

Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning in Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph Region – July 2, 2024

Feedback Provided by:

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To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the [Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph engagement webpage](#) unless otherwise requested.

Following the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph (KWCG) regional electricity planning webinar held on June 17, 2024, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the draft Scoping Assessment Outcome Report. The draft report and webinar presentation, which provides an overview of these feedback requests, can be accessed from the [engagement webpage](#).

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca by July 2, 2024. 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 additional information should be considered as part of the Scoping Assessment?</p>	<p>The City of Kitchener is part of Waterloo Region, where collaboration between municipalities and local utilities on the energy transition is growing. As a diverse array of options for accelerating the energy transition are under consideration, it is important that the IESO use multiple forecasts in the IRRP process, so that a broad range of scenarios for the energy transition can be included in regional electricity planning for the area. Having the capacity and supply that customers need in diverse parts of our community as early as they need it is critical to us reaching our community's energy and climate change goals.</p>
<p>What other considerations should be made regarding the areas identified as requiring further study through a regional planning approach based on local developments?</p>	<p>The City of Kitchener, in collaboration with other local partners, is considering the potential for a variety of thermal loop district utility systems in different locations. Most specifically, work continues within the City of Kitchener on a feasibility study for a district energy system in Downtown Kitchener with a significant deep well geothermal component. Partnership work conducted through WR Community Energy is considering the potential for similar systems in other parts of the region, as well.</p>

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<p>What other areas or specific considerations should be examined through regional planning?</p>	<p>The City of Kitchener, in partnership with other municipalities and organizations in Waterloo Region, is involved in a number of initiatives to support the community's energy transition. Electrification of transportation and space and water heating are the main elements of the transition. Various partners across the region are working to accelerate electrification of these uses. Given this, both wires and non-wires solutions should be targeted to accommodate increased electrification of these uses, and to meet those needs as soon as households and businesses are able to make this shift.</p> <p>The City of Kitchener also provides natural gas distribution services for most of Kitchener. We are currently developing a Kitchener Utilities Clean Energy Transition Strategy to provide a strong future for our energy company throughout the energy transition.</p> <p>https://www.engagewr.ca/KUtransition Part of this work involves planning for the future of our distribution system, including evaluating our approaches and policies related to natural gas distribution systems as technology and customer preferences changes. Future plans from Kitchener Utilities may have an impact on electricity needs overall or in specific neighbourhoods over time.</p>

General Comments/Feedback