

# GTA West

## Integrated Regional Resource Plan

### Responses to Public Feedback Received on March 5, 2020 Webinar

The IESO launched a new engagement initiative to seek input into the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) West region. As part of this engagement initiative, a public webinar was held on March 5, 2020 that presented an overview of regional electricity planning activities underway in the GTA West region, electricity demand forecast, and proposed approach to [engagement](#) to seek input from communities and interested parties to help inform the GTA West IRRP. 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](#).

Feedback was received from the Town of Milton and posted on the engagement webpage.

The table below summarizes the themes that emerged from the feedback received and IESO responses. The IESO appreciates the feedback received and will be considered by the Technical Working Group\* as its work continues on the development of the Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) and ongoing engagement activities.

| Source   | Feedback  |
|--|---|
| <b>Theme 1: Consideration of local developments and growth plans</b> |   |
| Town of Milton   | The Town has seen a significant level of growth in the past decade, which is anticipated to continue for the short and long term. Along with existing secondary plans, Milton has four new secondary plans underway that should be considered as part of regional electricity planning exercises. Key areas of planned growth are the areas surrounding the Downtown Milton GO station, and projected |

\*The GTA West IRRP Technical Working Group consists of Ale ctra Utilities, Burlington Hydro, Halton Hills Hydro, Hydro One Networks, Milton Hydro Distribution and Oakville Hydro Distribution

| Source   | Feedback  |
|--|---|
|  | <p>planning numbers for population and jobs for these areas have been provided as part of the Town's submission.</p>  |
| <p><b>IESO Response:</b></p> <p>The expected electricity growth from the Town's anticipated development has been considered as part of the demand forecast, and will continue to be monitored by Milton Hydro and the IESO as key inputs into the GTA West Region IRRP. Such development will be closely observed to better understand and determine the impact on local electricity needs and the regional ability to meet them.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Theme 2: Alignment and coordination of other planning and projects within the region</b></p>   |   |
| <p>Town of Milton</p>  | <p>During the November 2019 and in the March 2020 GTA West webinars, the Town noted concerns related to siting for the municipality's existing plans and the study boundaries outlined in external studies, i.e., the North West GTA Transmission Corridor Identification Study. Municipal interest continues in all of the IESO plans and projects in the area, and the potential implications and relationship they may have with each other. The Town would like further discussion with the IESO and affected municipalities.</p> |
| <p><b>IESO Response:</b></p> <p>As an important part in the development of this IRRP, the IESO will continue to engage closely with communities to stay informed of initiatives in this planning region and to seek input on proposed options to meet the expected needs. The IESO values the work underway in planning the future of municipalities as important input in this electricity planning process and appreciates the opportunity to stay engaged in these initiatives.</p> |   |

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|  | <p>If and/or when an electricity need materializes and transmission is recommended to meet the needs, the selected transmitter would be required to undertake an Environmental Assessment (EA), which involves significant engagement to determine the environment criteria such as all applicable land uses and associated bylaws as set out by municipalities and then apply mitigation measures in the infrastructure characteristics.</p> <p>As discussed in past webinars, the North West GTA Transmission Corridor Identification Study, is a separate initiative under way to identify and preserve lands in the anticipated event that new transmission is needed in the future. This is a joint study being conducted by the IESO and the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines (MENDM). A notice was recently posted on the <a href="#">Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO)</a> for a 45 day comment period ending May 7, 2020. The ERO posting invites input on the proposed narrowed area of interest as well as on the guiding principles which will be used to identify the lands. The IESO will continue to work with MENDM to engage interested parties and, in particular, municipalities to ensure the input is documented and considered in this study. For further information or to register your interest in being engaged in this study on an ongoing basis, email <a href="mailto:NWGTATransmissionCorridor@ontario.ca">NWGTATransmissionCorridor@ontario.ca</a>.</p> |
| <p><b>Theme 3: Incorporating shifting economies into planning assumptions.</b></p>   |  |
| <p>Town of Milton</p>  | <p>Ensure that demand forecasting accounts for employment growth geared towards the knowledge-based/digital economy; as data centres, warehouses and associated infrastructure drive high electricity demand.</p>  |
| <p><b>IESO Response:</b></p> <p>The IESO will continue to work with local distribution companies (LDC) in the region to ensure that such demand as a result of economic growth, or otherwise, is planned and accounted for as part of the demand forecasting that serves as a key input into IRRP development. As part of the GTA West Technical Working Group, LDCs provide updated municipal growth plans and trends in the demand forecast for their service territory and are best suited to interpret what these trends mean for their aggregate load. The IESO</p> |  |

| Source | Feedback  |
|--------|---|
|        | <p>will continue coordinating with all LDCs (and in this case, Milton Hydro) to ensure the employment factors brought forth by the Town are properly considered as part of the electricity demand forecast.</p> |