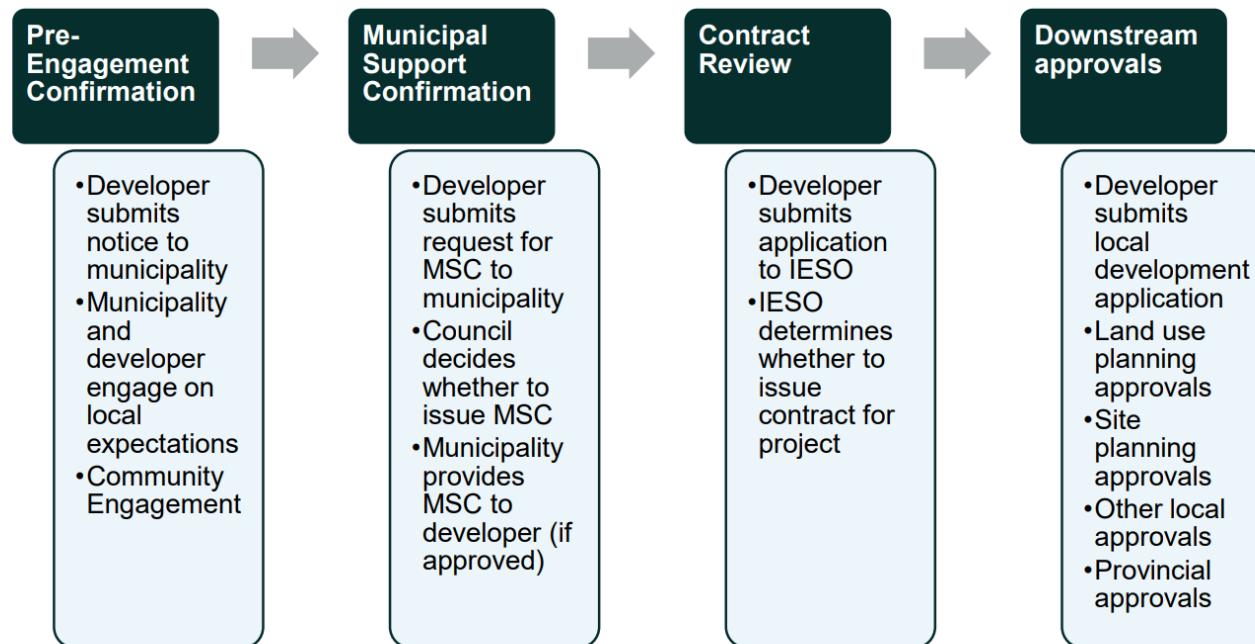


# Proposed Municipal Support Confirmation Process: IESO LT2

Planning and Development staff are prepared to support local municipalities with processing requests for Municipal Support Confirmation (MSC) which are a requirement for proponents of energy projects through the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) Long-Term “2” Procurement process.

This service would be offered on an “opt-in” basis

The process for engagement on energy projects for IESO LT2 RFPs will follow the process outlined in the most current AMO [Energy-Procurement-Tool-Kit\\_02032025\\_FINAL.pdf](#)



# Roles

The approach will be collaborative between County and Municipal staff; proposed areas of primary responsibility are:

## Planning Staff role:

- Coordinate circulation of the proposal to agencies and stakeholders for comments.
- Convene meeting(s) as required.
- Review land use planning matters and identify potential downstream planning approvals as conditions for MSC
- Prepare a report to the Municipal Council and a draft MSC, with conditions as recommended NOTE: this would express the conditional nature of the M.S.C. relative to staff roles and ability to process and recommend on planning applications.
- Communicate community engagement expectations to proponents (ideally, consistently applied to proposals across the County; this could include the proponent making a delegation request to municipal council, providing notifications to landowners within a set radius prior to an open house, and establishing a project website)

## Municipal Staff role:

- Subject Matter expert review of proposal and potential conditions in MSC (e.g. fire chief, public works)
- Identify early in MSC review process Council expectations for matters to be considered / addressed through a MSC
- Identify expectations for community benefit agreement and potential conditions in MSC

## Developer / Proponent Role

- Undertake community engagement per process expectations and applicable policies (e.g. local municipal procedures)
- Prepare and submit materials promptly and with fulsome responses to matters raised

## Cost recovery:

- The Planning department would assess a processing fee of \$1580 (2x the Pre-submission consultation fee, related to preparation of report and resolution for Council agenda)
- Additional cost recovery applies for review of any studies (e.g. an Agricultural Impact Assessment or preliminary E.I.S., if required)
- The Planning Department would collect Pre-submission consultation fees on behalf of the Conservation Authorities and forward them to the authorities per invoicing procedures established for planning applications
- Municipalities may assess their own fees to support capacity for review.
- Municipalities may wish to establish fees to recover costs of review/permitting processes between contract award and operation of the facility.

