IESO Engagement

From: IESO Engagement

Sent: December 15, 2022 1:21 PM

To: IESO Engagement

Subject: New IESO Reports – Preparing for the Energy Transition

You are receiving this email as a participant in the IESO Engagement of these initiatives and we look forward to your continued participation in future discussions on these important topics.

Today, Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) published three reports as part of its work to facilitate the energy transition and support a decarbonized electricity grid.

The simultaneous release of the IESO's *Annual Planning Outlook, Conservation & Demand Management Mid-Term Review, and Pathways to Decarbonization,* highlights the progress being made to prepare Ontario's electricity system for the future as well as the work needed to address the challenges ahead.

With one of the cleanest electricity grids in the world, Ontario is well positioned to tackle today's challenges. Preparations across the sector must continue as significant investments in capital, materials and labour are needed, and emerging technologies must be developed and commercialized.

The <u>Pathways to Decarbonization</u> report finds that Ontario can begin moving toward a decarbonized grid starting with a moratorium on new gas generation in 2027 as long as sufficient non-emitting supply is in place to meet growing electricity demand. By 2035, the system could be less reliant on the natural gas fleet, lowering emissions by 60 per cent below the IESO forecasts for that year.

The IESO has identified a number of "no regrets" actions to move the province forward on the energy transition. These include accelerating efforts to acquire non-emitting supply, expanding energy-efficiency programming, beginning planning and siting work now for resources with long lead times, and continuing support for low-carbon fuels such as hydrogen.

The <u>2022 Annual Planning Outlook</u> forecasts electricity demand will increase almost two per cent annually over the next two decades, driven by economic growth and electrification. The report reaffirms the IESO's efforts to secure new supply and helps sets the stage for additional procurements that could integrate more non-emitting supply into the grid.

The <u>Conservation & Demand Management Mid-Term Review</u> presents a plan for future energy and demand savings, including new programming, to help meet emerging system needs in 2025 and beyond. Energy-efficiency initiatives deliver value to Ontarians as a clean, reliable, flexible and cost-effective resource that ensures reliability on the grid and addresses customer needs.

Together, these reports build on the IESO's ongoing efforts to make the plans and investments to meet future needs. They underscore a commitment to galvanize collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders and communities as we explore ways to develop non-emitting resources to meet Ontario's energy needs.

Stakeholders and communities played a critical role in shaping the assumptions used in the *Pathways to Decarbonization* report. Nearly three dozen meetings were held with more than 70 organizations and representatives of municipalities, businesses, LDCs, environmental/sustainability organizations, Indigenous communities, research institutes and academia, and energy consultants.

Looking ahead, we will be establishing an open, transparent and traceable process to measure progress and demonstrate the results of decisions and actions taken along the way. We look forward to working with all our partners – both in the energy sector and beyond – to ensure Ontario is fully prepared for the energy transition and enjoys a prosperous future.