

**BY EMAIL AND RESS**

April 12, 2022

Ms. Nancy Marconi  
Registrar  
Ontario Energy Board  
Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Marconi,

**EB-2022-0142 – Amending the Electricity Transmission Licence of Hydro One Networks Inc. to Require it to Develop and Seek Approvals for New Transmission Lines – Recommendations Received from the IESO**

On April 6, 2022, the OEB amended Hydro One's transmission licence (ET-2003-0035) to include a requirement for Hydro One to develop and seek all necessary approvals for four new transmission projects in Southwestern Ontario as per the Directive approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council on March 31, 2022 as Order in Council No. 875/2022. The four projects are:

1. A new 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from Lambton Transformer Station to Chatham Switching Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations;
2. A new 500 kV transmission line from Longwood Transformer Station to Lakeshore Transformer Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations;
3. A second new 500 kV transmission line from Longwood Transformer Station to Lakeshore Transformer Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations; and
4. A new 230 kV transmission line that connects the Windsor area to the Lakeshore Transformer Station, including associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations.

In the Decision and Order, the OEB required Hydro One to provide to them a copy of any recommendation received from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) related to the scope and timing of the development of each of the Projects identified in the licence amendment. While, some of the near term projects have been more explicitly defined by IESO (# 1 and # 2), all the projects needs were noted in the specific reports as indicated below.

Hydro One has received a letter (see Attachment A) for the Lambton Transformer Station to Chatham Switching Station (Project #1 above). The letter identified the project's need and timing.

“... this letter is to identify the need for a new 230 kV double-circuit line from the Lambton transformer station (“TS”) to the Chatham switching station (“SS”) and the associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations. This reinforcement is needed to ensure that the system can meet the near- to mid-term needs for the Windsor-Essex region. These facilities are required no later than 2028, but there is benefit in streamlining the implementation of this project and completing it earlier if possible”

Hydro One’s guiding recommendations for the four transmission reinforcement projects in the south west are driven by two specific reports by the IESO:

1. West of London Bulk Study – Need for Bulk System Reinforcements West of London (Sept 2021)
2. Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum Report – (February 2022)

The West of London Bulk Study references these projects in Section 7.3 *Near Term Recommendations* (Project #1), Section 8.3 *Long Term Recommendations* (Projects #2 and #3) and Section 9.3 *Interdependency with Regional Planning* (Project #4). The West of London Bulk Study identified the need and timing of Project #2.

“... the IESO determined that a new single circuit 500 kV transmission line between London and the municipality of Lakeshore, along with 550 MW of local resources, is the most effective way to address the long-term capacity needs in the area. The transmission line is required to be in service by 2030.”

Section 6.1.2 *Coordination with the West of London Bulk Plan* of the Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum Report also references Project #4.

Hydro One will forward the OEB a copy of any future recommendations from the IESO with respect to these projects. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Joanne Richardson

## Attachment A

Letter for the Lambton Transformer Station to Chatham Switching Station

March 26, 2021

Robert Reinmuller  
Director, Transmission System Planning  
Hydro One Networks, Inc.  
483 Bay Street  
Toronto, ON M5G 2P5

Dear Robert:

**Re: Building a new 230 kV double-circuit line from Lambton TS to Chatham SS to supply forecasted load growth in the Windsor-Essex region and surrounding Chatham area**

The purpose of this letter is to identify the need for a new 230 kV double-circuit line from the Lambton transformer station ("TS") to the Chatham switching station ("SS") and the associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations. This reinforcement is needed to ensure that the system can meet the near- to mid-term needs for the Windsor-Essex region. These facilities are required no later than 2028, but there is benefit in streamlining the implementation of this project and completing it earlier if possible.

The purpose of these new facilities is to:

- Ensure sufficient bulk transfer capability east of Chatham to supply the forecast load in the Windsor-Essex region and surrounding Chatham area in the near- to mid-term; and
- Improve the deliverability of resources in the Lambton-Sarnia area for intra-zonal and provincial supply.

**Background**

The west of London area, as shown in Figure 1, encompasses a 230 kV and 115 kV high voltage network stretching from the western edge of the City of London, to Lambton-Sarnia in the northwest, and the City of Windsor in the west. This system interconnects large generators in the Lambton-Sarnia and Windsor areas with existing load centres, and encompasses the growing Kingsville-Leamington and Chatham-Kent areas. It provides four interconnection points with Michigan's power system via Windsor and Lambton-Sarnia. The area also encompasses a connection to the 500 kV system at Longwood within the Municipality of Strathroy Catadoc, providing a strong path for supply to and from the region and the rest of the province.

There are two main pockets of load growth and economic development in the area west of London – in the Town of Kingsville and Municipality of Leamington, and in the community of Dresden, located within the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. This growth is driven by strong indoor agricultural growth, mainly in vegetable greenhouses, as well as in part, cannabis, specifically through the intensification of existing greenhouses switching to lit indoor facilities, expansion of greenhouse facilities, and supplemental load to support the agricultural sector.

In 2019, the IESO published a bulk transmission study for the area, [\*Need for Bulk Transmission Reinforcement in the Windsor-Essex Region\*](#), which recommended transmission upgrades to supply this increased electricity demand in the region. More specifically, the upgrades addressed bulk transmission system limitations west of Chatham, between Chatham SS and the Kingsville-Leamington area. These included a new switching station at Leamington Junction (Lakeshore SS) and a new 230 kV double-circuit line from Chatham SS to the new Lakeshore SS. At that time, transmission system constraints east of Chatham were also identified but additional assessments were required before further recommendations could be made.

Recent studies conducted by the IESO with input from Hydro One, local distribution companies (LDCs), stakeholders and communities concluded that bulk electricity demand west of London region will be adequately supplied by the previous recommendations for transmission reinforcements and existing resources until the beginning of 2028.

To supply the forecasted electricity demand beyond 2028 and to maintain the capability of the transmission system to deliver the output of generation resources in the Lambton-Sarnia area, the IESO recommends a new 230 kV, double-circuit transmission line be built between Lambton TS and Chatham SS. Prior to this reinforcement coming into service as new loads connect, operational actions such as arming Remedial Action Schemes (RAS) for load or generation rejection, or temporarily allowing higher operating ratings, may be required to address the potential congestion of generation resources in the Lambton-Sarnia area. This would be outlined in potential exemptions to reliability standards, as required.

Due to the rapid and constantly evolving nature of the load growth in the area, and the need to occasionally rely on operating actions to reduce congestion of generating resources, there is benefit in streamlining the implementation of this project to complete it earlier if possible.

The analysis found that this transmission solution is the most cost effective next step to supplying the increasing demand in the region.

In arriving at this recommendation alternate transmission options and local supply options were considered. The analysis of the different options will be described in the IESO's west of London bulk study report, to be published in Q2 2021. This report will also make additional recommendations around further transmission or resource solutions, as required, to continue meeting bulk system needs into the long-term.

### **Lambton South (Lambton to Chatham) Transmission Line Project Scope**

Based on the above considerations, the IESO recommends that Hydro One initiate the work, engagement and activities, including seeking Environmental Assessment and Leave-to-Construct approvals, that are required to develop and construct a new 230 kV double-circuit line from Lambton TS southwards to Chatham SS and associated station facility expansions or upgrades

required at the terminal stations. Single-line diagrams of the existing and proposed facilities are shown in Figure 2.

The project and its related costs and timelines have been discussed with Hydro One. The IESO understands that, if approvals are received, an in-service date of 2028 is achievable and recommends the transmitter investigate options for an accelerated implementation if possible, for the reasons mentioned previously. Hydro One has indicated costs for the project may range between \$210 million to \$290 million. If there is any delay or suspension of the targeted in-service date and/or project costs are forecasted to exceed the upper end of this range, Hydro One will notify the IESO as soon as possible so that the assessment of the bulk system reinforcement plan in the west of London can be updated appropriately.

The IESO is aware that there are Indigenous communities in Southern Ontario that may have an interest in this project. The IESO encourages Hydro One to meaningfully engage with these communities in a way that recognizes the unique interest of each community in this project, and to discuss their concerns about potential impacts to their Aboriginal or treaty rights.

### **Future Activities**

This transmission line is the next stage of a number of improvements to the bulk transmission system required to support load growth and ensure reliability in the area. Planning for the west of London bulk system is still underway and additional recommendations along with a final report are planned for spring 2021. In parallel, long-term planning also continues at the regional level through the on-going Windsor-Essex addendum study and forthcoming Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia regional planning cycle in Q2 2021. Engagement with Indigenous and municipal communities and sector stakeholders will continue to inform these activities.

IESO will continue to work with Hydro One in the implementation of this project. We look forward to an ongoing exchange of information as Hydro One proceeds with the development of the project.

Yours truly,

*Ahmed Maria*

Ahmed Maria

Cc: Terry Young, IESO  
Leonard Kula, IESO  
Candice Trickey, IESO  
Chuck Farmer, IESO  
Bruno Jesus, Hydro One  
Mark Brodie, Hydro One  
IESO Records

## Figures: System Maps

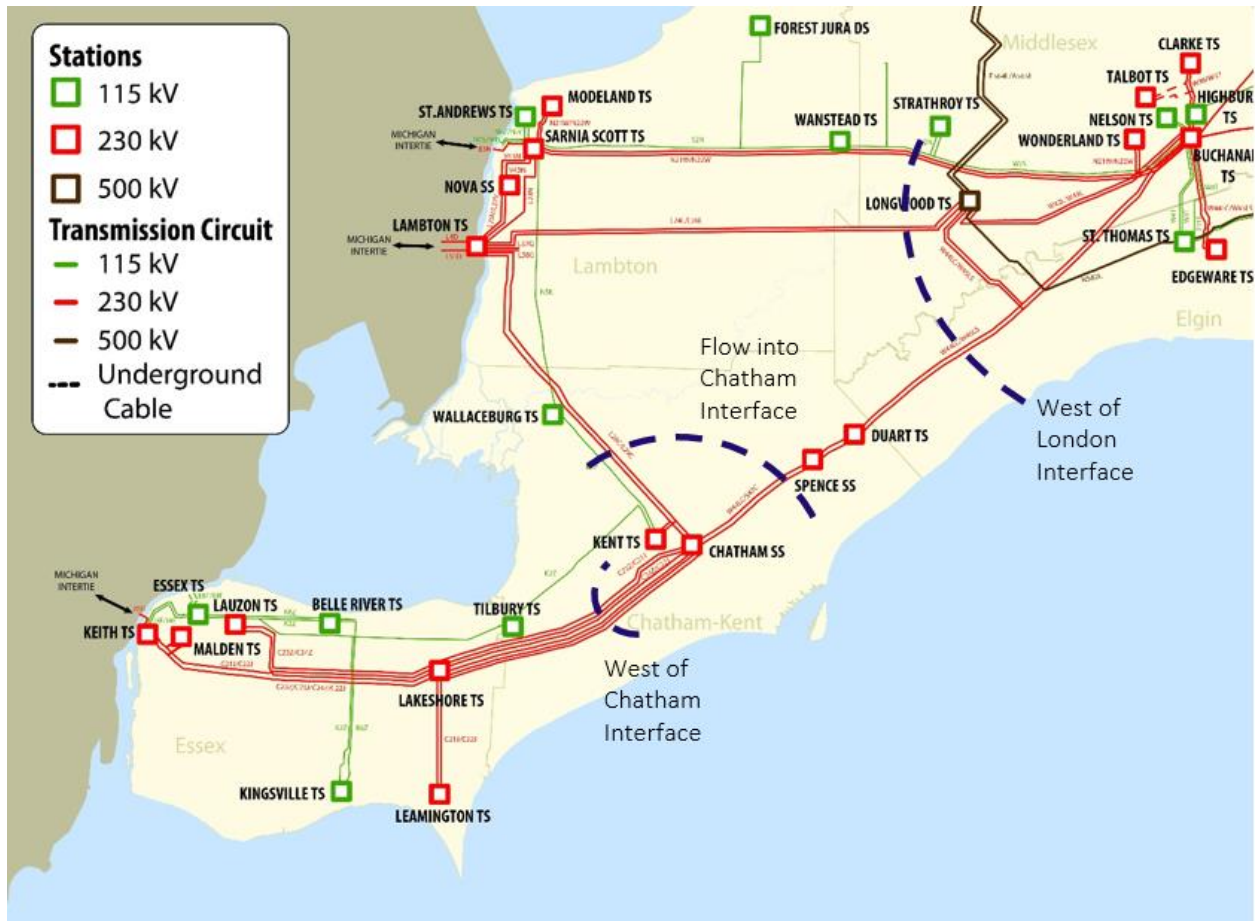


Figure 1: Geographical map of West of London

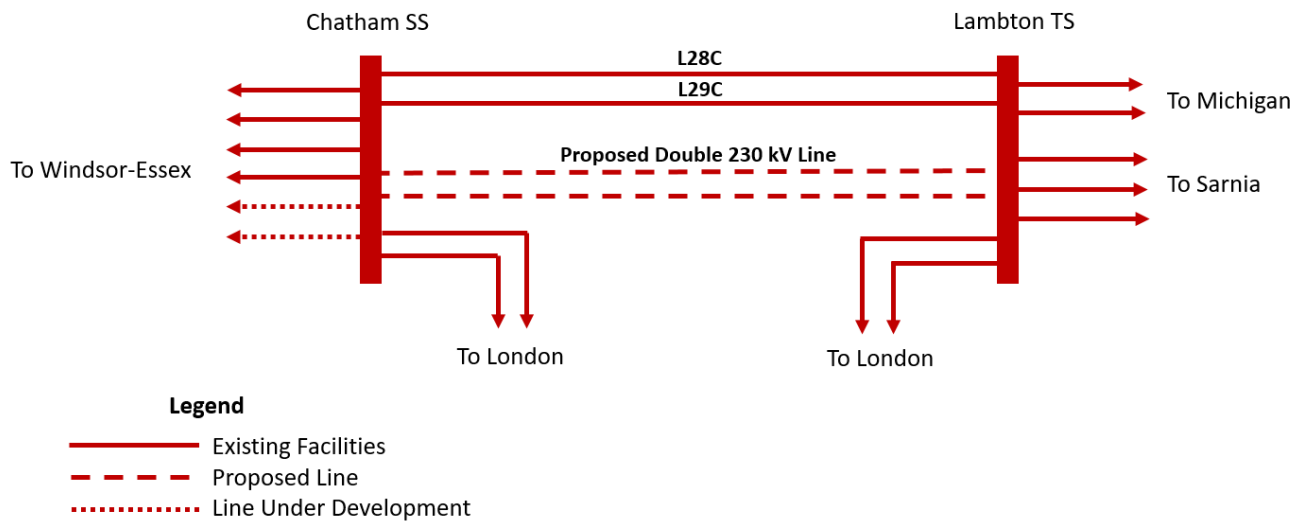


Figure 2: Single line diagram of existing and proposed facilities in West of London

## Report By IESO

1. West of London Bulk Study – Need for Bulk System Reinforcements West of London (Sept 2021)





---

# Need for Bulk System Reinforcements West of London

September 2021

This document and the information contained herein is provided for informational purposes only. The IESO has prepared this document based on information currently available to the IESO and reasonable assumptions associated therewith, including relating to electricity supply and demand. The information, statements and conclusions contained in this report are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors that could cause actual results or circumstances to differ materially from the information, statements and assumptions contained herein. The IESO provides no guarantee, representation, or warranty, express or implied, with respect to any statement or information contained herein and disclaims any liability in connection therewith. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking information contained in this report as actual results could differ materially from the plans, expectations, estimates, intentions and statements expressed in this report. The IESO undertakes no obligation to revise or update any information contained in this report as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In the event there is any conflict or inconsistency between this document and the IESO market rules, any IESO contract, any legislation or regulation, or any request for proposals or other procurement document, the terms in the market rules, or the subject contract, legislation, regulation, or procurement document, as applicable, govern.

