

IESO Regional Electricity Networks

Guidelines

Purpose

Regional electricity networks serve as a platform to discuss local electricity issues and drive solutions to meet the future electricity needs in a region, and Ontario as a whole.

These networks bring together individuals and organizations with an enduring interest in local, regional and provincial electricity issues, who wish to discuss future needs and be informed about the latest issues and innovations in Ontario's electricity sector.

The IESO established five regional networks to drive a focused discussion on the electricity needs of each region:

- Northwest
- Northeast
- East
- Southwest
- Central and Greater Toronto Area



These guidelines aim to provide direction and scope for each network and are subject to change.

Scope

The networks create an opportunity for community members to hear first-hand about issues and innovations in Ontario's electricity sector and provide input into future electricity planning.

Objectives

- Promote two-way dialogue with each of the five Ontario regions about IESO business
- Build capacity to support purposeful, effective engagement in IESO activities
- Share local perspectives on IESO initiatives
- Inform future discussions i.e., what information/education is needed, agenda items for meetings/events

Who can join the networks?

- Membership in the IESO's regional electricity networks is open to all individuals with an interest in electricity matters in a region. Individuals can be a member of more than one network.
- Interested parties might include, but are not limited to:
 - Municipalities including elected officials, planning, economic development and environmental offices
 - Indigenous communities
 - Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trades
 - Local businesses
 - Municipal associations
 - Electric and gas utilities
 - Consultants and service providers
 - Research and educational institutions
- Current subscribers to IESO regional planning initiatives or participants in other IESO committees or working groups

How will the networks work?

The networks will follow established IESO [engagement principles](#). They will be public forums, with all materials posted on the IESO website. In addition, feedback provided by network members will be shared (with consent) through other IESO [active engagement](#) initiatives.

Network communications will include:

- A dedicated webpage for each region
- Annual face-to-face meetings held in the five regions with teleconference/web options
- Written communications consisting of a newsletter twice a year, supplemented as necessary with updates on relevant local issues from the IESO

Organization and administration of network meetings

- IESO staff will facilitate the meetings.
- The IESO will seek input on agenda items, detailing which items require feedback and which are for information purposes only. Best efforts will be made to provide materials one week in advance of the meeting.
- Where members provide input on agenda items, the IESO will provide a response along with a rationale as to how the input shaped a decision or design.
- Participation is voluntary, and encouraged. Attendance may be in person or via teleconference/webinar where available.
- Meeting notes will be drafted for review and comment following each meeting and posted on the dedicated webpage along with any accompanying written submissions from members.
- The regional electricity network will meet at least once a year. Additional ad hoc meetings will be at the discretion of the IESO.
- Meeting locations may vary within each region.
- Time and expenses for participating in the network are covered by each member.