

Ms. Samantha Polito

Advisor, Regional and Community Engagement

Independent Electricity System Operator Toronto, Ontario

Dear Ms. Polito

Re: IESO's July 10, 2025 Update with respect to its Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan

In June 2024, Toronto City Council asked the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) to develop an Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP) to phase-out the Portlands' gas-fired power plant by 2035 (except for emergency back-up) and meet Toronto's future electricity needs with an integrated combination of energy efficiency, demand management and local renewable energy (e.g., rooftop and parking lot solar, Lake Ontario offshore wind power) and energy storage (e.g., stationary and EV batteries). Unfortunately, the IESO is refusing to evaluate two key resource options to achieve the City's objectives, namely, Lake Ontario offshore wind power and paying EV owners to provide power back to the grid when it is needed (Vehicle-to-Grid Integration or V2G).

We, Seniors for Climate Action Now! Toronto, are writing to urge you to, at the least, follow the direction provided by the City of Toronto and evaluate all potential renewable energy sources as part of the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan.

We believe it is unacceptable, in the middle of the summer's third heat wave in Toronto and amid repeated severe storm warnings, to insist on pursuing only expensive nuclear mega-projects which create millenia-long danger to human habitation on the edge of Lake Ontario, as well as public debt for our grandchildren, and gas-powered plants which are known to harm human health and contribute to global warming.

The IESO's focus on nuclear and gas-powered electricity generation appears to be in line with the current provincial government's priorities rather than the application of independent and sound judgement.

It would seem to us that the responsible planning framework would be virtually the opposite. What can be done to bring renewable and distributed energy to Toronto knowing that any renewable technologies will do less harm, cost less money than new nuclear reactors or plants, and be available to respond to climate crises sooner? We think it is prudent that in an urban area the size of Toronto to follow European examples and focus on reduced demand, energy efficiency and renewables in an energy plan. The sensible direction would be investing in renewable technologies for significantly less than the public contribution to nuclear refurbishment or untested SMRs.

As we said in our contribution to the IESO last year, SCAN! Toronto strongly recommends that the renewables procurement by the IESO be increased to three times the current renewable capacity of Ontario's electricity system by 2035. Part of that process should be prioritizing and evaluating all potential renewable energy sources as part of the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan.

For the future of our children and grandchildren.

Shelly Gordon

Chair, SCAN! Toronto