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Executive Summary</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>2. Introduction</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>3. Background and Planning Considerations</b>	<b>15</b>
3.1 Areas of Interest	15
3.1.1 Windsor-Essex	16
3.1.2 Chatham-Kent	17
3.1.3 Lambton-Sarnia	17
3.2 Ongoing Conservation and Demand Management Activities	18
<b>4. Demand Forecasts</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1 Overall West of London Demand	20
4.2 Focus Area Demand	22
4.3 Greenhouse Forecast Scenarios	22
4.4 Hourly Demand Forecasts	25
4.5 Consideration of Forecast Scenarios and Sensitivities	25
<b>5. Existing Supply to the Focus Area and West of London Area</b>	<b>28</b>
5.1 Existing Supply to the Focus Area	29
5.1.1 Resources Internal to the Focus Area	29
5.1.2 External Supply from Ontario Resources	30
5.1.3 External Supply from Neighbouring Jurisdictions	30
5.2 Existing Supply to the WOL Area	31
5.2.1 Resources Internal to WOL	31
5.2.2 External Supply from Ontario Resources	32
5.2.3 External Supply from Neighbouring Jurisdictions	32
<b>6. Need for Additional Supply</b>	<b>34</b>
6.1 Supply Need for the Focus Area	35
6.1.1 Capacity Need in the Focus Area	35

6.1.2 Energy Need in the Focus Area	37
6.2 Supply Requirements for West of London	39
6.2.1 Capacity Requirements in WOL	39
6.2.2 Energy Requirements in WOL	40
<b>7. Near- to Mid-Term Solutions</b>	<b>41</b>
7.1 Near-term Options Analysis	41
7.2 Mid-term Option Analysis	43
7.3 Near- to Mid-term Recommendations	45
<b>8. Long-Term Solutions</b>	<b>46</b>
8.1 Long-term Objectives	46
8.2 Long-term Options Analysis	49
8.3 Long-term Recommendations	50
<b>9. Implications on the Broader WOL Area and Linkages with Regional Planning</b>	<b>52</b>
9.1 Reliability of Supply to the WOL Area	52
9.2 Deliverability of Supply in the Focus Area and WOL area to the rest of Ontario	53
9.3 Interdependency with Regional Planning	53
<b>10. Engagement</b>	<b>54</b>
10.1 Engagement Principles	54
10.2 Engagement Approach	54
10.3 Bringing Communities to the Table	56
10.4 Engaging with Indigenous Communities	56
10.4.1 Indigenous Participation and Engagement in Transmission Development	57
<b>11. Conclusions and Recommendations</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Appendix A – Planning Assessment Criteria</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Appendix B – Load Forecast Data</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Appendix C – Supply Need Data</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Appendix D - Assessment of Supply</b>	<b>75</b>



# List of Tables and Figures

## List of Tables

Table 1   Summary of Limitations on the FIC Interface, Relative to the Total Lambton-Sarnia Generation and Total Winter West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW).....	30
Table 2   Summary of Long-term Options .....	49
Table 3   Total Coincident Winter West of London Peak Demand Forecast (MW) .....	63
Table 4   Total Coincident Summer West of London Peak Demand Forecast (MW).....	63
Table 5   Total Coincident Winter Focus Area Peak Demand Forecast (MW) .....	63
Table 6   Total Coincident Summer Focus Area Peak Demand Forecast (MW).....	64
Table 7   Winter Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW).....	64
Table 8   Summer Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW) .....	66
Table 9   Winter Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW) .....	67
Table 10   Summer Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW) .....	69
Table 11   Total Winter West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW) .....	70
Table 12   Total Summer West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW).....	71
Table 13   Gross Winter Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load (MW) .....	71
Table 14   Gross Summer Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load (MW) .....	71
Table 15   Peak Segmentation Assumptions for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load.....	72

**List of Figures**

Figure 1 | Map of West of London, Highlighting Focus Area ..... 13

Figure 2 | Map of West of London, Highlighting Areas of Interest..... 15

Figure 3 | Historical Peak Demand and Energy Consumption for West of London..... 20

Figure 4 | Total West of London Forecast Scenarios ..... 21

Figure 5 | Focus Area Forecast Scenarios ..... 22

Figure 6 | West of London Greenhouse-Only Load Forecast Scenarios, Winter..... 24

Figure 7 | Map of West of London Area with Relevant Interfaces..... 28

Figure 8 | Contracted Transmission-Connected Generation Capacity in the Focus Area..... 29

Figure 9 | Contracted Transmission-Connected Generation Capacity in West of London..... 31

Figure 10 | Historic Ontario-Michigan Flows (All hours 2018-2020) ..... 33

Figure 11 | Focus Area Capacity Need, Winter ..... 36

Figure 12 | Focus Area Capacity Need, Summer..... 36

Figure 13 | Annual Unserved Energy for the Focus Area for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions ..... 37

Figure 14 | Heat Maps Showing Possible Reference Need Energy Events for the Focus Area in 2035 38

Figure 15 | West of London Capacity Need, Winter ..... 39

Figure 16 | West of London Capacity Need, Summer..... 40

Figure 17 | Annual Unserved Energy Behind the WOL Interface for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions..... 40

Figure 18 | Single line diagram of Proposed Near- to Mid-term Facilities ..... 45

Figure 19 | Winter Capacity Need for the Focus Area with the Near- and Mid-term Recommendations for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions..... 46

Figure 20 | Annual Unserved Energy for the Focus Area with the Near- and Mid-term Recommendations for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions 47

Figure 21 | Map of Proposed Long-term Transmission Path and New Local Resources..... 51

Figure 22 | The IESO’s Engagement Principles..... 54



## List of Abbreviations

AAR	Annual Acquisition Report
APO	Annual Planning Outlook
CAD	Canadian
CDM	Conservation Demand Management
CEATI	Centre for Energy Advancement through Technological Innovation
CEP	Community Energy Plan
CHP	Combined Heat and Power
CONE	Cost of the Marginal New Resource
DE-HPS	Double-Ended High-Pressure Sodium
DESN	Dual Element Spot Network
DG	Distributed Generation
DS	Distribution Station
FIC	Flow into Chatham
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GS	Generating Station
HCCC	Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (HCCC),
HDI	Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI)
IESO	Independent Electricity System Operator
IRRP	Integrated Regional Resource Plan
kV	Kilovolt
LDC	Local Distribution Company
LED	Light Emitting Diode
MECP	Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
MTS	Municipal Transformer Station
MW	Megawatt
NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NPCC	Northeast Power Coordinating Council
NPV	Net Present Value
OEB	Ontario Energy Board
OGVG	Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers Association
OR	Operating Reserve
ORTAC	Ontario Resource and Transmission Assessment Criteria
RAS	Remedial Action System
SCGT	Simple Cycle Gas Turbine
SECTR	Supply to Essex County Transmission Reinforcement
SIA	System Impact Assessment
SS	Switching Station
TS	Transformer Station
UCAP	Unforced Capacity
USD	United States dollars
WOC	West of Chatham
WOL	West of London

# 1. Executive Summary

This report documents the results of a planning study the IESO has undertaken to assess the reliability of the bulk transmission system in the West of London (WOL) area. The WOL area encompasses a 230 kV and 115 kV high voltage network in southwest Ontario, stretching from outside the western edge of the City of London, to the City of Sarnia in the northwest, and to the City of Windsor in the west. This system interconnects large generators in the Lambton-Sarnia and Windsor areas, with existing load centres and encompasses the growing Kingsville-Leamington and Chatham-Kent areas. It provides four interconnection points with Michigan's power system via Windsor and Lambton-Sarnia. The area is also connected to the 500 kV system at Longwood TS, within the Municipality of Strathroy-Catadoc near the City of London, providing a strong path between the WOL area and the rest of the province.

Electricity demand in Windsor-Essex and the Chatham-Kent area (referred to as the "Focus Area") within WOL is growing at a rapid pace. This growth has been driven by strong indoor agricultural growth, mainly vegetable greenhouses, as well as in part, cannabis, specifically through existing greenhouses switching to lit indoor facilities, expansion of greenhouse facilities, and supplemental load to support the agricultural sector. The agricultural sector demand in the Focus Area is expected to increase from a winter peak of roughly 500 MW today to 2,300 MW in 2035 – this is the electrical equivalent of adding a city the size of Ottawa. Due to this rapid growth, planning in southwestern Ontario has been occurring on a continuum over the last five years. In 2019, the IESO released the [2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study](#), which made recommendations for supplying this growing demand. This report is the latest in a line of ongoing analysis at the bulk system and regional level.

Based on the reference forecast, and assuming the transmission recommendations from the 2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study come into service as planned, there will still be a winter need for additional supply to the Focus Area starting in 2024 that reaches 2,050 MW by 2035. This supply need assumes that when generation contracts expire, the resources are not reacquired, and export capability on the Ontario-Michigan intertie, J5D, is maintained with all transmission elements in-service. Typically, the system is planned to maintain export capability when all transmission elements are in service, not when transmission elements are out of service. The supply need is specified assuming resources are not reacquired since reacquisition is a decision that should be made as per the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework and should not be presupposed. Hence, the statement of supply need should not assume resources are reacquired.

In response to this growing need, the IESO has adopted a multi-pronged approach using a combination of transmission reinforcements, resources, and targeted energy efficiency programs.

Due to the lead time required to implement solutions to provide the additional supply required and support the economic growth in the near-term (2021-2027) and mid-term (2028-2029), the IESO recommended actions ahead of the publication of this report. This report will provide the need and rationale for the actions taken by the IESO, which were:

- On March 26, 2021, the IESO sent a letter to the lead transmitter in the region, Hydro One Networks Inc. (“Hydro One”), in order to inform them of the need for a new 230 kV double circuit line from Lambton TS southwards to Chatham SS (Lambton South line) and associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations. While Hydro One will initiate the work, engagement and related activities, it will be subject to all required Environmental Assessment, regulatory (e.g., Leave-to-Construct), and other approvals and permits; and
- On July 19, 2021, the IESO indicated, through the Annual Acquisition Report (AAR), an intention to begin bilateral negotiations for Brighton Beach Generating Station. This is an existing facility supporting the area’s needs today, that has been identified as required to continue supporting this immediate localized need in the near-term until the transmission line recommended in the March 26, 2021 letter is in-service.

These actions will provide the required supply to the domestic load up to the year 2030. With these actions taken, the winter supply requirement for the Focus Area reduces from 2,050 to 1,100 MW in the year 2035.

To deliver the 1,100 MW of required supply, this plan recommends a single circuit 500 kV transmission line from Longwood TS to Lakeshore TS, as well as 550 MW of local resources. The transmission line is required to be in service by 2030. The 550 MW of local resources is the total amount required by 2035, where the requirement progressively increases up to this level starting in 2030. It can be met by reacquiring resources that exist today whose contracts have expired between now and 2035, and/or by acquiring new resources.

The IESO is committed to transitioning to the long-term use of competitive resource acquisition mechanisms to meet Ontario’s reliability needs. As such, the long-term resource requirement for 550 MW will be met by using the mechanisms outlined in the IESO’s Resource Adequacy Framework, which will be outlined in future AARs.

The IESO will work with entities applying to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to become the transmitter for this project as well as stakeholders and communities, to implement the recommended 500 kV transmission line.

This planning report also identifies interdependencies between this provincial/bulk level plan and the regional electricity plan being developed in parallel with local distribution companies (LDCs) in the area – through the on-going Windsor-Essex Regional Addendum study and Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia regional planning cycle. In particular, depending on where the 550 MW of recommended capacity is located within the Focus Area, a double circuit 230 kV transmission line between Windsor and Lakeshore may be needed to address local reliability issues and maintain interchange capability with Michigan under all elements in-service. Furthermore, the IESO will continue to monitor and explore opportunities for conservation efforts targeted to the Focus Area, including cost-effective energy efficiency measures and pilot projects that help mitigate needs and manage reliability issues until bulk reinforcements are in-service.

Finally, in addition to the reliability of the supply to the Focus Area, this report also explores the reliability of the supply to the larger WOL area, which encompasses the Focus Area. A review of the supply to WOL area was necessary not only because of the forecast load growth in the Focus Area,

but also because 85% of the nearly 5,000 MW of supply resources within WOL have contracts expiring by the end of the decade.

The study of the supply to the broader WOL area concluded, that 1,425 MW of local resources must be acquired in the WOL area to reliably supply the region in 2035, where the requirement progressively increases up to that level starting in 2030. This is in addition to what was recommended in this report to supply the Focus Area. Similar to the recommendations made for the Focus Area, the need for 1,425 MW in WOL will be included in future AARs, can be met by reacquiring resources that exist today whose contracts have expired between now and 2035 and/or by acquiring new resources, and will be addressed using the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework.

## 2. Introduction

Electricity planning in Ontario typically occurs on a cyclical basis. However, due to the rapidly growing agricultural sector, planning in southwestern Ontario has been occurring on a continuum over the last five years, with no signs of slowing down. Over the course of that time, the IESO has recommended supply lines to Leamington, two load stations at Leamington (Leamington TS DESN 1 and 2) with two more under development in Lakeshore (South Middle Road TS DESN 1 and 2), a new switching station at Leamington Junction (Lakeshore TS<sup>1</sup>) and a new 230 kV double circuit line from Chatham SS to the new Lakeshore TS.

The [2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study](#) recommended Lakeshore TS and the new line from Chatham SS to Lakeshore TS to address bulk transmission system limitations west of Chatham, between Chatham SS and the Kingsville-Leamington area. These recommendations would increase the overall transfer capability of the bulk transmission system west of Chatham in order to reliably supply the forecast load growth in the Kingsville-Leamington area and Windsor-Essex region. At that time, transmission system constraints east of Chatham were also identified but additional assessments (this study) were required before further bulk recommendations could be made.

