

IESO Engagement Update

October 17, 2024

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	Next Steps
<p><u>Bulk Planning – Central West</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Central-West Bulk Planning initiative.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A public engagement session was held on Feb 23 during Stakeholder Engagement days to present an overview of the upcoming bulk transmission system planning activities and proposed engagement approach, as well as provide an update on the Central-West bulk plan.The public Report on Central-West Bulk Plan report was published on April 18, 2024.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A closing summary for this engagement was posted on October 1, 2024

<p><u>Bulk Planning – Northern Ontario Bulk Study</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Northern Ontario Bulk Study initiative.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac <i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Nadia Mirabelli and Andreea Nicoara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a Northern Ontario Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions will be posted to the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on this active bulk plan continues with a session planned during the IESO's November Engagement Days.
<p><u>Bulk Planning – Eastern Ontario Bulk Study</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the Eastern Ontario Bulk Study initiative.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac <i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Nadia Mirabelli and Andreea Nicoara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement commenced with interested members of the sector on the development of an Eastern Ontario Bulk Study. Feedback from the first public session in September will be posted to the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on this active bulk plan with a session planned during the IESO's November Engagement Days.
<p><u>Bulk Planning – South and Central Ontario Bulk Study</u></p> <p>This engagement will seek input from stakeholders and communities on the South and Central Ontario Bulk Study initiative.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac <i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Keir Johnston and Andreea Nicoara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement continues with interested members of the sector on the development of a South and Central Bulk Study. Feedback from these public sessions will be posted to the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement on this active bulk plan continues with a session planned during the IESO's November Engagement Days.
<p><u>IESO Market and Planning Data Engagement</u></p> <p>Engagement to better understand how the IESO can provide greater access to Market and Planning data.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The IESO has posted a document containing Market and Planning data links on the engagement webpage, responding to stakeholder feedback for easier access to this information. Response to the feedback was posted on the engagement webpage on July 15. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A closing summary for this engagement was posted in September.

Regional Planning – Burlington to Nanticoke

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Jessica Singh**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Keir Johnston**

- A webinar was held in June and July 2024 to provide an overview of the region's needs and seek input on the preliminary options.
- Six feedback submissions following the June 24 webinar were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage, along with the IESO's Response to Feedback.
- The next public engagement webinar is scheduled for October 24 to share detailed analysis of screened-in options and seek input on the draft recommendations.
- Engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for the region until Q4 2024.

Regional Planning – Ottawa Area Sub-Region

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Jessica Singh**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Nadia Mirabelli**

- Engagement has begun on the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP).
- A webinar was held in May 2024 to provide an overview and seek input on the draft electricity demand forecasts and the engagement plan.
- Twelve feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage.
- A response to feedback will be posted to the dedicated community engagement webpage.
- Engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for the region until Q1 2025.

Regional Planning – Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/ Guelph (KWCG)

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Jessica Singh**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Keir Johnston**

- The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in July 2024, recommending the development of an IRRP for the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph (KWCG) Electricity Region.
- Engagement on the KWCG IRRP is targeted to begin Q4 2024.

Regional Planning – Toronto

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Andreea Nicoara**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Nadia Mirabelli/Keir Johnston**

- The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in March 2023, recommending the development of an IRRP for the Toronto region.
- IRRP engagement commenced with the first public webinar held on April 16, 2024, to provide an overview of and seek input on draft electricity demand forecast scenarios and planned engagement activities. Twenty feedback submissions were received and will be posted to the website in August 2024.
- Engagement on the Toronto area IRRP will continue until 2025.
- A response to feedback received following the webinars was posted to the dedicated community engagement webpage in August 2024.

Regional Planning – GTA North (York Region)

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Andreea Nicoara**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Nadia Mirabelli**

- The final Scoping Assessment Outcome Report was posted in October 2023, recommending the development of an IRRP for GTA North (York Region).
- Engagement on the York Region IRRP will begin in Q4 2024.

Regional Planning – GTA West

Regional electricity planning is underway in this region.

