June 18, 2026. • Feedback and IESO response to feedback have been posted to engagement webpage.
Updates to Connection Process Deposit The IESO will provide an overview of proposed updates to the connection deposit structure for projects connecting to the IESO-Controlled Grid. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• An engagement session was held on July 23, 2026. • First Baseline comment period closed on August 7, 2026. • Second Baseline comment period closed on September 2, 2026. • IESO Response to Baseline 56.0 Comments posted on the engagement page.
Ramp Rates for Battery Energy Storage System Facilities The IESO is proposing formal market rule changes to standardize energy ramp rate requirements for Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Facilities to address rapidly increasing capacity of BESS resources with fast-ramping capabilities and associated operational challenges. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• An engagement session was held on July 22, 2026. • Non-confidential feedback received has been posted to the engagement webpage, IESO response has been posted. • Subsequent engagement is scheduled for November 25, 2026.

Intertie Offer Guarantee - Adjustments to Payment Conditions The IESO is proposing changes to the Intertie Offer Guarantee (IOG) framework to better align compensation with periods when imports provide a demonstrated reliability or adequacy benefit to Ontario's electricity system. The proposal follows a recommendation from the Ontario Energy Board's Market Surveillance Panel (MSP) to review the continued need for real-time IOG payments following implementation of the Market Renewal Program and the introduction of the Day-Ahead Market. *Engagement Lead:* **Trisha Hickson**	• An engagement webinar was held on September 16, 2026, and feedback following this webinar is posted. • Engagement is now closed. • Follow the Technical Panel schedule for up-to-date information on the final market rule amendment.
Updates to Regulation Services Testing and Evaluation This engagement will address amendments to Market Rules and Market Manuals related to the update of the performance measurement framework applied to regulation service providers. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang**	• An engagement session is scheduled on November 17, 2026, which will present the IESO's proposed updates to the performance measurement framework for regulation service providers as the provision of regulation services grows.

Sector Evolution

Engagements that look to the future to see how innovation, innovative technologies and new collaborations can improve how we conduct our business.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Hydrogen Innovation Fund The 2025 Hydrogen Innovation Fund (HIF) is a $30 million program that supports innovative hydrogen projects driving Ontario's clean energy transition, economic growth, and job creation. It builds on the 2023 program by expanding eligibility and funding two streams focused on grid integration and broader industrial and transportation applications, with applications opened in November 2025. *Engagement Lead:* **Fatema Khatun** *Related Engagements:* • Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot	• An engagement session was held on October 1, 2025, to provide an overview of program streams, eligibility, and application requirements ahead of the November 4, 2025, application window. • Feedback and response to feedback were posted on the engagement webpage. • Hydrogen Innovation Fund's 2025 Call window is now closed as of February 11, 2026. Successful projects to be announced shortly.
Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot The Minister of Energy and Mines directed the IESO to submit a report by September 15, 2025, outlining a plan for the Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot tailored specifically for hydrogen producers and developers in Ontario. *Engagement Lead:* **Fatema Khatun** *Related Engagements:* • Interruptible Rate Pilot	• The IESO submitted a report back to the Minister of Energy and Mines on September 30, 2025. • A communication update was posted on the engagement page on October 4, 2025.

Active Engagement	Current Status
2026 Provincial eDSM Achievable Potential Study The Ministry of Energy and Mines issued a Directive to the IESO to conduct an Achievable Potential Study by December 31, 2026. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang** *Related Engagements:* • Electricity Demand Side Management (eDSM) Framework • 2019 Conservation Achievable Potential Study	• A public engagement webinar was held on April 22, 2026, to present draft modelling input assumptions for the 2026 Achievable Potential Study and solicit feedback. • Written feedback and the response to feedback have been posted on the engagement page.
Grid Innovation Fund The IESO is working with the Ministry of Energy and Mines to review the Grid Innovation Fund (GIF) to enhance governance and determine future innovation-focused funding. *Engagement Lead:* **Jamie Jang**	• Virtual roundtable discussions were held on December 9-12, 2025, to seek recommendations from across the sector to enhance the GIF governance. • Written feedback and a written summary of the feedback have been posted.

Public Information Sessions

Engagements that provide timely information and resources for various initiatives.

Active Engagement	Current Status
Financing Cost Update The IESO will provide an overview of the need and use of a credit facility and present changes introduced from the most recent tri-annual renewal along with the corresponding proposed market rule amendments to facilitate the changes. *Engagement Lead:* **Josh Acosta**	• An engagement session was held on October 14, 2026. • Deadline for stakeholder feedback was October 30, 2026, IESO Response to Feedback expected to be posted shortly.

Updates on the Strategic Advisory Committee and Technical Panel

Group	Current Status
Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC) The Strategic Advisory Committee is a forum for its members to be informed of IESO activities and to provide strategic advice and feedback both broadly on behalf of the electricity sector and their constituency, directly to the IESO Board and Executive with respect to the IESO's mandate. *Engagement Lead:* **Stephanie Rodrigues**	• A public SAC meeting will be held in Q4 2026. Meeting details will be posted on the IESO website in advance.
Technical Panel (TP) The Technical Panel's mandate is to review amendments to the Market Rules for Ontario's electricity market and provide recommendations to the IESO Board of Directors. *Engagement Lead:* **Trisha Hickson**	• A Technical Panel meeting was held on November 10, 2026. Meeting materials are posted on the website. • The next Technical Panel meeting will take place on December 1, 2026.