

## **IESO Engagement**

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**From:** Doug Pritchard  
**Sent:** June 11, 2021 11:58 AM  
**To:** IESO Engagement  
**Subject:** Feedback - Gas Phase-Out Impact Assessment

To whom it may concern

Thank-you for this opportunity to comment on your plans for gas-fired electricity in Ontario. I am a retired professional engineer who worked in the oil exploration and petrochemical industries in Canada and abroad. At the time I had no understanding of the impact of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on the planet. But now I know. I am also a father and grand-father and am deeply concerned about the rising impact of climate change and the future that I am leaving to the next generations.

I am particularly concerned that your recent reports foresee a rapid increase in gas-fired electricity in Ontario. This goes completely against Canada and Ontario's commitment to a very large reduction in GHG emissions in the remaining 9 years to 2030. If the electricity sector produces more GHGs, that will require other sectors to produce even less than previously expected. How do you see that happening? You cannot make your plans and forecasts in a silo.

One distortion in Canada's current electricity sector is that the fossil fuels used to do not pay the full carbon fee that is charged to other fossil fuel users. It is not fair or responsible that the many existing gas plants in Ontario only pay carbon fees on emissions in excess of their very generous free emissions allowance. This means they are not paying for the full costs they impose on society through air pollution and climate-related floods, fires, droughts, reduced crop yields, and heat-related illness and deaths. These costs of GHGs are real and rising rapidly and need to be paid by the polluters.

The International Energy Agency has recently worked hard to show a path forward to net-zero emissions by 2050. The IESO needs to show the same initiative. We already have long-term cost-competitive technologies at hand to progressively replace fossil fuels in our electricity sector including energy conservation practices, renewables with storage and a smarter grid, and the availability of cheap hydro power from Quebec and Manitoba.

The world is moving away from fossil fuels for many good reasons. The IESO needs to join the movement. We will all benefit.

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