

Feedback Form

Bulk Study Updates (South & Central) – November 20, 2024

Feedback Provided by:

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Following the November 20, 2024 engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the items discussed during the webinar. The webinar presentation and recording can be accessed from the engagement web page.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by December 6, 2024. If you wish to provide confidential feedback, please submit as a separate document, marked "Confidential". Otherwise, to promote transparency, feedback that is not marked "Confidential" will be posted on the engagement webpage.

Topic	Feedback
What feedback do you have regarding the content delivered today?	The presentation focused on many topics across the Northern Ontario Bulk Study with a shorter allocation to the South and Central Bulk Study. While combining Bulk Planning Updates was efficient, the presentation and allocation of time resulted in some confusion by participants.
Do you have feedback on the Early Actions identified? Are there considerations for future Early Actions that may be identified throughout the study for the IESO to take into consideration?	<p>The early actions the IESO is proposing encompass the energy needs for growth but appeared to overlook the high growth areas defined by the Hamilton to Windsor Corridor. The conclusion of the Final Engagement Summary Report (October 1, 2024) for the Central-West Bulk Planning stated: "Consideration of economic development in the other planning regions of interest identified in the Central-West Plan was integrated with the South and Central bulk plan to better integrate potential linkages between electricity growth, changes to the supply mix and their cumulative impact across southwestern Ontario. More information on the engagement is available on the South and Central bulk plan engagement webpage."</p> <p>The two Early Actions presented reinforce the transmission networks in the GTA and enable the connection of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs). Critically missing were any presentation of Early Actions identified for the Hamilton to Windsor Corridor, though that is not to say action has not happened.</p> <p>Reducing development lead time for new infrastructure projects is essential to act and react to the speed of business. The IESO must present and define their interpretation of "sufficient confidence" for both needs for, and risks associated with delaying, implementation.</p>

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<p>What level of detail is appropriate when screening 2050 needs and identifying preferred solutions?</p>	<p>For 2050, 100% electrification represents a maximum amount of energy potentially required in the province assuming efficiencies from electrification exactly cancel the demands from growth. While it is widely accepted that fuels including hydrogen and renewable natural gas will be part of the energy mixture, full electrification and growth in energy demand provide a high watermark for 2050 to account for growth and quality of life. The unknown factors are largely due to the emersion of new technologies on supply (SMRs, local generation) or demand (Artificial General Intelligence) which are largely impossible to predict. Taking a view that 2035 will provide insight on the 2050 picture ignores the role of disruptive technologies; by way of example, it is the same as trying to predict the 2005 use of search engines or social media in 1991, or the advent of machine learning a decade ago.</p> <p>Taking a proactive approach towards future growth in consideration of population, economic development, and infrastructure is the only way to balance readiness while managing risk. It is imperative that IESO identify, plan, and support the critical electrical assets to support growth. Pre-planning land for future transmission is possible as growth occurs around pre-determined population centers which grow respecting official plans. The pre-planning process allows for efficient, and increasingly modular, planning of the overall system proactively minimizing future costly transmission infrastructure.</p>

General Comments/Feedback