

Feedback Form

Gas Phase-Out Impact Assessment – May 27, 2021

Feedback Provided by:

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To promote transparency, feedback submitted will be posted on the Gas Phase-Out Impact Assessment webpage unless otherwise requested by the sender.

Please provide feedback by June 17, 2021 to engagement@ieso.ca. Please use subject:

Feedback - Gas Phase-Out Impact Assessment

Questions

Topic	Feedback
Are there additional considerations the IESO has not identified in defining the scope of the assessment to examine the reliability, operability, timing, cost and wholesale market implications of reduced emissions on the electricity system?	IESO may consider adding additional context to this engagement with respect to Ontario's ability to achieve 'net-zero' carbon emissions in the electricity sector, rather than focusing on ability to phase-out gas. Ultimately, even if it is not feasible to phase-out gas-fired generation, Ontario may be able to achieve 'net-zero' future through a series of measures (e.g., improved performance of fleet, displacing gas with new technologies including storage, green fuels, carbon capture, etc.).

General Comments/Feedback

ESC appreciates that IESO has launched this engagement recognizing that stakeholders, including municipal governments, have called for a phase out of gas-fired generation in Ontario by as early as 2030. We are looking forward to participating in this engagement and hope to demonstrate that energy storage is well positioned to support the further decarbonization of Ontario's electricity system.

Energy storage is a vital tool in reducing inefficiencies and making the best use of what we have in order to save money and help meet our net-zero emission targets. Energy storage also offer other major benefits. For example, energy storage solutions could be deployed to optimize Ontario's existing and future electricity grid, by storing electricity and then redeploying that electricity back to the system during periods of peak demand, creating both ratepayer **and** climate benefits in the process. Further, larger projects can also provide capacity, which the system operator has signaled will be an emerging and enduring need this decade.

In order to meet our future energy needs reliably, and affordably, energy storage resources can play a critical role in addressing reliability concerns with low start-up costs and lead time as part of an integrated solution as Ontario transitions to a low-carbon future, but steps need to be taken now to fully unlock the potential of energy storage in the province.