Engagement Lead: **Andreea Nicoara**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Keir Johnston**

- Regional electricity planning has kick-off.
 - The IESO is hosting a webinar on October 29 at 10 a.m. to provide an overview of the electricity planning process and seek input on a draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report to determine the most appropriate planning approach going forward to meet electricity needs.
 - Comments and feedback are welcome until November 14, 2024. Feedback received and the IESO's responses to feedback will be posted to the IESO's website.
 - Engagement on the GTA West draft Scoping Assessment is in progress.
 - The IESO is hosting a webinar in October to share more details, understand feedback and answer questions.
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Regional Planning – Windsor-Essex

Regional electricity planning is underway this region.

Engagement Lead: **Andreea Nicoara**

Indigenous Relations Lead: **Keir Johnst**

- Engagement has begun on the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP).
 - A webinar was held in December 2023 to provide an overview and seek input on the draft electricity demand forecasts and the engagement plan.
 - Six feedback submissions were received and have been posted to the engagement webpage. Responses to feedback have been posted.
 - A webinar was held in August 2024 to share the draft needs and outcomes of the option screening analysis to seek input.
 - Written feedback was accepted until August 29, 2024, and feedback will be posted to the website.
 - Engagement will continue with respect to developing an IRRP for the region until Q4 2024.
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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	Next Steps
<p><u>Capacity Auction Enhancements</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Trisha Hickson</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Resource Adequacy• Demand Side Vision	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An engagement webinar was held on September 18 to discuss prioritization of future enhancements, and feedback received following the July engagement.• Feedback and IESO response are posted on the Capacity Auction engagement webpage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next engagement is scheduled for November to continue to prioritize future enhancements.
<p><u>Demand-Side Vision</u></p> <p>The IESO is continuing discussions with the Demand-Side community to explore</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Demand-side vision work is in progress with sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public engagement sessions will be held as required to continue

