

Feedback Form

Regional Electricity Planning in the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph Electrical Region – October 21, 2025

Feedback Provided by:

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

Following the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge/Guelph's electricity planning engagement webinar held on Tuesday September 23, 2025, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is seeking feedback on the identified remaining needs and screening options analysis. A copy of the presentation as well as the recorded webinar can be accessed from the [engagement web page](#).

Local considerations and feedback are a critical component to the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP). As this phase of the IRRP identifies remaining electricity needs in your community the IESO wants to hear from you.

Please submit feedback to engagement@ieso.ca **by October 21, 2025.**

Topic	Feedback
What perspectives do you have on the high-level wire and non-wire options screening for remaining needs as outlined in slides 49 to 51?	The City of Kitchener recognizes the general importance and value of eDSM and Demand Response as part of a holistic approach to ensure energy security, local prosperity, and practical phasing of electricity system expansion. At the same time, the City is eager to ensure that there is adequate investment in wires options, which will be critical for ensuring that we can meet our community's decarbonization, housing and economic development goals, and so that the community is prepared to thrive in a net-zero emissions future. This is especially important as the energy system continues to change, as electrification of space and water heating advances, and as demand from large electricity users becomes more significant and potentially more unpredictable. Proactive investment in wires options at all levels is needed, especially in high-growth areas like Kitchener.
What additional information should be considered in the assessment of options for these remaining needs?	We understand that adequate capacity at local stations also depends on adequate transmission capacity farther down the line, and that this will be affected by other projects and decisions made in surrounding jurisdictions and beyond. We are keen to make sure that wires capacity continues to be available throughout the system, so that Kitchener is not held back in the energy transition due to inadequate or belated infrastructure investments. We greatly appreciate the IESO's work to ensure this. Kitchener also supports clean, local energy generation and storage, as well as planning for increased rooftop and carport solar.
What additional information should be provided in future engagements to help understand perspectives and insights?	Through this engagement and future engagements, consideration should be given to the further integration of planning for electricity use and efficient and decarbonized space and water heating. This includes opportunities to use waste heat from large electricity users, such as data centres, as a critical heat source for thermal energy network systems. These sorts of spatial considerations for integrated energy planning should be incorporated into local electricity planning.

General Comments/Feedback

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