

# Stakeholder Feedback and IESO Response

## IESO Market and Planning Data Engagement— March 21, 2024

Following the March 21, 2024, Market and Planning Data engagement webinar, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) invited stakeholders to provide feedback on the topics discussed during the webinar.

The IESO received written feedback submissions from:

- The Corporation of the City of Windsor
- Capital Power
- Energy Storage Canada (ESC)
- Evolugen by Brookfield Renewable

The presentation materials and stakeholder feedback submissions have been posted on the IESO stakeholder [engagement webpage](#) for this engagement. Please reference the material for specific feedback as the below information provides excerpts and/or a summary only.

## 1. Availability of IESO's Market and Planning Data:

Municipalities emphasized the importance of the IESO offering municipal-specific data sets at no cost, citing examples such as Smart Meter data. Municipalities also urged IESO to continue publishing essential reports like the Generator Output and Capability Report and the Hourly Consumption by Forward Sortation Area (FSA) report, with a request for quicker reporting turnaround where feasible. Additionally, there was a notable interest in accessing commercial Electric Vehicle (EV) charging data at regional or municipal levels, highlighting its potential relevance as it becomes available.

Additional anonymized information on the Clean Energy Credit program and Capacity Auctions was identified as valuable to participants. Further emphasized was the desire to gain access to system congestion information, transmission deliverability data, and emissions data, and the need for regular updates to aid municipalities in forecasting demand, planning economic development, and monitoring community emissions.

### IESO Response:

The IESO will continue to publish the hourly Generator Output and Capability Report and the Hourly Consumption by Forward Sortation Area (FSA) report with a commitment to ensure as quick a turnaround time as possible. The IESO does not have its own data on electric vehicle charging and load profiles, rather it obtains its information through a third parties. The IESO does not have information of the number of commercial electric vehicle chargers in the province of Ontario. The IESO forecasts the number of electric vehicles in line with the best information available regarding government policies and regulations, market trends, studies, and other organizations' forecasts, in addition to making informed assumptions and professional judgements, as detailed in the Annual Planning Outlook Demand Forecast Methodology. The IESO appreciates the particular situation of municipalities who themselves are planning for development and require accurate and comprehensive information for these purposes.

The Clean Energy Credits legislation section 25.24 (2) requires the IESO to publish on its public website every report to the Minister related to total volume of electricity generated in the year, energy source, etc., to promote the principles of transparency. The IESO will publish the report prior to the end of 2024. For CEC-related information, please see the [CEC webpage](#). For future CEC-related enquiries, please contact [customer.relations@ieso.ca](mailto:customer.relations@ieso.ca).

Stakeholders requested additional information on Capacity Auction MWs. At this time, for confidentiality reasons, the IESO will not be releasing further auction information such as offer prices, zonal breakdowns, etc.

## 2. Data that is not presently available:

Some stakeholders requested avoiding the publication of commercially sensitive information that could adversely affect market participants or competitive positions. They recommended that IESO provide opportunities for market participants to provide feedback on any potential changes to the availability of potentially sensitive market data. Other participants suggested that some market participants may claim their information to be "commercially sensitive" as an excuse to withhold data that could be in the public interest.

### IESO Response:

The IESO has heard diverse perspectives and recognizes that it is important that data releases support fair, efficient, and competitive outcomes within the IESO Administered Markets while safeguarding sensitive commercial information.

The IESO approaches data accessibility from the perspective of ensuring healthy competitive markets and appropriately balancing the need for protection of proprietary information and the transparency necessary to maintain competition and fairness.

## 3. General Comments:

A stakeholder expressed a perceived broad sectoral lack of leadership and commitment to transparency with respect to data. Recommendations included the need for consistency in information availability, a centralized database for all publicly available data, and a structured approach for making information more readily available (e.g., non-disclosure agreements).

Stakeholders also recommended ongoing updates to system information and market data, citing examples from other jurisdictions where more detailed planning information and market data may be more readily accessible. There was a call for clarity on how the IESO intends to protect confidential and commercially sensitive information comprehensively, highlighting the importance of maintaining trust and fairness within the market ecosystem. Additionally, a stakeholder referred to the Market Assessment and Compliance Division, and Market Rule changes affecting how they conduct their investigations and share their results and suggested an inconsistency in approach between this engagement and the MACD engagement.

### IESO Response:

The IESO understands that participants have a range of requests and optimal configurations for data access and availability. Generally, all stakeholders and the IESO support a system that is maximally beneficial and transparent, and the IESO is committed to improving its processes. At a baseline, the IESO provides and obtains information which is necessary to support the safe, reliable, competitive and fair operation of the electricity grid and markets. Information published today meets this need.

The IESO recognizes the potential for improvement, and is committed to this, though it is to be balanced along with a range of other priorities, MRP, ERP, etc.

The IESO recognizes the importance of stakeholder feedback when it comes to proprietary/ commercially sensitive information availability. We value the trust that exists in the markets today and will ensure that trust continues in tandem with our commitment to ensuring an efficient, reliable and sustainable electricity system.

In response to stakeholder comment regarding MACD, the IESO reiterates that it takes great care with confidential information. The IESO indicated that in general the types of sensitive information noted in the engagement session presentation, will not be published; that remains accurate. However, there may be limited circumstances in which confidential information is disclosed (but not published). As an example, the Market Rules in their current form contain a list of such exceptions to the general principle that confidential information will be kept confidential. The aforementioned stakeholder comment points to a proposed market rule amendment that would add another such exception, to which the stakeholder provided comment at the time. That exception would apply, for enforcement purposes, in cases of potential rule breach. That market rule is not currently in force. Even if it were in force, it would not alter IESO's statement. Disclosure made under that rule would still protect confidentiality and would not result in publishing confidential information. For more specific information and to find the IESO's response to similar comments on the specific rule amendment mentioned by the stakeholder, IESO directs you to that [engagement page](#).