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p>the enhancement of Demand-Side Resources in the IESO-Administered Market and programs. The initiative addresses key issues and opportunities from the Demand-Side community, planning to prioritize improvements to Demand Response participation models.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Trisha Hickson</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling Resources • Capacity Auction Enhancements 	<p>underway with targeted stakeholders.</p>	<p>discussions on improvements to Demand Response participation and feedback from technical sessions will be shared.</p>
<p><u>Transmitter Selection Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is developing a Transmitter Selection Framework (TSF) to align with the Powering Ontario’s Growth report’s actions and plans, with a progress report due to the Minister by Summer 2024.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO response to Stakeholder feedback for all five focused engagement sessions was posted on the TSF engagement webpage. • On October 3, the IESO hosted an Indigenous focused TSF engagement session. Approximately 32 representatives participated in the session, providing valuable feedback and questions primarily focused on the elements of the Indigenous Engagement Participation Plan (IEPP). The IESO is seeking feedback from communities by October 25. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community engagement with Indigenous groups and municipalities will continue through Q4. • A meeting with the Minister of Energy will be scheduled to discuss key elements of the TSF engagement prior to submitting the Progress Report.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Market Vision and Design Project</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback from stakeholders on how to cost-effectively enhance the value DERs can provide to Ontario's electricity system by expanding participation in the wholesale markets.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Hybrid Integration Project • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work completed under the DER Market Vision and Design Project will be transitioned to the Enabling Resources Program engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See the Enabling Resources Program engagement for further information.
<p><u>Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Roadmap</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback on the development of a roadmap to set out approaches and expected timing for enhancing DER participation in the IESO-administered markets for the products/services they are technically capable of providing.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Jason Grbavac</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Study of DER Incentives • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • Enabling Resources Program • Hybrid Integration Project • IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project • Resource Adequacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joint meeting with the Ontario Energy Board was held on November 27, 2023 on the DER Integration Framework for Energy Innovation where updates were provided on cross-cutting issues and the work of the two organizations as it relates to DERs, including on the Joint DER Incentives Study. • The meeting also included a panel on the 2021 Grid Innovation Fund and Innovation Sandbox Projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See the Enabling Resources Program engagement for further information.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Enabling Resources Program</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback from stakeholders on the development of an integrated plan that will outline the sequencing, timing, and scope of activities to be undertaken by the IESO to enable existing electricity resources to provide electricity system services in the renewed Ontario wholesale market that they cannot, or cannot fully, currently provide.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Auction • DER Roadmap • Hybrid Integration Project • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series • Resource Adequacy 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement on this initiative will commence in Q4 2024.
<p><u>Hybrid Integration Project</u></p> <p>The IESO is seeking feedback on the development of participation model(s) to enable hybrid resources in the IESO-administered markets and have the capability to support Ontario's future system needs. The changes will be implemented after the implementation of the Market Renewal Project.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work completed under the Hybrid Integration Project will be transitioned to the Enabling Resources Program engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See the Enabling Resources Program engagement for further information.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Long-Term RFPs</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders and communities on the development of a series of Long-Term RFPs that will seek resources to address global needs. Engagements targeted to communities and the broader public are underway.</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads:</i> Trisha Hickson</p> <p><i>Community Engagement Leads:</i> Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Hybrid Integration Project • Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation 	<p>Stakeholder Engagement Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement webinar was held on September 12 to provide updates to the LT2 RFP Procurement including discussions around policy considerations, and the draft Long-Term 2 Energy [LT2(e)] RFP and Contract <p>Community Engagement Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held for municipalities on March 26 that featured four Ministries (Municipal Affairs and Housing, Forestry and Natural Resources, Environment, Conservation and Parks, and Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs) • A webinar was held on July 30 for Indigenous Communities and municipalities to share key updates and understand feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next LT2 RFP engagement webinar is scheduled for October 22 to discuss project siting with the Ministry of Natural Resources.
<p><u>Medium-Term RFP</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders on the development of a second Medium-Term RFP (MT2) aimed at re-committing resources with contracts expiring between 2026-2029 to secure Ontario's future energy needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP Resource Adequacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement webinar was held on September 12, 2024, to discuss re-committing expiring resources (2026-2029) to address energy needs through the MT2 RFP, evaluating proposals on price for cost-effective solutions. • Feedback following the September 12 engagement webinar is available on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO response to Stakeholder feedback will be posted shortly on the engagement webpage.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Request for Information – Resource Adequacy Framework</u></p> <p>The IESO is requesting information from existing resource owners whose contracts expire within the next ten years, as well as developers interested in future projects.</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <p>Long-Term RFP</p> <p>Resource Adequacy</p> <p>Medium-Term RFP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An information session was held during September engagement days to explain how the IESO will gather insights to help inform future energy supply procurements in Ontario. • RFI was released on September 18. Email communication was sent and the RFI link was published on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for respondents to submit a response to RFI is November 1
<p><u>Resource Adequacy</u></p> <p>The IESO is engaging stakeholders to further develop a long-term competitive strategy to meet Ontario’s resource adequacy needs reliably and cost-effectively while recognizing the unique needs of different resources.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Enabling Resources Program • Long-Term RFP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Resource Adequacy Update was provided in June where the IESO announced the results of a recent procurement for long-term supply. A total of 882 MW was secured for the province’s planned storage fleet, while complementary processes such as the growing Capacity Auction are securing resources to respond to upcoming system needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several Resource Adequacy initiatives such as the Procurements and Capacity Auction Enhancements have branched off into their own respective engagement streams (see related engagements).

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	Next Steps
<p><u>Market Renewal Program (MRP) Implementation</u></p> <p>The Implementation phase of the Market Renewal Program will begin by codifying the design into the Market Rules and Market Manuals, and then proceed onto creating tools, testing, training, and readiness for bringing the renewed market to life.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Cynthia Sidalak</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Adequacy • Enabling Resources • DER Market Vision & Design Project • Hybrid Integration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 of Market Trials ended on September 11, 2024. • Phase 3 of Market Trials started on September 13, 2024, and is scheduled to end on October 23, 2024. During this phase, Market Participants can confirm that they are able to receive, view, and interact with dispatch instructions from the MRP Dispatch Service system via the web interface and/or through their own API systems. The Sandbox applications for the Energy Market Interface (EMI), Market Information Management (MIM) system, and IESO Reports will also continue to be available for Market Participants to test in this final phase of Market Trials. • Out of the 74 reports, Market Participants can currently test 73 reports. E-mails are being sent to all MRP contacts and current qTest users as in-scope reports become available. 	<p>To improve communication with external stakeholders, the IESO will host two “touchpoint” meetings with participants with the first of these meetings to be held on Friday October 4, 2024. These touchpoints will be used to provide live updates on common issues raised by Market Participants and to allow external stakeholders the opportunity to ask questions they may have about MRP testing. The IESO will communicate details on how to register for the second touchpoint meeting later.</p>