Agricultural electricity demand primarily concentrated in the Windsor-Essex region and in the community of Dresden within Chatham-Kent (referred to as the “Focus Area” for the purposes of this report) is expected to grow from a winter peak of roughly 500 MW to 2,300 MW between now and 2035 – the electrical equivalent of adding a city the size of Ottawa. Further, there is a significant amount of resources within the broader West of London area, 85% of which have contracts expiring by the end of the decade. As such, a review of the bulk transmission system in WOL is necessary at this time, primarily to ensure adequate supply to the Focus Area, which is experiencing the rapid agricultural load growth. But also to ensure adequate supply to the larger WOL area, given the expiry of generation contracts in the area, and to identify any transmission constraints limiting the ability of supply resources and imports within WOL to meet provincial needs.

The WOL area encompasses a 230 kV and 115 kV high voltage network in southwest Ontario, stretching from the western edge of the City of London, to the City of Sarnia in the northwest, and the City of Windsor in the west. This system interconnects large generators in the Lambton-Sarnia and Windsor areas with existing load centres, and encompasses the growing Kingsville-Leamington and Chatham-Kent areas. It provides four interconnection points with Michigan’s power system via Windsor and Lambton-Sarnia. The area is also connected to the 500 kV system at Longwood TS, within the Municipality of Strathroy-Catadoc near the City of London, providing a strong path between the WOL area and the rest of the province.

The Windsor-Essex region has historically been characterized by manufacturing loads, large gas generation and interconnection supply with Michigan in the Windsor area, as well as numerous wind generators across the region. More recently, agricultural development and the adoption of indoor

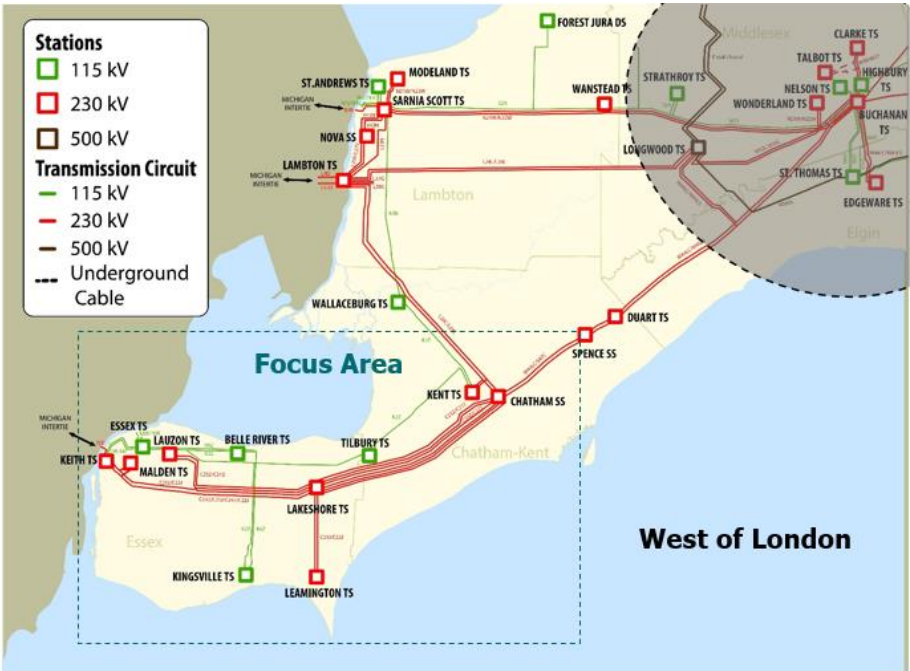
---

<sup>1</sup> Note that while a switching station was recommended, with the connection of South Middle Road TS DESN 1 and 2 to the station this was designated a transformer station by Hydro One and will subsequently be referred to as a transformer station in this report.

grow lights in Kingsville-Leamington have expanded and is forecast to increase significantly, spreading east towards Chatham proper and surrounding areas. Within the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region, there is a significant amount of supply resources in Lambton-Sarnia, strategically located near the Dawn gas supply hub, as well as interconnection supply with Michigan. This area also includes large petro-chemical industrial loads in Lambton-Sarnia, much of which are interdependent with the combined heat and power generators.

The relevant parts of the WOL bulk system, consisting of 230 kV and 115 kV transmission circuits, as well as the demarcation of the Focus Area, is shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1 | Map of West of London, Highlighting Focus Area**



The bulk of the electrical supply is transmitted into WOL through 230 kV circuits from Buchanan TS to Scott TS, Lambton TS, and Chatham SS. Additional supply is transmitted within WOL through the 230 kV circuits between Chatham SS and Lambton TS, and the four existing circuits supplying the Windsor-Essex region from Chatham SS. These four existing circuits will be connected to the new station in Lakeshore, which was recommended in 2019, along with the two new 230 kV circuits from Lakeshore to Chatham. Over the last decade, prevailing power flows on the bulk system have been from the gas generation located in the WOL area east towards Toronto. However, with load changes in the Focus Area, bi-directional flow is expected going forward as new load connects.

This report is organized into the following sections:

- Section 3 provides background on the areas of interest within WOL, specifically the Kingsville-Leamington, Chatham-Kent, and Lambton-Sarnia pockets;
- Section 4 details the relevant electricity demand and load forecast scenarios, as well as overall forecast considerations;
- Section 5 provides an overview of the internal and external resources supplying the Focus Area and the broader WOL area;

- Section 6 discusses the need for additional capacity and energy supply in the Focus Area and WOL area;
- Section 7 outlines the transmission and resource recommendations required to meet the near-to mid-term needs;
- Section 8 analyzes the transmission and resource alternatives considered to meet the long-term needs;
- Section 9 summarizes the implications of the WOL bulk recommendations on the broader area and regional planning;
- Section 10 goes over the engagement activities to date and moving forward for WOL;
- Appendix A outlines the IESO's transmission planning objectives and assessment criteria;
- Appendix B provides a detailed breakdown of the load forecasts used in this study;
- Appendix C presents hourly supply need data determined through the need assessments;
- Appendix D breaks down the capacity and energy assessment assumptions; and
- Appendix E details the options and assumptions associated with the cost comparison for the alternatives.

# 3. Background and Planning Considerations

## 3.1 Areas of Interest

The majority of the identified load growth and economic development in WOL is within the Windsor-Essex region and Municipality of Chatham-Kent. This is driven by strong growth in the indoor agricultural sector, mainly in vegetable greenhouses, as well as in part, cannabis, specifically through existing greenhouses switching to lit indoor facilities, expansion of greenhouse facilities, and supplemental load to support the agricultural sector.

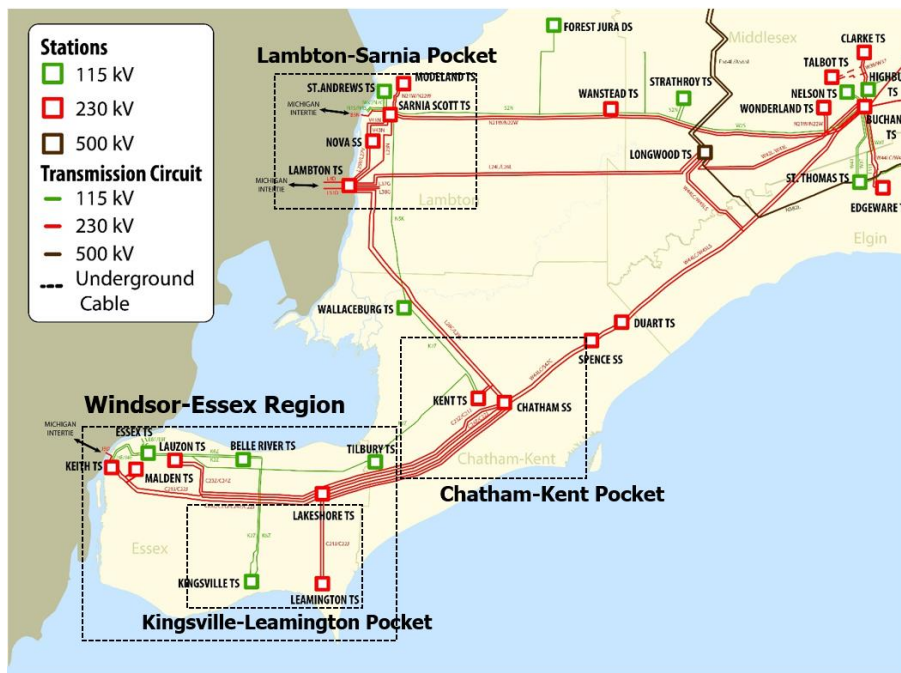
Aside from the points of interconnection with Michigan – one in Windsor and three in Lambton-Sarnia – Lambton-Sarnia contains the largest concentration of generation resources in WOL.

Thus, within WOL there are three areas of interest based on load growth, economic development and/or resources, as follows:

- Windsor-Essex;
- Chatham-Kent; and
- Lambton-Sarnia.

Each of these areas, as illustrated in Figure 2 will be described in the following sections. The considerations highlighted in this section regarding load growth, economic development and Community Energy Plans are incorporated in the load forecasts in Section 4 to the extent known, while local preferences were considered when developing options.

**Figure 2 | Map of West of London, Highlighting Areas of Interest**





### 3.1.1 Windsor-Essex

The Windsor-Essex region is the southernmost portion of Ontario, extending southwest from the Municipality of Chatham-Kent to the City of Windsor. The electricity demand of the region has historically been defined by its tourism and manufacturing, in particular automotive manufacturing near the City of Windsor. More recently, agricultural development and adoption of indoor grow lights in the Town of Kingsville and Municipality of Leamington (the Kingsville-Leamington pocket), has expanded and is forecast to increase significantly. The Kingsville-Leamington pocket is considered North America's largest concentration of greenhouse vegetable production, and accounts for all greenhouse and supplemental load that is supplied or will be supplied between Lakeshore TS and Kingsville TS.

Bulk and regional plans for the area are informed by the community's priorities and energy plans. In 2019, the County of Essex, City of Windsor, and other local municipalities declared a climate emergency and called for cooperation in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region. The [County of Essex](#) and [City of Windsor](#) each established energy plans that support local economic development while taking climate change action and improving energy performance. The City of Windsor's community energy plan targets a 40% GHG reduction by 2041 from 2014 levels. The City of Windsor also recently requested that the government of Ontario place an interim cap of 2.5 megatons per year on the GHG pollution from Ontario's gas-fired power plants, and develop and implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 to help Ontario and the City of Windsor meet their climate targets.

In the Essex Regional Energy Plan, specific targets were identified under seven total strategic directions:

- Efficient homes and buildings;
- Efficient greenhouses;
- Efficient industry;
- Efficient transportation;
- Efficient local supply and distribution;
- Efficient community planning; and
- Data-driven insights and reporting.

These strategic directions will be advanced through a variety of initiatives, including 16 priority projects between 2021-2025. These projects range from developing municipal policies and incentives (such as aligning the Regional Energy Plan with the County Economic Transportation Master Plan, or the County Economic and Employment Land Strategy), to forming governance groups to oversee implementation. Some of these governance groups include a County of Essex Retrofit Entity that would be established to offer standardized energy retrofits to homes and commercial and institutional buildings, as well as a Greenhouse Growers Energy Services Co-operative to consolidate expertise as it relates to energy efficiency and supply needs in the greenhouse sector. Other near-term endeavours involve scale projects, such as a neighbourhood-scale Integrated Energy Master Plan for both a manufacturing cluster and a net-zero community, and more broadly, raising energy and climate literacy. To the extent known, these community priorities have informed the demand forecast

in the area and have been taken into consideration in the evaluation of options and the IESO will continue to consider community-led energy plans in future demand forecasts as they are implemented.

### 3.1.2 Chatham-Kent

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent is about 2,500 square kilometers, located adjacent to the Windsor-Essex region. Based on feedback received from the greenhouse sector, municipalities and local utilities, there are potential constraints regarding the availability of land, water, electricity and natural gas in the Windsor-Essex region.<sup>2</sup> As a result, agricultural load is shifting eastward, concentrated in the community of Dresden and areas surrounding Chatham proper (referred to here as “Chatham-Kent”).

In November 2019, Enbridge completed the construction of a new gas pipeline in the area; the Chatham-Kent Rural Pipeline Expansion. This pipeline, which runs from Dover Centre east through the communities of Tupperville and Dresden, provides 30,000 m<sup>3</sup>/hr of natural gas capacity, or the equivalent of 350 acres of greenhouses. The Municipality of Chatham-Kent indicated that there are no water or wastewater supply concerns that would delay the development of this area.

The Municipality of Chatham-Kent was an early adopter and is a large supporter of renewable energy in Ontario. Chatham-Kent's 2016 Community Energy Plan builds on its leadership in renewable energy and promotes further energy efficiency, aiming to reduce energy consumption in 2036 by 15% over the 2013 baseline, leading to associated reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>3</sup> The Environmental Sustainability Section of Council's 2018-2022 Term Priorities calls for reducing the cost and environmental impact of energy use, among other priorities. In addition, on July 15, 2019, Council unanimously approved a motion to declare a climate emergency in Chatham-Kent.<sup>4</sup>

### 3.1.3 Lambton-Sarnia

The County of Lambton and City of Sarnia (referred to here as Lambton-Sarnia) form part of the Ontario-Michigan interconnection across from Port Huron, Michigan. Together they are home to over 190,000 people, with electricity demand largely driven by the hub of traditional petro-chemical industrial loads and the emerging bio-industrial and clean energy economy.

Based on Ontario's Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy [discussion paper](#)<sup>5</sup>, depending on the production method, hydrogen can help decarbonize the economy and reduce reliance on fuels that have a larger carbon footprint. Key principles of that strategy include reducing greenhouse gas emissions, stimulating economic development, and promoting energy resilience. Since Lambton-Sarnia houses a large concentration of refineries and chemical producers that could switch from using high- to low-carbon hydrogen, the municipality is positioning itself to play a key role in Ontario's hydrogen strategy. This is one way that the County of Lambton is pursuing its mission statement of the “promotion of economic growth, environmental stewardship, and an enhanced quality of life through

---

<sup>2</sup> Refer to Section 4 for further details on factors influencing greenhouse load.

<sup>3</sup> As described in the 2016 Chatham-Kent [council meeting](#).

<sup>4</sup> Refer to the [Municipality of Chatham-Kent Climate Change Action Plan Terms of Reference](#) for further details.

<sup>5</sup> Issued by the Ontario government in November 2020.

the provision of responsive and efficient services”.<sup>6</sup> Similarly, Sarnia city councillors unanimously passed a resolution in support of Enbridge Line 5 as critical infrastructure for the safe, efficient delivery of energy to residents, commerce, and industry in Western Ontario. This pipeline delivers crude oil to be processed by Ontario refineries to produce a cost-effective supply of gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, and natural gas liquids to make petrochemical products.

Over the study period, there is a relatively small amount of industrial load growth projected in the pocket. However, there is approximately 2,300 MW of gas generation in the area, strategically located near the Dawn gas supply hub. It also forms the majority of the Ontario-Michigan interconnection which currently has a capability of approximately 1,600 MW for imports and/or exports.

