East Lake Superior Regional Electricity Planning Webinar – July 9, 2025

Response to feedback received

The IESO hosted a public webinar for the East Lake Superior electricity plan or Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) on July 9th, 2025. During the webinar, the IESO provided an overview of the regional electricity planning process and status, shared the draft electricity demand forecast scenarios, and draft engagement plan for input. The presentation materials, including the methodology, webinar recording and data tables and are available on the Engagement Webpage.

The IESO appreciates the feedback received, which will be considered by the Technical Working Group, consisting of the IESO as the lead, the Local Distribution Companies (Algoma Power Inc., Hydro One Distribution and PUC Distribution) and the local transmitters (Hydro One Networks Inc., Hydro One Networks Sault Ste. Marie LP., and PUC Transmission LP.), to develop the IRRP. Feedback was received from the following parties; the full submission can be viewed on the Engagement Webpage:

- Ontario Rivers Alliance

The section below summarizes feedback received related to key developments, projects and initiatives that should be considered in the East Lake Superior IRRP.

Scope and Planning Approach

Feedback / Common Themes	IESO Response
When evaluating new and upgraded infrastructure, consider: • The Ontario Rivers Alliance emphasized utilizing the January 2023 Ontario Climate Change Risk Assessment during discussions of new and upgraded transmission and hydroelectric facilities throughout all regions of Ontario. • The Ontario Rivers Alliance shared all new and upgraded transmission and generation infrastructure should take climate change into account.	Thank you for this feedback. Planning for Ontario's future energy system considers climate adaptation and resilience, ensuring flexibility across the supply mix. Climate considerations, such as temperature trends, extreme weather risks, and long-term system impacts are integrated throughout the development of the IRRP, and in evaluating new and upgraded infrastructure. The Ministry of Energy and Mines recently released the province's Integrated Energy Plan ('Energy for Generations') that reflects a coordinated and long-term approach to ensure Ontario has access to reliable and affordable energy. The report identifies the need to establish an Energy Resilience Advisory Group to protect Ontarians in the most effective and cost-efficient manner from extreme weather disruptions and to build in layers of resilience in case critical infrastructure gets disrupted. The IESO appreciates the resources shared and welcomes other resources, including models, to evolve our approaches. The Technical Working Group has developed forecast scenarios based on known drivers, including, Climate Change Action Plans and accounts for extreme weather adjustments. More details about extreme weather methodology is available here. Once the forecast scenarios are finalized, technical studies will be undertaken to identify specific needs arising on the system, including the system's ability to respond to disturbances which may be caused by extreme weather events. In the near-term, the approach will focus on exploring risks associated with increased temperatures, and what that would mean from an infrastructure perspective. In the long term, the plan will focus on building flexibility and ensuring sufficient conditions have

Feedback / Common Themes	IESO Response
	been explored to ensure an affordable and reliable system.
The Ontario Rivers Alliance supports the recommendations outlined in the East Lake Superior Scoping Assessment Outcome Report for the development of an Integrated Regional Resource Plan and the Terms of Reference.	The Technical Working Group appreciates this feedback.

Planned Engagement

Feedback / Common Themes	IESO Response
The Ontario Rivers Alliance shared stakeholders need to see strong justification for all new or upgraded infrastructure developments.	The IESO acknowledges the importance of community and stakeholder preferences during the development of options, including new or upgraded infrastructure, and appreciates these insights. Throughout the development of the IRRP, the IESO welcomes feedback, preferences, reports and insights from Indigenous communities, municipalities and interested stakeholders.

General Feedback

Feedback / Common Themes	IESO Response
The Ontario Rivers Alliance shared the government's priority of becoming an "Energy Superpower" by procuring new electricity generation above our needs must be rejected in favour of caution during this period of inherent uncertainties related to future industrial development, and in the long-term pursuit of keeping electricity prices for ratepayers at a minimum.	Over the next 25 years, the IESO anticipates electricity demand to grow 75% by 2050. The IESO acknowledges that there may be uncertainties that impact this outlook, but the long-term forecast continues to grow through the 2030s and beyond consistent with trends seen in the 2025 APO. With the scale of growth expected in the long term, it is important that Ontario continues to make investments in new infrastructure to ensure the system can stay ahead of economic development. Ontario's electricity system needs are captured through the annual planning processes and addressed through the

Feedback / Common Themes	IESO Response
	mechanisms in the Resource Adequacy Framework, which provides flexibility to adjust to changing needs. The IESO has implemented a cadenced approach to the medium-term and long-term procurements to meet needs in the 2020s and into the 2030s. The cadenced approach allows for a continued reassessment of needs to protect against under- or over-commitment of resources; create investor certainty; balancing ratepayer risk; and takes advantage of continuing technological advances and associated reductions in cost. More details are available in the IESO's 2025 Annual Planning Outlook.