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>IESO Market Rule Amendments, Chapter 3, Confidentiality, Dispute Resolution and Enforcement</u></p> <p>The Market Assessment and Compliance Division (MACD) of the IESO is proposing amendments to Chapter 3 of the Market Rules. The purpose of these proposed changes is to modernize and clarify rules related to some of MACD's enforcement processes, including confidentiality and how it handles disputes under the IESO Dispute Resolution Process.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A webinar was held in February 2024 to discuss the proposed market rule amendments and feedback received from the November session. • Feedback following the February 6 engagement webinar is available on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MACD is continuing to undertake stakeholder engagement and outreach to seek further feedback.
<p><u>Updates to IESO Monitoring Requirements Phasor Data</u></p> <p>The IESO proposes to update Market Rule Appendices 4.15 and 4.16 to clarify requirements for generators and transmitters to install phasor technology infrastructure and provide phasor data to the IESO. The proposed changes are intended to align with requirements in other North American ISOs and RTOs. The IESO is seeking feedback from stakeholders on these proposed updates in Market Rule Appendices 4.15 and 4.16.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement session was held on May 22, to remind participants of the Market Rules that will be effective at the end of 2024 that relate to this data, they are also being provided with an update on the IESO's program. It was also communicated to participants on the evolving preferences (requirements) related to the reporting rate of data sent to the IESO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next engagement session is scheduled for October 22 to inform stakeholders of the latest revisions made to the market manual and the process for market participants to register and establish a connection with the IESO.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Interchange Schedule Code, MrNH</u></p> <p>The IESO is hosting a session to inform stakeholders of an upcoming change to the interchange schedule code, MrNH (MISO Ramp/New York Hour-Ahead Market) which relates to managing intertie transactions between Ontario and the corresponding jurisdictions.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A session was held on May 22 that provided stakeholders with an understanding of the interchange schedule code MrNH, identified issues, modification to the code, and the implementation timeline. • Feedback from the session has been posted on the engagement webpage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The changes will be implemented as part of a future baseline in Q1 2025. .
<p><u>Amendments to Market Manual Part 2.2 Exemption Application and Assessment</u></p> <p>The IESO is hosting a session to inform stakeholders of proposed changes to the exemptions market manual. The proposed changes are focused on MRP readiness, and some additional proposed changes focused on improved structure and greater clarity. The IESO is seeking feedback on these proposed changes.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement session was held on September 17 to inform stakeholders of proposed changes to the exemptions market manual with the aim of bringing the exemptions manual into alignment with MRP and introducing a new process to all existing exemption holders to seek amendments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder feedback will be gathered and posted on the website along with the IESO response to feedback in October.
<p><u>Updates to Market Manual 1.4 Connection Assessment and Approval</u></p> <p>The IESO is hosting an information session to present the revisions to Market Manual 1.4 and the applicable forms. The Manual has been revised to provide clarity to a number of provisions and reorganized to provide greater structure</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed changes will also be part of the IESO Baseline Process (Q4 2024) at which time stakeholders will have an opportunity to provide their feedback on the revisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An engagement session will be held on October 23 to inform stakeholders of the proposed changes to the market manual and the applicable forms.