### 3.2 Ongoing Conservation and Demand Management Activities

The main driver for electricity growth in the Focus Area is the adoption of indoor grow lights – a vegetable greenhouse with lighting consumes 10 times as much electricity as an unlit vegetable greenhouse. To date, the use of high-intensity discharge lighting, with double-ended high-pressure sodium (DE-HPS) grow lights, continues to be the primary technology in Ontario’s greenhouse sector. The [2019 Greenhouse Profile Study](#) issued by the IESO indicated that switching to more energy-efficient light emitting diodes (LED) could save as much as 550 GWh/yr. The study suggests significant potential for energy-efficiency strategies to help greenhouses and indoor facilities improve their operations and save on energy, while reducing the need for new supply infrastructure and enabling new businesses to connect.

Energy efficiency is a low cost resource that offers benefits for individuals, businesses, and the power system as a whole. The efforts made through the participation in energy efficiency programs help reduce the need for new investments in generation resources and transmission lines. The IESO has directed increased efforts and investment to the Windsor-Essex region over the past several years, to encourage the adoption of energy efficiency processes and technologies in businesses and communities.

The IESO’s Save on Energy conservation and demand management programs provide incentives for grow lights (both retrofit and new construction) to help defray the increased capital costs of LEDs, as well as deliver longer term operational savings. In 2020, the Save on Energy Regional LED Incentive for Greenhouses received 17 applications – greatly exceeding the expected number of applications and budget. In 2020, the program committed 200 GWh of energy savings and 5 MW of demand savings. In 2021, applications for LED grow lights continue to be high, even with a lower incentive than the original 3x adder that was available in 2020 to spur up-take.<sup>7</sup>

In addition, a [Local Initiatives Program](#) will be developed to cost-effectively meet system needs, drive cost competitiveness, and promote consumer-driven solutions in targeted areas of the province, as identified through the IESO’s regional planning process.

Energy efficiency combined with innovation can provide an immediate and lasting impact on system reliability, help address province-wide and regional electricity needs, and support business and

---

<sup>6</sup> Refer to the County of Lambton [Strategic Plan](#) for further details.

<sup>7</sup> Refer to IESO’s CEATI’s [“Energy Management Best Practices for Cannabis Greenhouses and Warehouses”](#).

community growth. The IESO's Grid Innovation Fund has invested in innovative greenhouse pilot projects in the Windsor-Essex region to reduce peak demand while alleviating load growth. [Pilot projects](#) include smart LED lighting strategies, and using artificial intelligence to improve energy efficiency. Learnings from these projects will help inform and build capacity within the community for future demand side solutions as load continues to connect.

Section 4 illustrates the net demand growth that remains to be addressed through a bulk transmission and/or resources solution, after accounting for current energy efficiency measures implemented under existing frameworks.

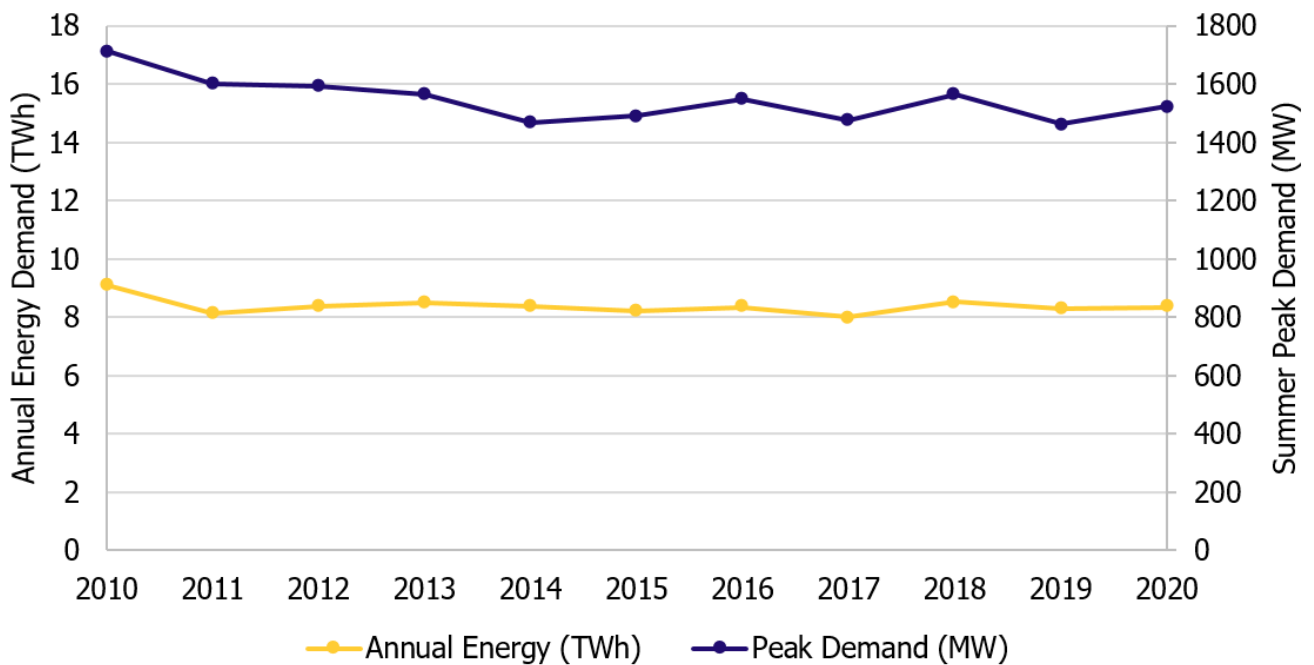
## 4. Demand Forecasts

This section describes the forecast demand for WOL and the Focus Area, and details of the greenhouse load forecast that is the primary driver for demand growth.

### 4.1 Overall West of London Demand

As described in Section 3.1, WOL is home to a diverse mixture of residential, commercial, and industrial loads, spanning two regional planning regions: Windsor-Essex, and Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia. Together, loads in this summer-peaking area have historically reached approximately 1,600 MW, with annual energy requirements of around 8 TWh. Historical demand and energy consumption in WOL are shown in Figure 3.

**Figure 3 | Historical Peak Demand and Energy Consumption for West of London**



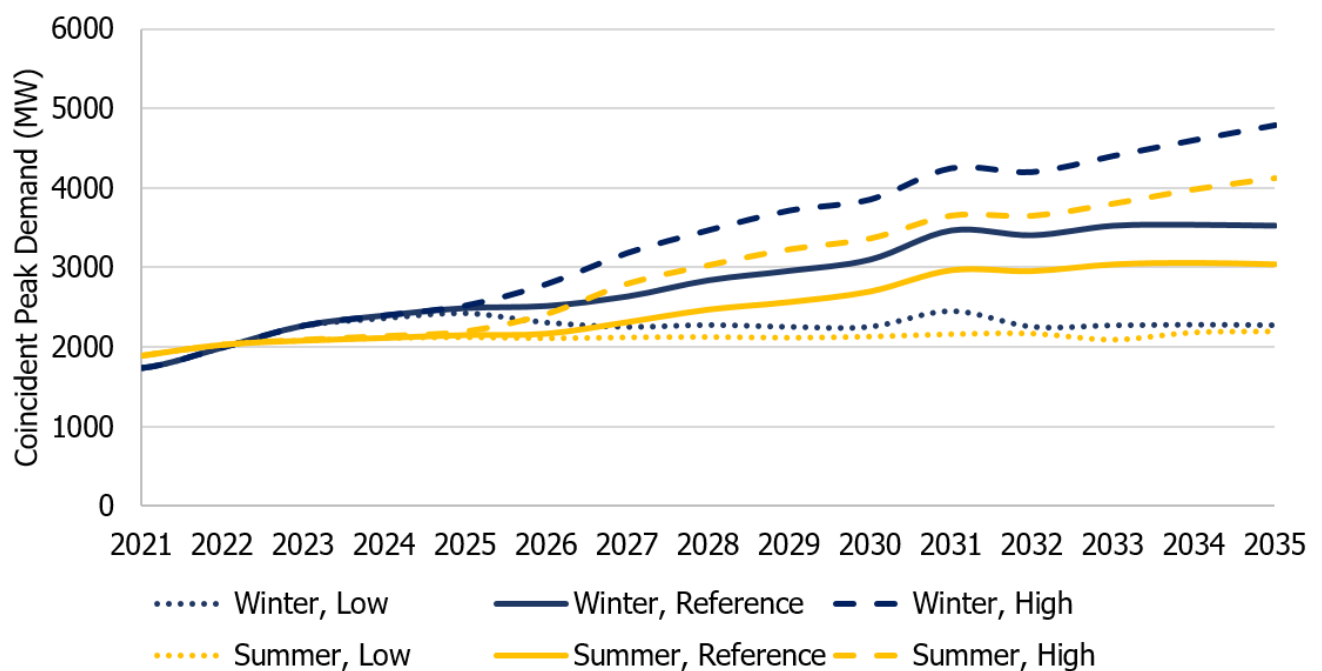
To construct the forecast for the WOL area, a number of data sets were compiled and leveraged. The 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP planning forecast was used for non-agricultural loads in the Windsor-Essex region, combined with forecast data solicited from distributors, industrial customers, and municipalities in the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region in 2020. The West Zone<sup>8</sup> forecast information from the Annual Planning Outlook (APO) was then used for the remaining stations

<sup>8</sup> Visit the IESO's [zonal map](#) illustrating the 10 electrical zones.

defined as WOL.<sup>9</sup> The regional planning forecasts were adjusted to reflect extreme weather conditions,<sup>10</sup> and accounted for the peak capacity contribution of contracted distributed generation. The agricultural load forecast was then developed as described in Section 4.3. Given the significance of the growth in the agriculture sector, three demand scenarios (low, reference and high) were developed for greenhouse load in order to test the robustness of the plan. Together with hourly load information (see Section 4.4), these inputs allowed for three coincident peak forecasts to be estimated for all of WOL; the differences driven by the three greenhouse load forecasts.

By 2035 in the reference scenario, the peak demand in WOL is forecast to increase to about 3,500 MW in the winter and around 3,000 MW in the summer. This magnitude of load growth, in addition to the switch to a winter peak, is largely driven by the indoor agriculture expansions. Figure 4 presents the forecasts for the overall WOL area.

**Figure 4 | Total West of London Forecast Scenarios<sup>11</sup>**



<sup>9</sup> Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia is undergoing a new regional planning cycle in Q3 2021, through which the forecast may be updated. Refer to Appendix B.

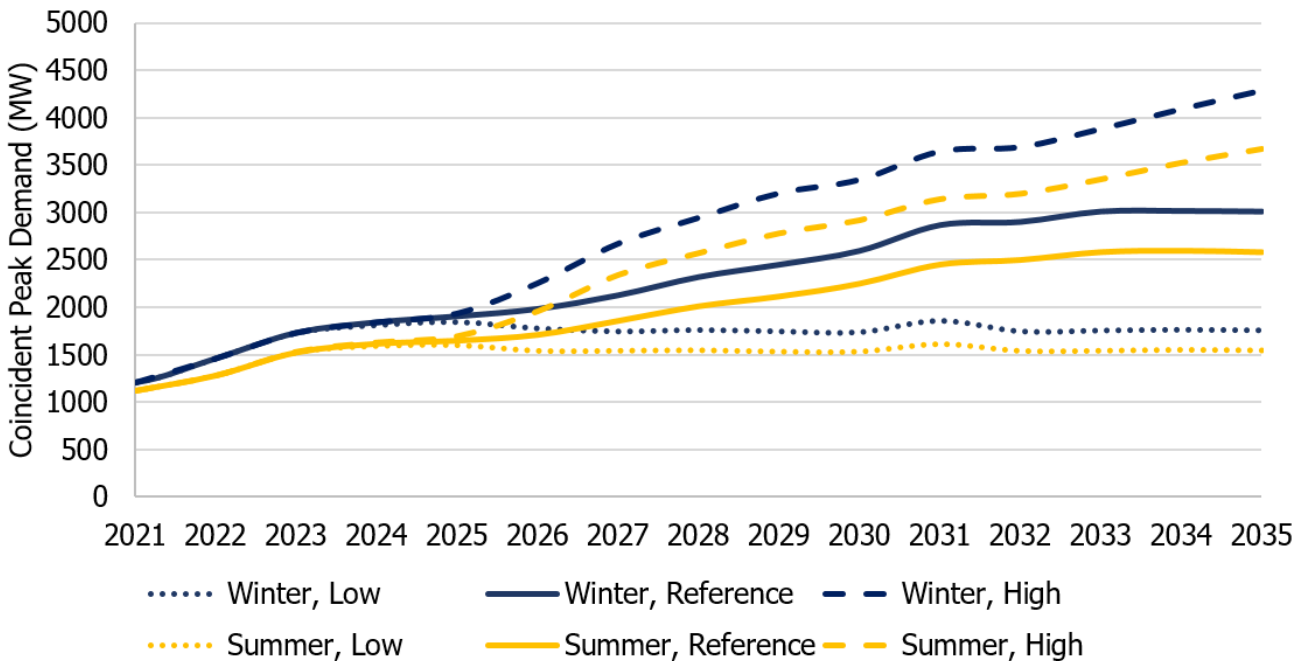
<sup>10</sup> Regional forecasts provided by LDCs are for median weather, which are then corrected for extreme weather by adjusting the forecast to reflect how loads historically react to extreme temperatures.

<sup>11</sup> Overall West of London peak will be subject to actual coincidence as loads materialize and customer segmentation in the region shifts. Higher coincidence between agricultural and non-agricultural loads can lead to greater peak demand. The non-agricultural load shape for this bulk study is based on the APO's West Zone load shape, which is more coincident with the 2031 agricultural load than in the adjacent years, resulting in what appears to be an increased demand. Refer to Section 4.4 and Appendix B for more detailed load information.

## 4.2 Focus Area Demand

Forecast demand in the Focus Area is a subset of WOL load. As shown in Figure 5, in the reference scenario, coincident peak demand in the Focus Area is anticipated to reach approximately 3,000 MW and 2,600 MW in the winter and summer of 2035, respectively. Similar to WOL, three forecast scenarios are presented, reflecting the three greenhouse load forecasts.

**Figure 5 | Focus Area Forecast Scenarios**



## 4.3 Greenhouse Forecast Scenarios

The greenhouse load growth in WOL is concentrated in two areas where the indoor agricultural sector is expanding: Kingsville and Leamington, and Chatham-Kent (specifically, the community of Dresden). The greenhouse load in Kingsville and Leamington includes:

- Loads supplied by the existing Leamington tap lines which will be connected to the future Lakeshore TS;
- South Middle Road TS loads to be connected to Lakeshore TS;
- Gradual connection of an AgriPark<sup>12</sup>; and
- Future distribution-connected load growth in the Kingsville and Leamington geographic area.

Additionally, the greenhouse load in Chatham-Kent is comprised of two parts:

<sup>12</sup> AgriPark refers to an agricultural park which will act as a turn-key solution, providing facilities, equipment, and services to independent end-users/growers.

- Connection requests received by the distributor for the community of Dresden, looking to connect by 2021/2022; and
- Additional 130-230 MW of projected load growth based on the local natural gas capacity, assuming its utilization is for greenhouse facilities.<sup>13</sup>

Demand growth in these areas was combined with different assumptions to create three greenhouse load forecast scenarios. Inputs to these scenarios encompass:

- Greenhouse load growth information received from the LDCs – primarily Hydro One, as most of the new load is in its service territory – including:
  - Customer connection requests, with details of their location, their requested capacity, and crop type (vegetable or cannabis);
  - Customer connection inquiries, with similar details mentioned above;
  - Projections of greenhouse expansions based on the available gas supply capability from Enbridge’s Chatham Pipeline expansion in the community of Dresden;
- Information received from those who have applied for an IESO System Impact Assessment (SIA) in WOL;
- Information received by the IESO from potential connection applicants who have inquired about SIAs or other feasibility assessments in WOL; and
- Historical acreage expansion rates for vegetable greenhouse growers, obtained from the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG) Association; and
- Development time of both Windsor-Essex bulk system reinforcements,<sup>14</sup> and new local transformer stations and supply lines required to connect new loads.

As shown in Figure 6, the forecast scenarios differ in both magnitude of total long-term greenhouse load, and the rate at which load materializes.

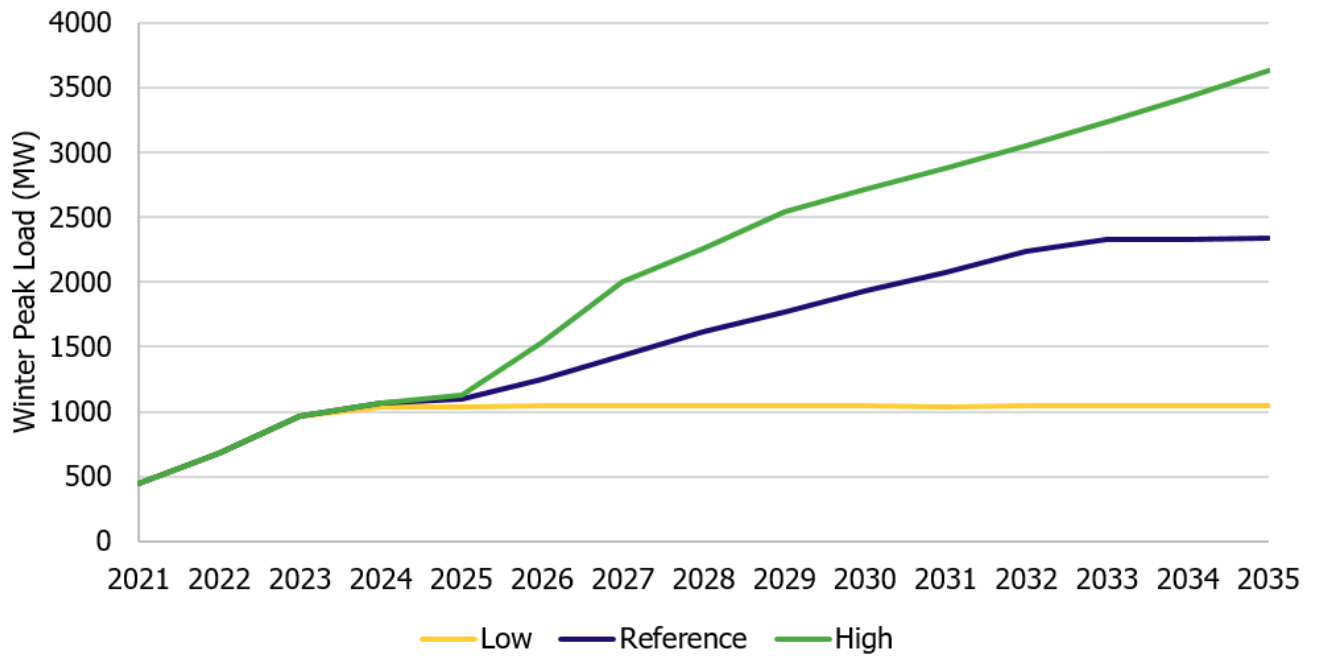
---

<sup>13</sup> During the Windsor-Essex IRRP, a near-term capacity need was identified in Chatham-Kent that exceeded the existing local capacity and was driven by greenhouse customers located south of the municipality of Chatham proper. Due to the urgency and proximity of the load to the Windsor-Essex region, this need was incorporated into the 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP. However, as a result of economic influences on demand for the proposed load, the recommended station build was not implemented by the customer.

<sup>14</sup> Specifically, the Lakeshore transformer station and 230 kV double circuit lines from Chatham SS to Lakeshore TS.



**Figure 6 | West of London Greenhouse-Only Load Forecast Scenarios, Winter**



The low load scenario incorporates only the already-existing loads, facilities for which SIAs have been received,<sup>15</sup> and confirmed load for which a preferred connection option has been studied (such as in the community of Dresden). The rate of load growth assumed for these facilities aligns directly with the forecasts from the distributor or transmission-connected customer.

The reference scenario builds upon the low scenario's assumptions and reflects additional customer connection requests received by the distributor that have not been assigned a connection point. It assumes additional vegetable greenhouse load growth near the community of Dresden using the projected rate of growth indicated by Hydro One. Subsequently, starting in 2026 (after the Chatham-Lakeshore 230 kV circuits are in-service), the remaining Kingsville and Leamington customer queue (distribution-level connection requests) is assumed to be connected in 50 MW annual increments. Simultaneously, the AgriPark load is anticipated to ramp up by 100 MW per year.

The high load scenario assumes a more aggressive and faster buildout of transformer stations and distribution lines, also starting in 2026 – possible if transmission and distribution facilities are developed in parallel. In this scenario, the magnitude of long-term greenhouse load near the community of Dresden is larger, assuming that a greater portion of projected growth is driven by more load-intensive cannabis grow lights rather than vegetable. The Kingsville and Leamington customer queue and AgriPark are still accounted for, but ramp up at a faster rate: both at 200 MW per year. The high load scenario also applies a long-term growth rate of 6% starting in 2029, after the known customer requests and distributor forecasts are met. This 6% factor is based on the historical rate of under-glass greenhouse acreage expansion in the Leamington area according to OGVG, and implies that the ratio of lit to unlit acreage in 2029 will persist in the long-term.

<sup>15</sup> Information valid as of December 2020.

## 4.4 Hourly Demand Forecasts

In addition to establishing peak demand forecasts to identify bulk capacity needs, hourly forecasts were developed to inform the energy analysis (see Section 6). While real-time demand is subject to a myriad of factors – including hourly weather changes and individual customer or facility behaviour – the WOL load shape is expected to be impacted most significantly by indoor agriculture load shapes as more greenhouse customers connect over the planning horizon, until 2035 for the purposes of this study. Specifically, a key characteristic of greenhouse demand is a winter morning peak sustained over multiple hours, as growers seek to compensate for lower solar insolation with artificial lighting. This differs from non-agricultural demand in WOL, which is typically summer-peaking and highest during weekday afternoons/early evenings.

The IESO created the hourly forecasts leveraging three load shapes:

- Non-agricultural – consistent with the 2019 APO West Zone load profile;
- Vegetable, greenhouse – from load profiles developed through the 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP and bulk study; and
- Cannabis, greenhouse – also from load profiles developed through the 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP and bulk study.

These load shapes were aggregated according to segmentation information and location, and then scaled to reach estimated peak demand levels. The result was load profiles combined as appropriate to represent different scenarios (i.e., low, reference, or high) and different areas (i.e., West of London, Focus Area, or West of Chatham).<sup>16</sup>

## 4.5 Consideration of Forecast Scenarios and Sensitivities

As the indoor agriculture sector evolves and load materializes over the long-term planning horizon, it is expected that the forecast will also evolve. Uncertainties around core assumptions in the forecast give cause to study more than one scenario. Each load connection scenario developed for the West of London bulk study incorporates the most up-to-date information known at the time (2020). Each scenario also indicates a large amount of electricity demand growth concentrated in the Kingsville, Leamington, and Chatham-Kent areas, requiring further transmission reinforcements. No major impact to demand has been identified in WOL from the COVID-19 pandemic other than to further support consumer demand for local produce.

Recommendations made through this bulk study prioritize the reference scenario, but by exploring critical assumptions such as rate of growth and total magnitude of the connection queue, the needs and options analyses were also subjected to low and high load growth scenarios.

Moreover, consistent with information gathered throughout the 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP and bulk study, stakeholders have continued to flag key sensitivities that can impact the load growth's overall magnitude and rate:

- Crop type segmentation;

---

<sup>16</sup> Detailed load information can be found in Appendix B  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

- Location and access to other services and infrastructure that support the indoor agriculture sector's growth (including land, labour, markets, natural gas supply, waste treatment facilities, local policies, permitting, and water supply);
- Rate of LED grow light adoption;
- Potential long-term impacts of applicable community and regional energy plans;
- Uptake of behind-the-meter generation;
- Costs (i.e., of the required services or carbon emissions); and
- Other broader trends driving greenhouse expansion (such as the desire for food security and/or year-round production, or new product/crop type categories).

These sensitivities can not only influence the amount and timing of the forecast load growth – they can also impact the seasonal and hourly assumptions. For instance, differences in lighting strategies between crop types and growers could alter forecast load profiles. While the majority of existing lit facilities use traditional high pressure sodium lighting, the advancement in the technology combined with interest in incentives mentioned in Section 3.2, indicate that adoption of LED grow light can potentially increase substantially. There is, however, still work needed to increase LED uptake in the sector. Stakeholders have indicated that the main barrier to LEDs is cost, as up-front costs are much larger for LEDs than DE-HPS and the increase in efficiency may not be as high as expected. However, costs are partially offset by the fact DE-HPS has a much shorter lifespan than LEDs. If the ratio between grow light type were to shift to a 50/50 split, as opposed to the currently-assumed majority of DE-HPS, it could defer the need dates identified in Section 6 by 1-2 years. Thus, highlighting the role conservation measures targeted to the sector could play in mitigating this need.

Stakeholders have also indicated that stalled expansion for some crop types (such as cannabis) could be offset by a switch to others (such as vegetable). As stated in Section 4.2, assumptions regarding crop type were based on information provided by the LDCs and customers. However, if the ratio of vegetable to cannabis greenhouses were to change, this would primarily impact the summer energy profile, as cannabis facilities are currently assumed to have an equal ratio between summer and winter demand, while vegetable facilities are assumed to have greater demand in the winter. Since the capacity and energy needs in this area are driven by the winter profiles, this would have a minimal impact on the needs identified.

Note that for this West of London bulk study, the greenhouse forecast scenarios (as described in Section 4.2) are not developed with a top-down approach, such as using greenhouse acreage expansion rates and estimated grow light intensity (i.e., MW/acre according to crop type). Rather, the key inputs to the forecast are the queue of load connection requests (in total MW), crop type (percentage vegetable or cannabis) according to the distributor, and information from known large, directly-connected transmission customers. These inputs were then constrained by timelines of transmission reinforcements (either already under development or assuming typical lead times). Currently, the distribution capacity in the Focus Area is fully allocated – at the existing Leamington TS DESN 1 and 2, and planned South Middle Road TS DESN 1 and 2, with expected in-service dates of Q2 2022 and Q3 2025 respectively. Therefore, all three demand forecast scenarios for greenhouse customers account for the development time of previously recommended Windsor-Essex bulk system reinforcements, and new local transformer stations and supply lines.

Beyond the factors described above (i.e., crop type segmentation, lighting technology, seasonal behaviour), the IESO notes that changes related to the amount or use of behind-the-meter generation can also influence the forecast growth. Known contracted distributed generation and transmission-connected market resources are accounted for, in either the forecast or modelled in the power flow and energy assessments. No assumptions are made regarding customers relying on already-existing behind-the-meter generation and whether they would be seeking to meet their load requirements with a grid connection instead – if this is the case, it would be expected that the customer requested a load connection with the distributor and would be included in the overall queue information. Stakeholders have indicated that these facilities could be used by customers in various ways, such as for peak-shaving, back-up supply, electricity supply until transmission reinforcements are in-service, or to help meet thermal or carbon dioxide requirements. At the time of this bulk study, no planned new behind-the-meter generation projects have been confirmed, so no impact from future activity is reflected in the load forecast.

As more greenhouses connect over the next several years, continued monitoring and conversations with customers can improve future planning forecasts.

## 5. Existing Supply to the Focus Area and West of London Area

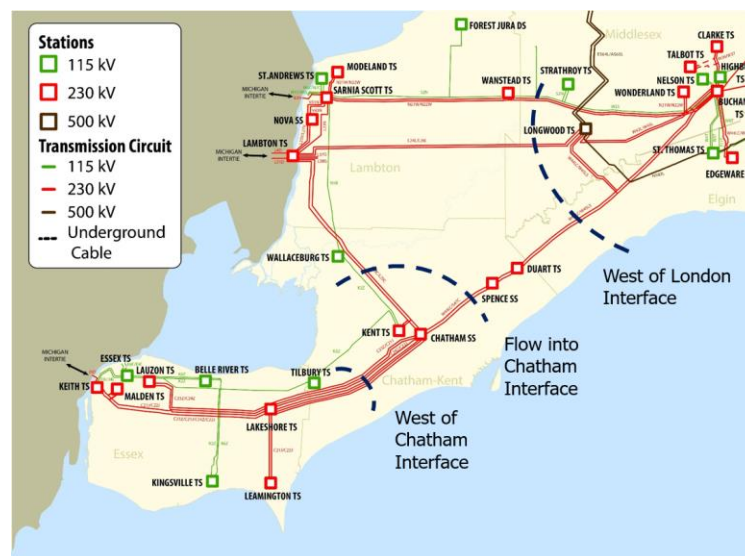
WOL is supplied by a number of internal wind and gas generation resources, as well as external resources accessed through the existing 230 kV network (connecting the area to the rest of Ontario).<sup>17</sup> The area also encompasses the entire Michigan interconnection, which allows for imports and exports to flow through Lambton-Sarnia and Windsor to the rest of the province.

As illustrated in Figure 7, there are three main interfaces of interest:

- The Flow into Chatham (FIC) interface consisting of the 230 kV circuits, which supply the Focus Area;
- The West of Chatham (WOC) interface consisting of the existing and planned 230 kV circuits west of Chatham SS, which supply the Windsor-Essex portion of the Focus Area; and
- The WOL interface consisting of the 230 kV circuits west from London (Buchanan TS/ Longwood TS), which supply the broader WOL area.

The capability of the transmission system to deliver external resources to meet the area's needs reflects limits for all elements in-service conditions, opposed to under outage conditions, since all elements in-service conditions are more limiting in the determination of the area's need.<sup>18</sup>

**Figure 7 | Map of West of London Area with Relevant Interfaces**



<sup>17</sup> The mixture of resources used to supply the region's and the province's energy needs at any given time is determined by the real-time energy market.

