

Feedback Form

Future Clean Electricity Fund – October 13, 2023

Generators

Feedback Provided by:

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Date: 2023-10-26

Following the October 13, 2023 engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback from stakeholders on the items discussed during the webinar. The webinar presentation and recording can be accessed from the [Future Clean Electricity Fund](#) web page.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by **October 27, 2023.** 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
<p>What barriers for new electricity generation projects have you encountered in the province?</p>	<p>As a renewable energy developer preparing to expand to Ontario, it is critical to address current land use legislation that complicates or outright prohibits the effective dual utilization of agricultural lands for utility-scale solar power generation. As a co-use, the agrivoltaics approach integrates agriculture with solar electricity production, battery energy storage, and clean fuels production, effectively decarbonizing rural municipalities and agriculture while providing critical clean fuels infrastructure to Ontario's less populated areas. This will ensure the increased production of food, greater volumes of renewable energy, and water conservation. We feel that the Future Clean Electricity Fund is the perfect opportunity to create a meaningful demonstration project within one of southwestern Ontario's energy-constrained regions where agriculture still remains a predominant land use.</p>

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<p>What type(s) of support from the IESO would facilitate new clean electricity project development?</p>	<p>Endorsing agrivoltaics through funding from a credible agency such as IESO, will demonstrate confidence to the marketplace that agrivoltaics, as a climate strategy, and as an economic support to Ontario's farming communities is an effective means for achieving Ontario's emissions reduction targets from the agriculture, transportation, and the electricity sectors.</p>

Topic	Feedback
<p>Do you have any projects under development that would benefit from the FCEF support?</p>	<p>Yes we have concept projects under development with Agrivoltaics Canada. We are lobbying for the required regulatory changes that will allow us to expand agrivoltaics utility-scale solar into the available agricultural base for the benefit of the decarbonization and electrification of Ontario's agriculture sector.</p>

Topic	Feedback
Are there any additional potential funding streams the IESO should consider?	Yes, the support of agricultural decarbonization and electrification can come from funding programs such as ATCA-A (Agriculture Canada) and Clean Fuels Funds (NRCan).

Topic	Feedback
Should any of the identified potential streams be recommended? Removed from consideration? If so, why?	The programs that support the growth of distributed energy resources (DERs) that will provide energy sources and grid reliability without having to make large investments in transmission and distribution wires; "solutions in lieu of wires".

General Comments/Feedback

1. In 2017, the GHG emissions from Ontario's agriculture sector were approximately 12.1 Mt (CO2 equiv). Around 2.3 Mt of which came from on-farm fuel use, which can be avoided through agrivoltaics. This is equivalent to avoiding emissions from nearly 855,247,550 litres of diesel or 30,700 tanker trucks worth of gasoline (in one year).
2. Since green hydrogen production typically depends on renewables, some of the energy from agrivoltaics (solar farm) can power electrolyzers and produce green hydrogen onsite. The green hydrogen produced onsite supports a hub and spoke model that can fuel local customers and vehicles travelling along local highways. In addition, agrivoltaics can also supply energy for other battery storage technologies, supporting energy arbitrage and/or energy resilient communities in rural Ontario. Additional energy will feed into the electrical transmission or distribution grid.
3. Economic stimulus in the rural Ontario economy is fully supported by the building of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs)