Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge-Guelph Regional Electricity Planning Public webinar #2 – March 18, 2021 Responses to feedback received

The IESO hosted a public webinar for the Kitchener-Waterloo-Cambridge-Guelph (KWCG) long-term electricity plan – Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) – on March 18, 2021 to provide an overview of the results of the options analysis and seek input on draft recommendations. The presentation material and recorded webinar are available on the <u>engagement webpage</u>.

Feedback was received from <u>Sustainable Waterloo Region</u> and posted on the engagement webpage. The IESO appreciates the input received during this engagement initiative, which has been considered in the finalization of the IRRP recommendations.

Feedback: As discussed in the presentation it will be extremely important for IESO to stay informed about community climate change and energy conservation plans for this planning cycle and especially for the planning cycles to come.

During the presentation, a guest brought up the Waterloo Region's Climate Action Plan and its energy transition objectives for 2030 and beyond. To prepare for the next planning cycle IESO should speak with the <u>ClimateActionWR</u>, a joint collaboration between Sustainable Waterloo Region, Reep Green Solutions and the cities and municipalities in the Waterloo Region, which leads on Waterloo Region's Climate Action Plan. This organization will be able to provide you with helpful information relating to the expected electricity implications of on-going climate change mitigation initiatives. Please consult their <u>website</u> for the most appropriate contact.

IESO response:

The IESO has met with a number of municipalities in Ontario to understand local community energy plans and climate change plans and potential initiatives and projects that may have an impact on the future electricity needs of the area. Based on discussions with the Region of Waterloo and other interested parties both through the KWCG IRRP engagement initiative and broader network dialogue, it is clear that there is broad interest in several Southwestern Ontario communities to further discuss the potential for alternative energy solutions. The medium- to long-term nature of the KWCG region's future electricity needs presents a valuable opportunity for communities to mobilize projects and initiatives to meet local growth targets and energy priorities. The IESO looks forward to staying in touch on key local developments and priorities in preparation for the next electricity planning cycle for the KWCG region through the IESO's Southwest Regional Electricity Network.