<sup>18</sup> Planning standards require the deterministic assessment of the system's ability to withstand certain contingencies when all elements are in-service and when a system element is under outage. All elements in-service limits were most limiting to the area's supply in this case because under outage conditions load rejection can be armed and the need to maintain export capability is relaxed.

The following sections describe how the Focus Area and the broader WOL area are supplied.

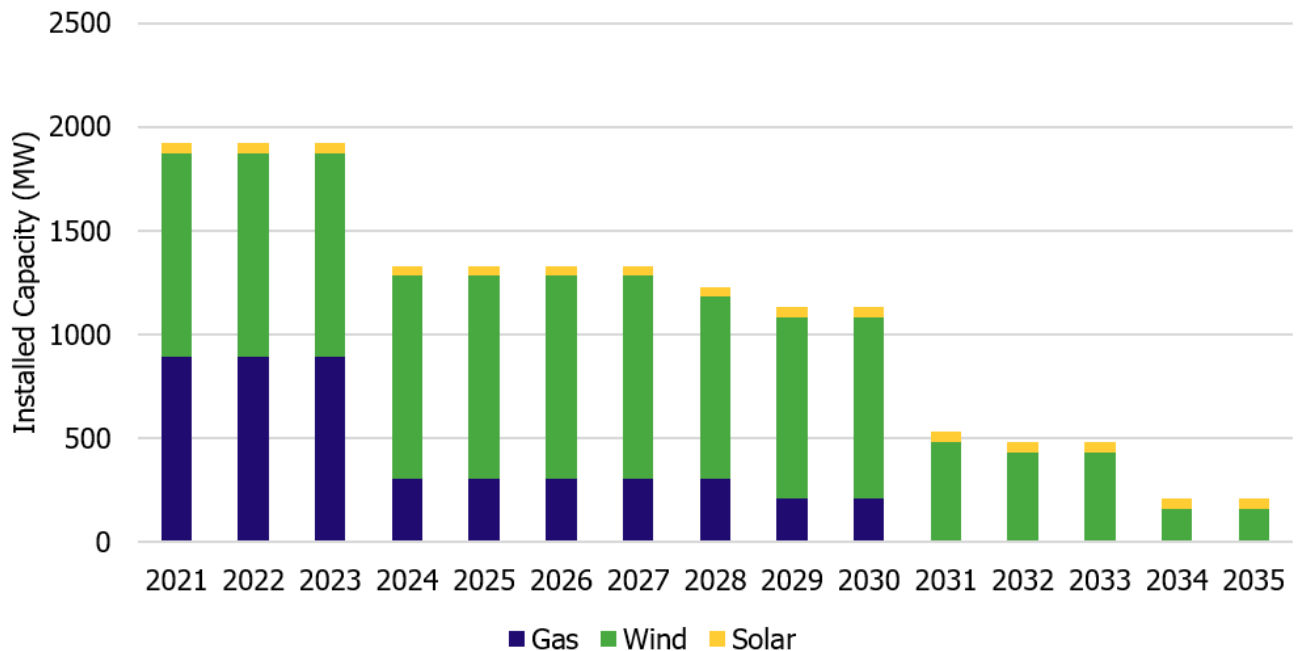
## 5.1 Existing Supply to the Focus Area

### 5.1.1 Resources Internal to the Focus Area

Transmission-connected resources in the Focus Area are currently a mixture of gas generation in Windsor, a number of wind generators in Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent, and a large solar installation in Windsor. These resources represent a combined total of approximately 1,900 MW of installed generation capacity, split relatively evenly between gas facilities and renewable resources, approximately 900 MW and 1,000 MW respectively.

Figure 8 shows the installed transmission-connected resource mix in the Focus Area per year, reflecting the contracted capacity as existing contracts expire through the study period.<sup>19</sup> Over the next two decades, the majority of contracts with natural gas-fired and renewable generation are expected to expire, which was considered when identifying local supply needs. By the end of the study period in 2035, contracts for almost 1,700 MW of resources will have expired, including all natural gas-fired resources in the Focus Area.

**Figure 8 | Contracted Transmission-Connected Generation Capacity in the Focus Area**



<sup>19</sup> The region also has a significant number of distribution connected resources, mainly wind and solar. The area also benefits from a number of smaller distribution connected combined heat and power generators. The impact of these distributed resources was also modelled in the study.

### 5.1.2 External Supply from Ontario Resources

Assuming the recommendations in the [2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study](#) are implemented, the transfer capability of the FIC transmission interface is what limits the delivery of power into the Focus Area and is dependent on the output of generation and Ontario-Michigan imports in the Lambton-Sarnia area. The transfer capability of the FIC interface is 1,350 MW and 1,200 MW, in the winter and summer respectively, when Lambton-Sarnia generation and Ontario-Michigan imports are between 0-1,500 MW. This interface is generally limited by the Lambton-to-Chatham path. When Lambton-Sarnia generation and imports are less than 0 MW (i.e., exporting with no Lambton-Sarnia resources generating) the capability to transfer power into the area is lower due to thermal limitations on the Longwood-to-Chatham path. When the Lambton-Sarnia generation and imports are greater than 1,500 MW, the capability to transfer power into the area is lower due to thermal limitations on the Lambton-to-Chatham path.

**Table 1 | Summary of Limitations on the FIC Interface, Relative to the Total Lambton-Sarnia Generation and Total Winter West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW)**

<b>Lambton-Sarnia generation and Ontario-Michigan interchange<sup>20</sup></b>	<b>FIC Limitation</b>
Less than 0 MW	Limit lower due to thermal limitations on the Longwood-to-Chatham path
0 – 1,500 MW	Limited by the Lambton-to-Chatham path
Greater than 1,500 MW	Limit lower due to thermal limitations on the Lambton-to-Chatham path

For the purpose of identifying supply needs in the Focus Area, the transfer capability of the FIC interface is assumed to be 1,350 MW and 1,200 MW, in the summer and winter respectively.

### 5.1.3 External Supply from Neighbouring Jurisdictions

The Focus Area is also interconnected with Michigan through a 230 kV interconnection, circuit J5D at Keith TS (Windsor to Detroit). The flow on this intertie typically represents 20% of the flow across the entire Ontario-Michigan interconnection, with the other three connection points located in the Lambton-Sarnia. Imports on this intertie could help supply load in the Focus Area, while exports on this intertie would increase the supply required to the Focus Area. However, since flow on the Ontario-Michigan interties are scheduled as a whole, limitations to imports on the Sarnia-Port Huron interties, for example, affect the ability for imports on the Windsor-Detroit intertie to help supply the Focus Area. In addition, the Midcontinent Independent System Operator's 2020 Planning Resource Auction for the Michigan zone cleared at the cost of new entry of \$250/MW-day. While this constraint was not reflected in the 2021 auction, it indicates that there may be limited resources that would subsequently be available to provide imports from Michigan to Ontario to meet Ontario provincial or local supply needs.

<sup>20</sup> Negative values represent exports; positive values represent generation and/or imports.  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

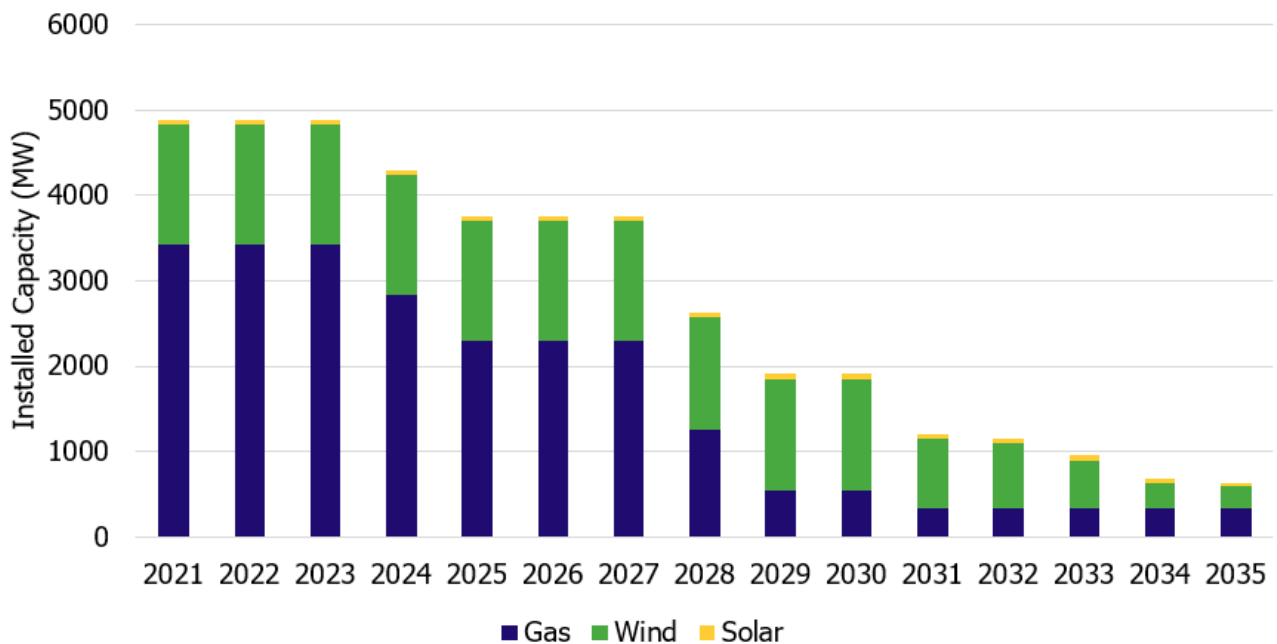
## 5.2 Existing Supply to the WOL Area

Supply to WOL is provided by generation located within WOL, flow west from the rest of Ontario, and flow east from the United States through the Ontario-Michigan interconnection, as outlined in the following sections.

### 5.2.1 Resources Internal to WOL

In addition to the transmission-connected resources in the Focus Area, the WOL area is also comprised of a significant amount of installed gas generation in Lambton-Sarnia, over 2,500 MW, and approximately 440 MW of renewable resources. In combination, these resources represent a total of nearly 5,000 MW of installed generation capacity. Figure 9 shows the installed transmission-connected resource mix in the WOL area in 2021.<sup>21</sup> Over the next two decades, the majority of contracts with natural gas-fired and renewable generation are expected to expire. By the end of the study period in 2035, contracts with approximately 4,250 MW of generation will have expired.

**Figure 9 | Contracted Transmission-Connected Generation Capacity in West of London**



<sup>21</sup> The region also has a significant number of distribution connected resources, mainly wind and solar. The area also benefits from a number of smaller distribution connected combined heat and power generators. The impact of these distributed resources was also modelled in the study.



## 5.2.2 External Supply from Ontario Resources

Supply to WOL from the rest of the province is provided through the WOL transmission interface comprising, the existing 230 kV transmission circuits that connect Lambton TS, Scott TS, and Chatham SS in the area to Longwood TS and Buchanan TS in the east. The current planning limit of the WOL interface (westbound) is approximately 2,350 MW and 2,100 MW in the winter and summer, respectively. Under low levels of generation in Lambton-Sarnia and high exports, the WOL interface is restricted by either the Longwood TS to Lambton TS path or the Longwood TS to Chatham SS path, for the loss of two circuits along the other path (i.e., restricted by Longwood-to-Lambton for the loss of two circuits along Longwood-to-Chatham, or vice versa).

Limitations on the supply to the Focus Area (i.e. the FIC interface) currently impact the capability of the WOL interface.

## 5.2.3 External Supply from Neighbouring Jurisdictions

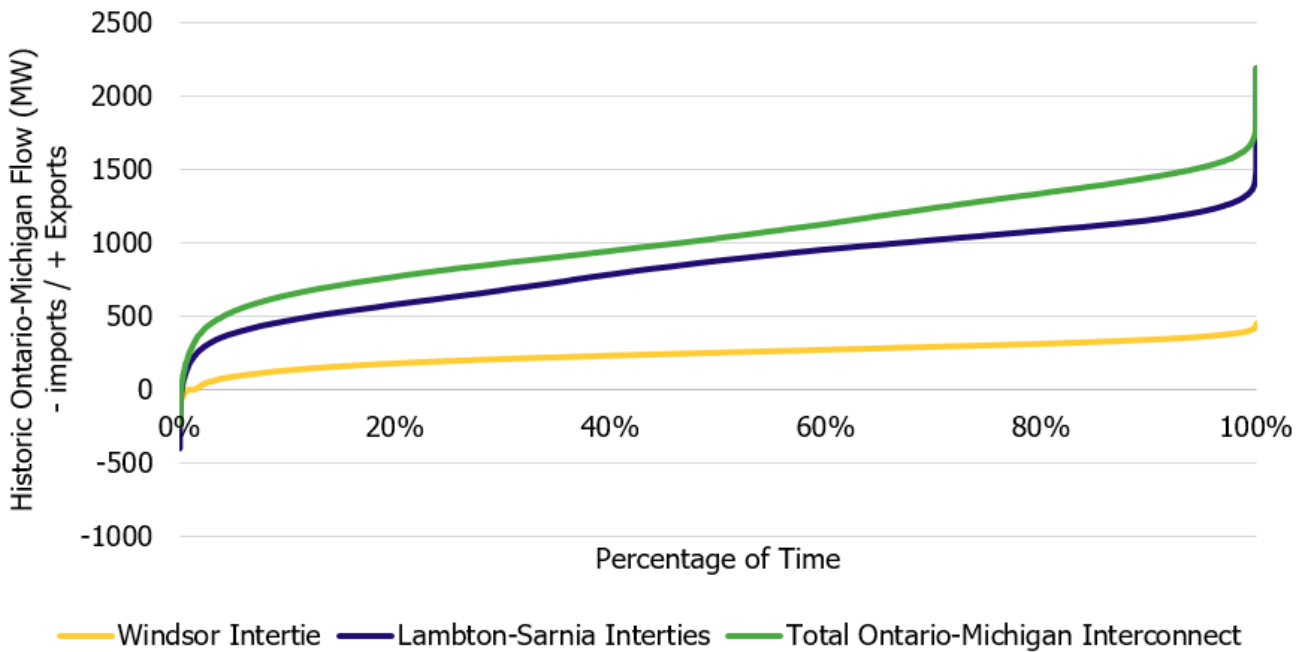
WOL is also interconnected with Michigan through four interconnection ties – a circuit J5D at Keith TS (Windsor to Detroit), as well as circuits L4D and L51D at Lambton TS and B3N at Scott TS (Sarnia to Port Huron). The interconnection between Ontario and Michigan supports import and export trade via the Ontario and Michigan real-time energy markets. Trading electricity across different markets provides operational and planning flexibility, as well as enhances the reliability, resiliency and cost-effectiveness of the electricity system.

Real-time trading provides a significant economic benefit to ratepayers, through savings when imports are scheduled instead of an Ontario asset with higher production costs, or through savings when exports are scheduled during times of surplus energy to avoid costly shutdowns or curtailments. In addition to cost savings, competitive trading also delivers an additional revenue stream for ratepayers, through intertie congestion rent.