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	Next Steps
<p><u>Expanding Third Party Access to the Smart Metering Data</u></p> <p>The Smart Metering Entity (SME) has been directed by the Ontario Energy Board to undertake an assessment to expand third-party access to smart meter data. The assessment will evaluate the opportunity to include additional organizations beyond the Canadian Government entities and may address other opportunities for data access expansion.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted sessions were held on November 27, 28 and 30, 2023 with stakeholders to continue conversations to gain insight and gather feedback on expanding third party access. Feedback received during the targeted engagement sessions is being analyzed. Smart Metering Annual Cost and a Variance Account Report for 2023 was submitted to the Ontario Energy Board in April 2024. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The final report will be submitted to the Ontario Energy Board at the end of 2024.
<p><u>Future Clean Electricity Fund</u></p> <p>Proceeds from the sale of IESO-owned Clean Energy Credits on the Ontario's Clean Energy Credit Registry will be directed to Ontario's Future Clean Electricity Fund. The IESO has been tasked by the Ministry with developing insights and recommendations for a Future Clean Electricity Fund (FCEF).</p> <p><i>Engagement Leads: Fatema Khatun</i> <i>Community Engagement Leads: Sonia Fazari and Andreea Nicoara</i> <i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Energy Credits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the First Nations Energy Symposium in November 2023, the IESO shared information about the FCEF with communities that expressed an interest in learning more. Outreach meetings were held in October and November with municipalities to understand insights and recommendations to develop the Fund. The IESO recommendations report was submitted to the Ministry of Energy in December 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next steps are pending Ministry of Energy's review and decisions.

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<p><u>Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot</u></p> <p>The Minister of Energy asked the IESO to submit a report by September 15, 2023, outlining a plan for the Hydrogen Interruptible Rate Pilot tailored specifically for hydrogen producers and developers in Ontario.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Fatema Khatun</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interruptible Rate Pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO held meetings in July and August with hydrogen developer organizations that expressed interest in pilots and solicited feedback on pilot design features that would support participation and leverage the flexibility of electrolyzer-based hydrogen production facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The submission of the plan for the hydrogen interruptible rate pilot to the Ministry of Energy has been postponed until there is further clarity on the federal government's Investment Tax Credit (ITC) related to clean hydrogen production. • An updated timeline will be provided once further details on the ITC are available.
<p><u>IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project</u></p> <p>The IESO, with support from Natural Resources Canada, is undertaking a demonstration in York Region to explore market-based approaches to secure energy and capacity services from Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) for local needs.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Maia Chase</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Papers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO held an engagement session on July 23, 2024, and presented the final evaluation of the Project, including the recommendations for future programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A close out summary will be posted in Q4 2024.

Active Engagement	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Innovation and Sector Evolution White Papers</u></p> <p>The IESO intends to develop and release a series of white papers to support the creation of a shared, fact-based understanding of emerging opportunities and trends.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Potential Study • DER Roadmap • IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This engagement remains on hold. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The IESO is reviewing the next steps on this engagement.
<p><u>Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy</u></p> <p>The Ministry of Energy has asked the IESO to investigate and propose program options to integrate low-carbon hydrogen technologies into Ontario's electricity grid.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead:</i> Jason Grbavac</p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways to Decarbonization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first group of successful applicants was announced in October 2023, and the second announced in November 2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This engagement has now concluded. • A final engagement summary report will be posted to the engagement webpage in Q4 2024.

Updates on the Strategic Advisory Committee, Technical Panel and Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group

Group	Current Status	Next Steps
<p><u>Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC)</u></p> <p>The Committee is a forum for its members to be informed of IESO activities and to provide timely policy 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.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Maia Chase</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next SAC meeting will take place on December 11. • SAC members will provide an update on their work on the SAC Challenge Statement Chapters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials will be made provided three days to one week before the meeting date.
<p><u>Technical Panel (TP)</u></p> <p>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.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Trisha Hickson</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the October 15, Technical Panel meeting, the IESO and Technical Panel discussed the implementation and next steps for the Market Power Mitigation Working Group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Technical Panel meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2024.

<p><u>Transmission – Distribution Coordination Working Group</u></p> <p>The Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group (TDWG) works closely with LDCs and other stakeholders to inform the DER Market Vision and Design Project. This is a key focus area of IESO’s Distributed Energy Resources (DER) integration activities and is what much of the near-term DER Roadmap efforts build towards. The TDWG will provide a forum for in-depth engagement on Transmission - Distribution coordination.</p> <p><i>Engagement Lead: Fatema Khatun</i></p> <p><i>Related Engagements:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DER Market Vision & Design Project • DER Roadmap • IESO York Region Non-Wires Alternatives Demonstration Project • Innovation and Sector Evolution White Paper Series 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from July 26 session is due by August 16, 2024. No feedback was received. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next TDWG meeting is scheduled for October 29.
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