## Review Timeframe:

- Target processing time is 4-6 weeks, which may be further impacted by Council scheduling (e.g. if council meets only once in a month) more time may be necessary.
- Target processing time is dependent upon:
  - High quality information from proponents,
  - Quick action to resolve questions/issues, and
  - Staff / stakeholder capacity to meet

## Review Considerations:

Proposals seeking Municipal Support Confirmation will be most successful and quickly processed where they clearly address the following:

## Land Use

- ☐ Land use Designations relative to IESO requirements (Ag/Rural)
  - e.g. not proposing solar on prime ag land
  - Initial Agricultural Impact Assessment where eligible projects would be located on Prime agricultural lands
- ☐ Separation requirements from surrounding uses and potential impacts to future growth
  - e.g. potential reciprocal setbacks
- ☐ Zoning, permitted uses, and definitions relative to proposal (determined by zoning administrator with planning support)
- ☐ Natural Heritage Features
- ☐ Natural Hazards
- ☐ Archaeological potential
- ☐ Water Resource System considerations (SGRA, HVA, SWP Area)
- ☐ Surrounding Land uses including:
  - potential sensitive uses
  - proximity to aviation (solar may be impacted)
  - See also [Location/site considerations checklist for renewable energy projects | ontario.ca](#)
  - Agricultural system infrastructure
- ☐ Proximity to electrical grid infrastructure

## Installation

- ☐ Suitability of transportation infrastructure to site
- ☐ Site lines and traffic considerations for construction access
- ☐ Site works required to prepare site
- ☐ Site servicing requirements
- ☐ Suitability of transportation Infrastructure for construction / operations

- ☐ Procurement and local economic development

## Operations

- ☐ Access (frequency, type) requirements
- ☐ Employment
- ☐ Contribution to local grid stability

## Emergency Management

- ☐ Risk profile for equipment / technology (if applicable)
- ☐ Response plan
- ☐ Response capacity of existing apparatus/infrastructure
- ☐ Initial and refresher training requirements
- ☐ Contaminant containment and redundancies
- ☐ Offsite risks of contamination

## Community

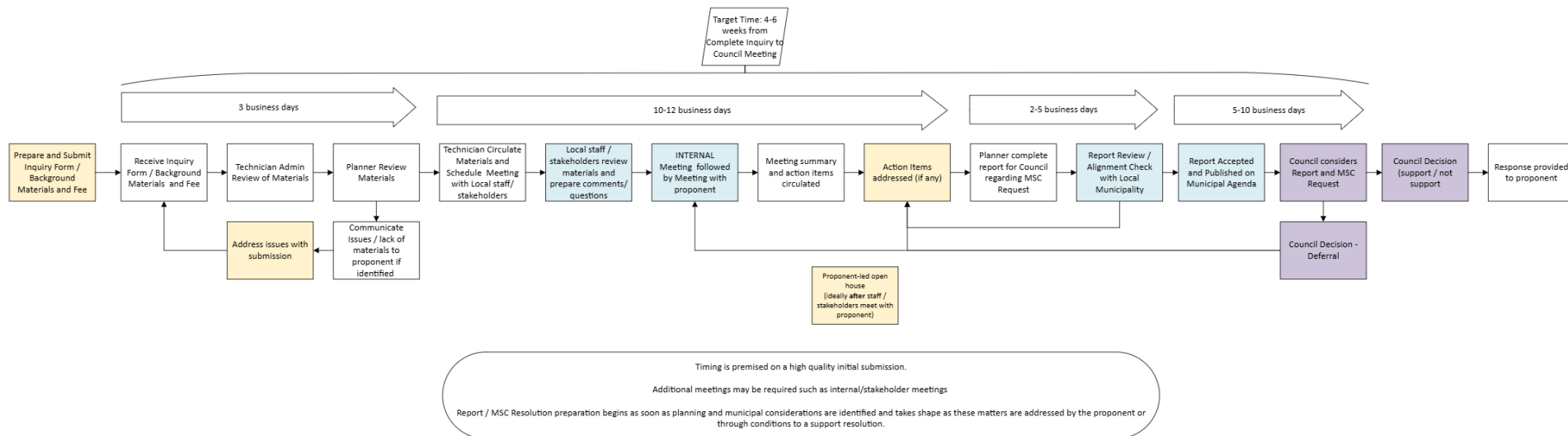
- ☐ Proponent's Strategy for informing and engaging the public (beyond any statutory Planning Act requirements)
- ☐ Proponent's Willingness to enter into a Community Benefit Agreement commensurate with the scale the project
- ☐ Project Alignment with Municipal policies, where they exist

## Suggested conditions for municipal support confirmations

- ☐ Proponent to obtain planning approvals (eg OPA if required, Zoning, Site Plan Approval)
- ☐ Proponent agrees to respect the outcome of any decision by the local municipality with respect to downstream approvals (i.e. will not pursue a refusal at OLT, Ministers order, Special Economic Zone, ...)

- ☐ Proponent entering into a Community Benefit Agreement with the Municipality if required by the municipality
- ☐ Proponent entering into a Community Benefit Agreement with the County if required by the County
- ☐ Proponent to obtain all necessary permits from authorities having jurisdiction (CA Regulated areas, Entrance permits, etc.)

## Workflow



[IESO Support Resolution Review Workflow.vsdX](#)

## Proposed Next Steps to formalize this process:

- Format as an opt-in service offer under the existing planning services agreement
- Report to County Council recommending that the service offer be extended
  - Recommendation accepted / endorsed through confirmatory by-law
- Local Municipalities communicate “opt-in” in writing per local process / requirements
- County Fee by-law amendment to add fee.