From an operational and reliability perspective, trading electricity provides a significant amount of flexibility to address needs that emerge close to real-time and without much notice, such as unexpected generation or transmission line outages as well as changes in demand. It can act as cost-effective insurance, by relying on our neighbours to make up any potential shortfall. This was most recently illustrated by the Texas blackout event, which may have been exacerbated by the lack of interconnections with other jurisdictions if they had available capacity to provide.

The Ontario-Michigan interconnect has a combined capability of 1,650 MW for exports in the winter and summer, and 1,700/1,550 MW for imports in the winter and summer respectively, roughly split evenly among the four ties – 20% on the J5D Windsor intertie, and 80% on the Lambton-Sarnia interties. Figure 6 shows the recent historical flows on the interconnection as a whole, and the split between the Windsor-Detroit and Sarnia-Port Huron ties.

**Figure 10 | Historic Ontario-Michigan Flows (All hours 2018-2020)**



The Ontario-Michigan interface is subject to “loop-flows,” which represent unscheduled flows that naturally occur, influenced by the dispatch of generation (within and external to Ontario), load levels and the configuration of the interconnected network. The IESO operates to control this to within +/- 200 MW of the scheduled flow for the entire interface, but at times a portion of these loop-flows cannot be controlled. This means that the intertie circuit is likely subject to some amount of loop flow at any given time.

The current Ontario resource mix and loop flows drive a substantial amount of export flow on this intertie – export flow exceeds 1,200 MW from Ontario to Michigan 31% of peak hours,<sup>22</sup> compared to the 1,650 MW export capability. Looking at the Windsor-Detroit intertie specifically, export flow exceeds 300 MW for 25% of peak hours, compared to the approximately 400 MW capability.

<sup>22</sup> Peak hours are defined as 7 AM – 8 PM weekdays, not including holidays or long-term outages.  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

---

## 6. Need for Additional Supply

This section describes the assessment of whether or not additional supply is required to the Focus Area and, more broadly, to the WOL area. Planning criteria were applied in accordance with North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) standards and the Northeast Power Coordinating Council (NPCC) reliability directories to determine system capacity needs.<sup>23</sup> In the context of the bulk system, adequacy is defined as the ability to supply demand, while respecting transfer capability limits across the bulk system and interconnections.<sup>24</sup>

This assessment assumed that the recommendations of the [2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study](#) were implemented – i.e. a transformer station in Lakeshore (Lakeshore TS) and a new double circuit 230 kV line between Lakeshore and Chatham (the Chatham west lines) are in place to facilitate further load supply. The capacity and energy assessments considered both the contribution of existing internal resources and resources external to the area. Distributed generation resources are accounted for in the net demand forecast presented in Section 4.<sup>25</sup>

A number of key sensitivities were considered to determine the magnitude and timing of the need for additional supply capability, including considerations for three demand forecasts (low, reference, high), whether existing resources continue to operate once their contract expires, and the interchange capability between Ontario and Michigan.

As the base case for determining supply needs for the purpose of identifying options, the study assumed that resources would not be reacquired at the end of their contracts and the interchange path between Ontario and Michigan would be maintained through the ultimate solution. Typically, the system is planned to maintain export capability when all transmission elements are in service, not when transmission elements are out of service. The supply need is specified assuming resources are not reacquired because reacquiring a resource is a decision that should be made as per the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework and should not be presupposed. These assumptions were applied to the three demand forecast scenarios, to define a Low Need, Reference Need and High Need.

Supply needs were also specified under the following sensitivities to help identify interim and near-term actions that could be taken to expedite customer connections until the mid- and long-term solutions can be determined and implemented. Each sensitivity was also applied to the three demand forecast scenarios.

- Sensitivity A: Considering resources in the study area (i.e. the Focus Area or WOL) coming off contract continue to operate, without maintaining interchange capability; and

---

<sup>23</sup> Refer to Appendix A for details on the planning assessment criteria.

<sup>24</sup> In comparison, resource adequacy, as defined in the APO and AAR also takes into account the effective capacity of each resource, reflecting allowances for resource outages.

<sup>25</sup> Refer to Appendix D for further details on the capacity and energy assessments.

- Sensitivity B: Considering resources in the study area would not be reacquired at the end of their contracts, without maintaining interchange capability.

The ability for available resources to meet system needs was evaluated based on the supply assessments presented in the following sections for the Focus Area and for WOL as a whole.

## **6.1 Supply Need for the Focus Area**

Since demand forecasts in the Focus Area are winter-peaking, the capacity and energy requirements are defined by the winter needs. However, when analyzing needs and alternatives, checks were completed to ensure solutions also meet summer needs. In terms of locational constraints, as mentioned in Section 5, supply to the Focus Area is limited by the FIC interface.

### **6.1.1 Capacity Need in the Focus Area**

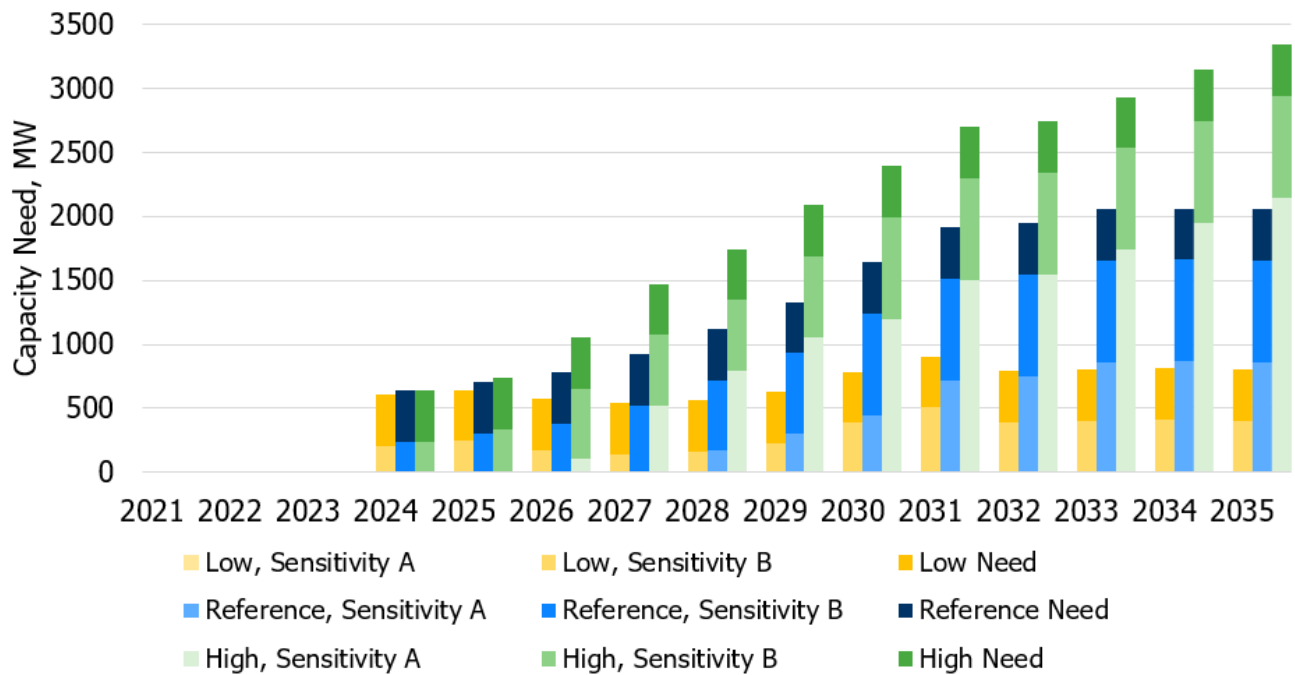
Based on the Reference Need, to supply the Focus Area until the end of the study period (2035) there is a 2,050 MW winter capacity need, which begins to emerge in 2024 as local resources reach contract expiry. The summer capacity need is generally lower than the winter capacity need, reaching approximately 1,800 MW by 2035 (Reference Need).

However, if resources are considered to be reacquired and interchange capability is not maintained, Reference Sensitivity A, a supply capacity need does not emerge until 2028, which grows to 860 MW by 2035. This indicates that utilizing existing resources and/or limiting interchange capability could address the supply capacity needs in the interim years (2024-2028) until future system reinforcements can come into service.<sup>26</sup>

---

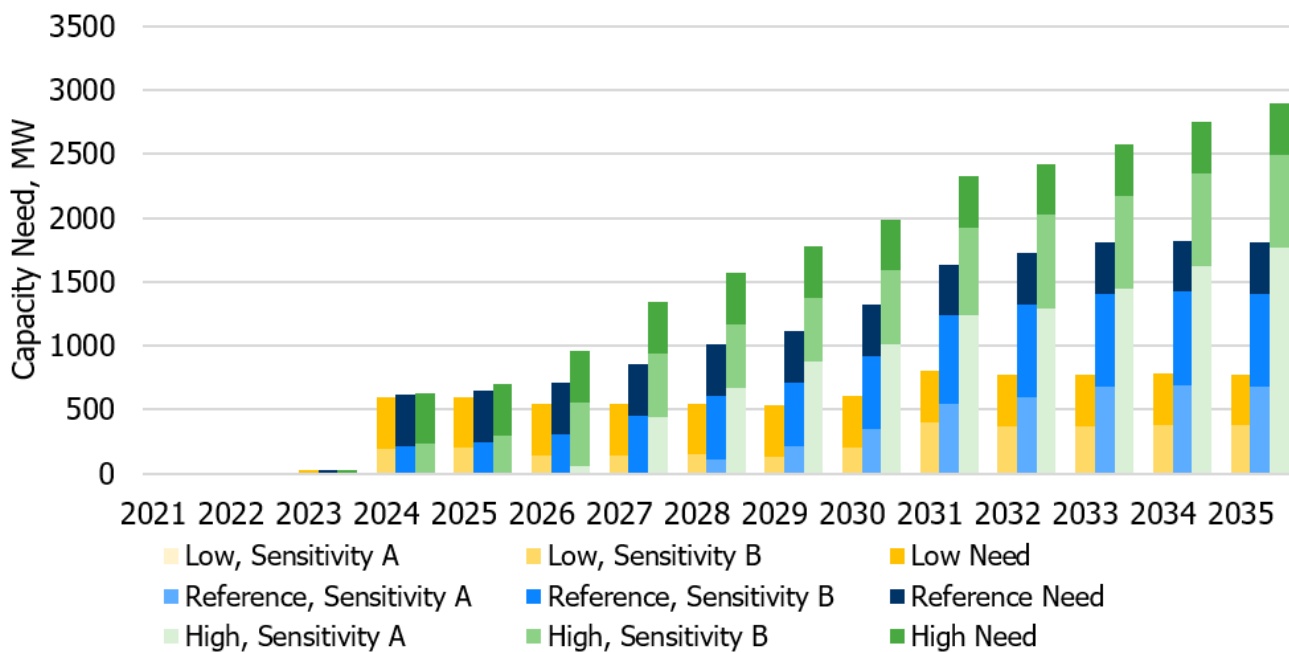
<sup>26</sup> Until West of Chatham reinforcements are implemented, the WOC interface may be more restrictive, however this is being managed by operational measures.

**Figure 11 | Focus Area Capacity Need, Winter**



The Focus Area capacity Reference Need in the summer is lower than the winter beyond 2023, thus actions taken to address the mid- and long-term winter needs will address the summer needs.

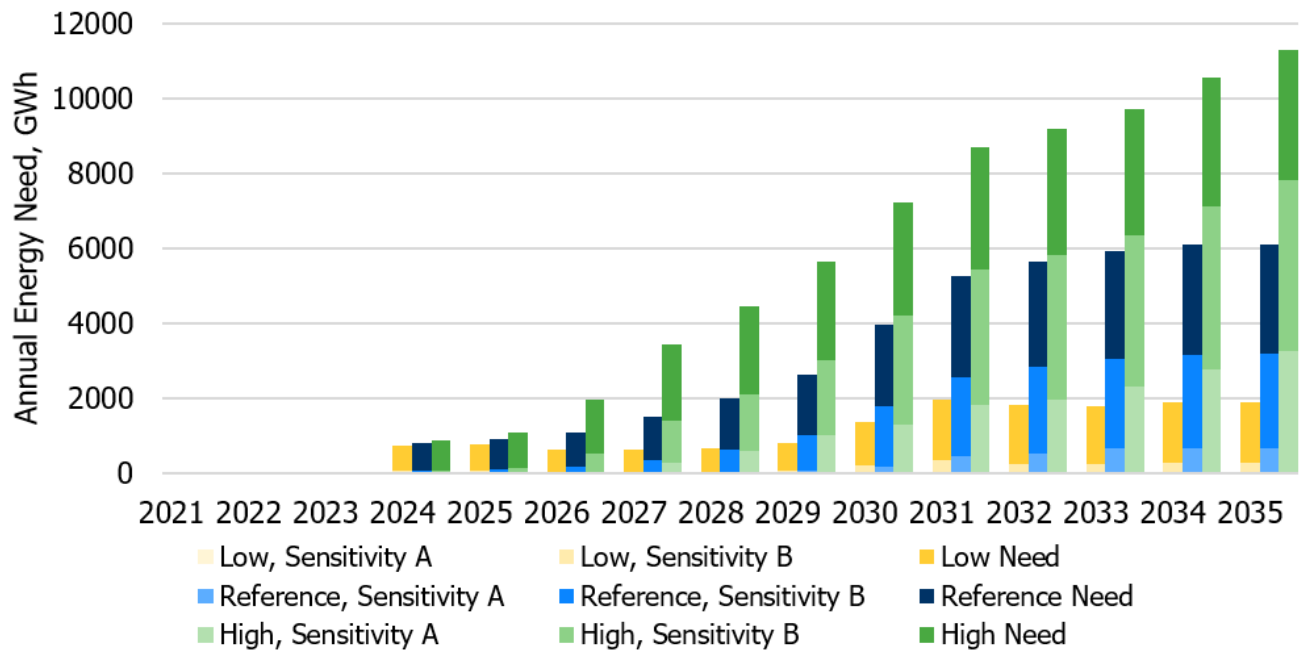
**Figure 12 | Focus Area Capacity Need, Summer**



