

Regional Electricity Planning

East Lake Superior public webinar #1 – June 4, 2020

IESO responses to feedback received

The IESO launched a new engagement initiative to seek input into the development of a long-term electricity plan – Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) – for the East Lake Superior region. A [public webinar](#) was held on June 4, 2020 to provide an overview of the regional electricity planning underway and seek input on the draft electricity demand forecast and [planned engagement](#) activities. All interested parties were invited to provide feedback for consideration to inform next steps in the planning process. The presentation material and recorded webinar are available on the [engagement webpage](#).

In response to several questions received during the webinar, this document provides further details on the electricity demand forecast including key inputs, factors and scenarios.

Source	Feedback
Theme 1: Electricity Demand Forecast	
June 4 public webinar	What are the underlying numbers, factors and assumptions in the demand forecast?
<p>IESO Response:</p> <p>The demand forecast is developed by examining projected growth that is then assessed against existing infrastructure in the region to determine its ability to supply electricity, while also taking into account seasonal factors such as a higher peak demand during the winter season. Historically, electricity demand in the East Lake Superior region has been relatively flat, neither increasing nor decreasing.</p> <p>As discussed during the June 4 public webinar, the demand forecast for the East Lake Superior region for this current cycle of regional electricity planning also appears to be relatively flat over the 20-year planning horizon. Specifically, the forecasted</p>	

Source	Feedback
	<p>electricity demand for the region is approximately 177 MW in the year 2020 and is forecasted to increase by only 5 MW over the next 20 years. This indicates that the existing electricity infrastructure is adequate to supply residents and businesses over the long-term.</p> <p>However, there is also potential for significant growth in major industrial loads that are connected to the provincial (bulk) transmission system, specifically in the City of Sault Ste. Marie (e.g., new developments or expansion of existing operations). The existing electricity load of these large industrial customers alone is approximately 180 MW, which is expected to grow to 275 MW by the year 2025. However, this would increase substantially to approximately 770 MW should all planned developments and expansions proceed.</p> <p>Due to the uncertainty of the timing of certain industrial developments (e.g. Noront Ferrochrome Production Facility), the Technical Working Group* will consider a scenario-based approach in developing the long-term electricity plan to assess a high industrial growth scenario and identify specific electricity needs that would need to be addressed. The IESO will continue to engage with communities and businesses in order to monitor these major developments.</p> <p>Further studies and forecasts will be developed for any emerging electricity needs that are identified in the near term (0-5 years) to medium term (5-10 years), to determine more precisely the magnitude and timing of the electricity need.</p> <p><i>*The East Lake Superior IRRP Technical Working Group is led by the IESO and includes Algoma Power Inc., Chapleau PUC, Hydro One Distribution and Sault Ste. Marie PUC, Hydro One Networks and Hydro One Networks Sault Ste. Marie LP</i></p>