

Update on Provincial Activities

Multi-Municipal Energy Working
Group

September 21, 2023

Ontario Energy Clean Plan

Clear Vision for the Electrical System

- Provincial population and economy is growing while role of electricity increasing.
- Demand growing from 44 MW to 88 MW in 2050

Key Components

- New nuclear at Bruce and Darlington. Refurbish Pickering.
- Pumped storage and BESS
- Maintain affordable electricity to support electrification
- New transmission lines for Algoma Steel and growth in Ottawa Region

Ontario Energy Clean Plan (cont'd)

Future of Renewable Energy

- “Start planning for Ontario’s next competitive electricity procurement focused on clean resources including wind, solar, hydroelectric, batteries and biogas”
- Suggests an opportunity to fix current problems with wind:
 - Setbacks, pricing, existing contracts and repowering existing projects

Energy Planning Process

- Plan suggests that review of energy planning process needed
- IESO and MECP need to be fixed. Captured by industry they are supposed to be regulating.

Copy of Full Plan:

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/powering-ontarios-growth>

Hydro One BESS Requirements

- Lack of a standard to address potential impact of BESS fires identified as a gap in IESO process.
- Proposed draft standards developed by US consultants. Posted for comment in early August.
- Confirmed MMEWG concerns – some issues with detail
- Requirements for BESS connection to Hydro One:
 - Hazard mitigation analysis, Community Fire Risk assessment, air/gas dispersion study, Fire Protection Design document.
- Good road map for municipal requirements
 - Similar requirements for other adjacent properties

IESO Procurement Process

- “Final” version of RFP contract and documents posted on September 8
 - No change in Municipal Support Resolution to reflect MMEWG input that more details required
 - No learning from Hydro One requirements
- Target - Storage - 1600 MW; Non-Storage – 905 MW
 - Requirement for Dispatchable Power Remains
- To be issued in late September; due December 12
- Arran-Elderslie awarded contract in first round; Active proposal in Huron East
- Others?

Niagara Wind - Noise Audit Process

REA Noise Audit

- Noise testing at 5 receptors as a sample for whole project
 - Reduced to 4 receptors . When testing confirms locations are within 40 dBA, project approved.
- Testing showed 1 receptor was over 40 dBA
 - Protocol requires NAAP for project; only 1 turbine covered
 - REA was amended to reduce power level at the non-compliant turbine
- Decision was appealed – audit indicates problems with whole project.
- Handled by new tribunal which rejected appeal without hearings
 - Appeal scope was limited to decision on one turbine
 - No evidence of serious harm to human health provided

Niagara Wind - Noise Audit cont'd

- Only option in the new system is court appeal on matters of law
 - Appeal to Minister option eliminated
- Local group wrote letter to Premier asking for direction:
 - MECP not following their own rules for noise audits
 - MECP did not provide Tribunal complaint information showing other problems.
 - Serious health issues in Participant Statements and complaints is ignored.

Question: Who is responsible to enforce REA when MECP fails to act?

Draft Provincial Policy Statement

Driven by Need to Expand Housing

- Plan for a phased expansion of residential development
- Prime Agricultural Land may only be removed to support additional housing

Other Notable Changes

- **Definition of On-Farm Diversified Uses**
 - Solar and BESS permitted on Prime Agricultural Land only as a “diversified farm use”?
 - Wind turbines not included in definition
- **Airports to be protected from incompatible uses**
- **Plan for energy generation to current/projected needs**
 - Not specified - Local needs or provincial needs