### 6.1.2 Energy Need in the Focus Area

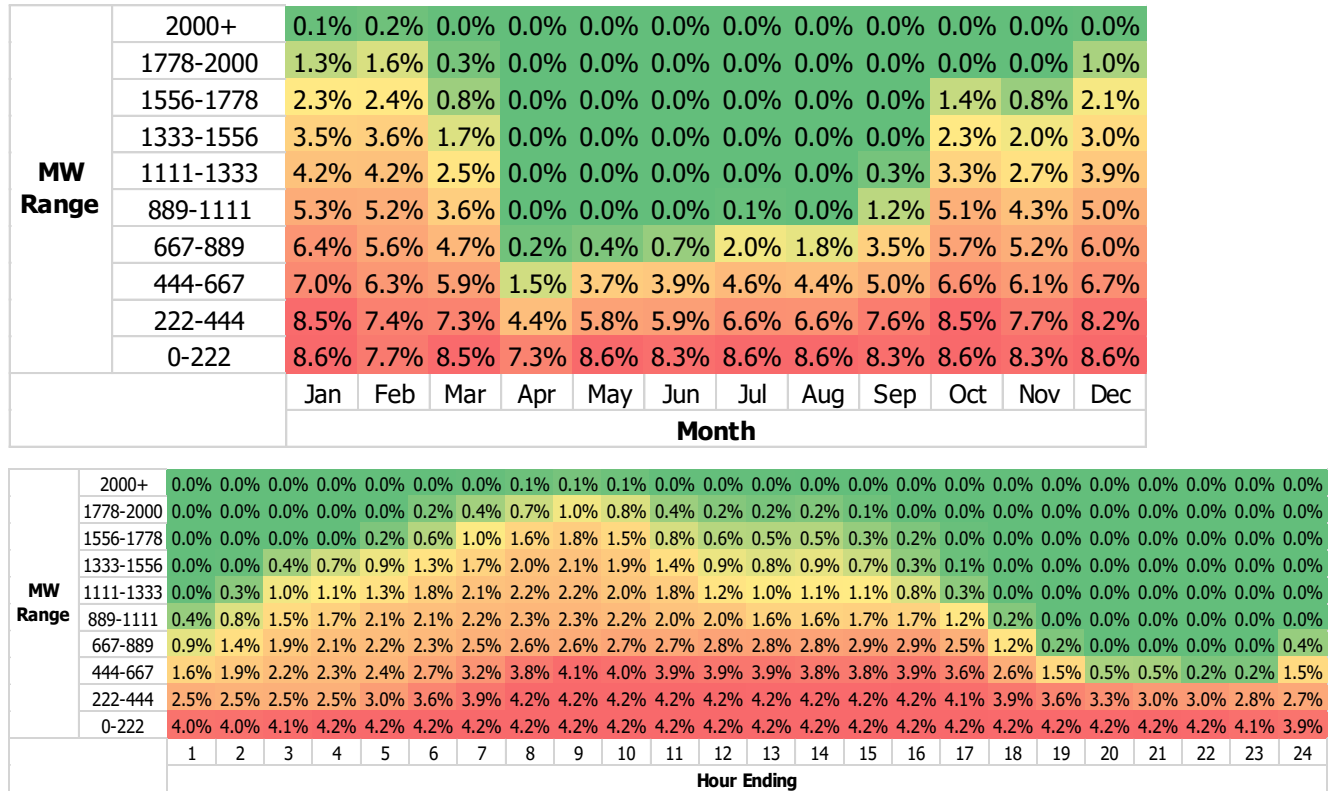
Figure 13 demonstrates that for the Reference Need there is a 6,100 GWh energy need by 2035, which begins to emerge in 2024. Considering resources reaching contract expiry without maintaining interchange capability (Reference, Sensitivity B) by 2035 there is a 3,200 GWh energy need, also emerging in 2024. This indicates there is a significant energy requirement in addition to the capacity requirement outlined in the previous section. This is largely driven by the almost 900 MW of natural gas-fired resources reaching contract expiry in the Focus Area between 2024-2031, that would otherwise be able to contribute to the energy requirements.

**Figure 13 | Annual Unserved Energy for the Focus Area for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions**



In addition to the annual total energy shortfall, the estimated frequency, duration, and magnitude of unserved energy events were investigated and used to inform options development. Figure 14 contains heat maps to visually demonstrate these characteristics, which were developed using the same assumptions as energy assessment presented in this section.

**Figure 14 | Heat Maps Showing Possible Reference Need Energy Events for the Focus Area in 2035**



Each cell in the heat map indicates the expected frequency, of all hours of unserved energy, that may occur in that specific hour or month. By 2035, some level of unserved energy is expected to occur each month, with the largest impact in winter. For instance, it is estimated that of all need events in 2035, nearly a tenth is under 222 MW in size and occur in January. The heat maps illustrate that unserved energy in an hour can be as large as + 2000 MW, but that these events are estimated to be infrequent and occurring primarily in winter mornings – such as January or February, between 8-10 AM. From an hourly perspective, a sustained need of approximately 450-650 MW is concentrated from 8 AM – 5 PM, peaking at 8-11 AM. However, the unserved energy profile shifts depending on the season. On a peak summer day, the need could be greater than 400 MW for 11 hours of the day, whereas on a peak winter day there could be only 6 hours when the need is less than 400 MW and 9 hours when the need is greater than 1,200 MW. This indicates that in addition to the capacity need, there is a need for significant and sustained energy production, particularly in the winter, which may limit the resource technologies capable of meeting these needs.

These estimated need characteristics are largely driven by hourly forecast and resource assumptions, and will be subject to real-time conditions, market dispatch, renewable generation output and customer behaviour. The heat maps provide some insight to when, how often, and how large supply needs might be, and supplement analyses completed for peak demand capacity requirements (as described previously in Section 6). Utilization of the hourly need information is further explained in Appendix D, in the context of sizing and evaluating resource options such as gas or storage facilities.

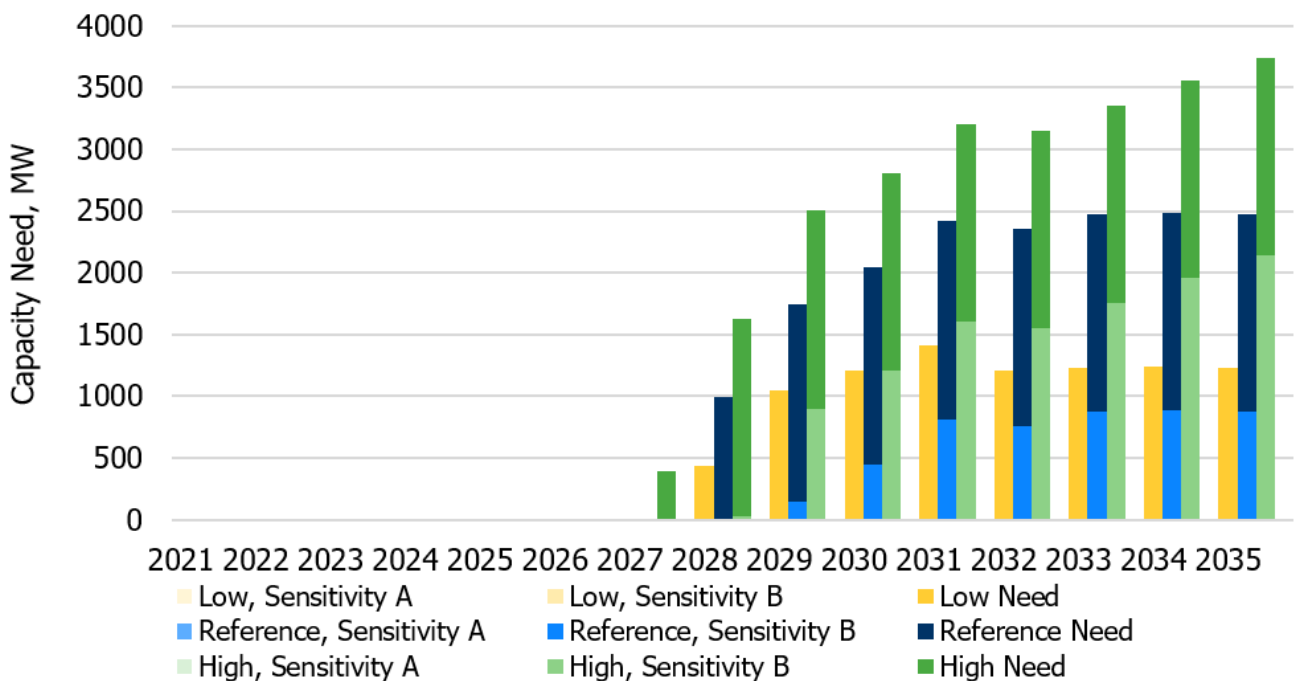
## 6.2 Supply Requirements for West of London

### 6.2.1 Capacity Requirements in WOL

Looking at WOL as a whole, there is a winter Reference Need that emerges in 2028. This WOL capacity need continues to grow throughout the study period, and is largely driven by resources reaching contract expiry by 2035, with approximately 4,250 MW coming off contract within the study period (3,100 MW of gas generation). This reflects the fact that resources WOL are critical to supply the area’s current demand and to provide reliable supply to forecast growth in winter demand.

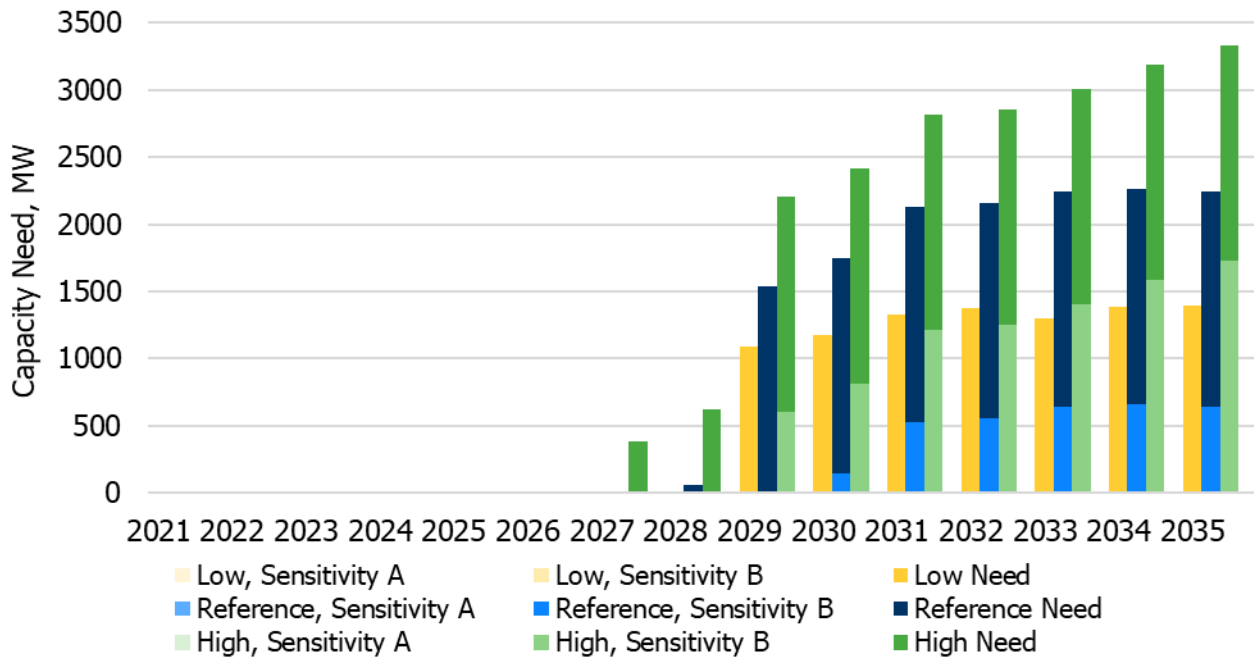
If resources are considered to be reacquired and interchange capability is not maintained, Reference Sensitivity A, a supply capacity need does not emerge for the study period – hence this sensitivity cannot be seen in Figure 15 or Figure 16 below. When considering generation coming off contract (but still not maintaining interchange capability), by 2035 there is a capacity need of 880 MW in the winter and 650 MW in the summer, which begins to emerge in 2029 (Reference Sensitivity B). The capacity need is approximately 2,500 MW in the winter and over 2,300 MW in the summer by 2035 if full interchange capability between Ontario-Michigan is maintained, which starts to emerge in 2028 (Reference Need).

**Figure 15 | West of London Capacity Need, Winter**





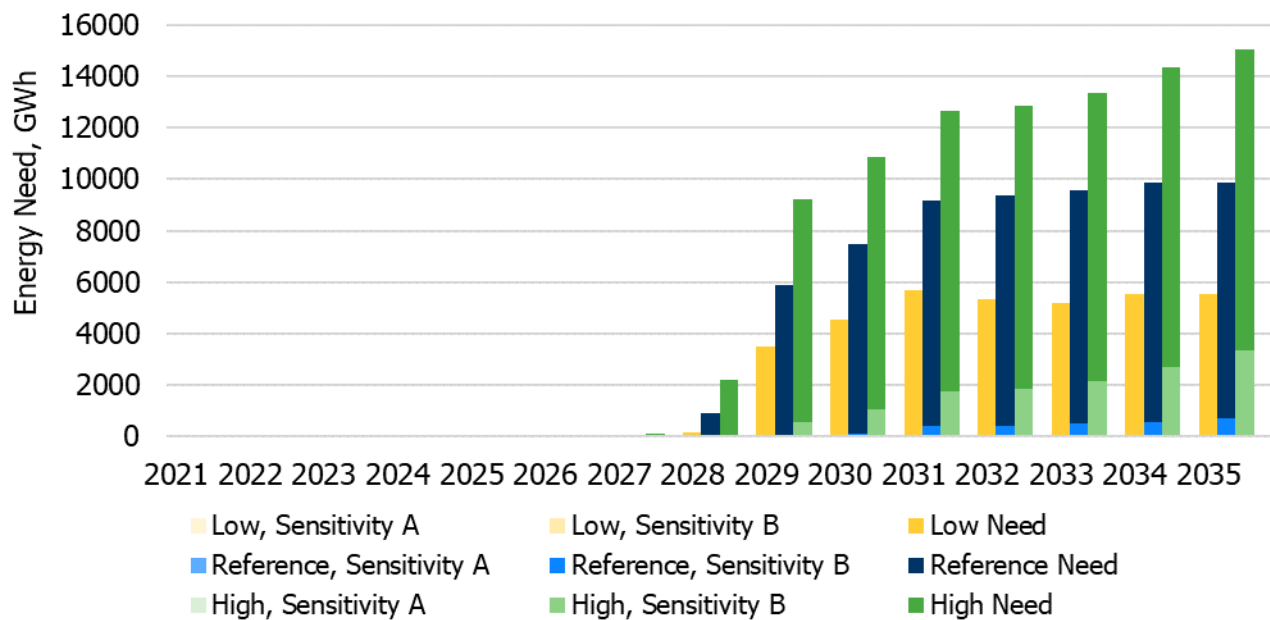
**Figure 16 | West of London Capacity Need, Summer**



**6.2.2 Energy Requirements in WOL**

Figure 17 shows that there is a 9,850 GWh Reference Need by 2035, which begins to emerge in 2028. Considering resources reaching contract expiry without maintaining interchange capability (Reference Sensitivity B) there is a 700 GWh energy need by 2035, which emerges in 2030. As expected based on the significant capacity need, there is a large energy requirement, which may impact exports while Ontario loads are peaking.

**Figure 17 | Annual Unserved Energy Behind the WOL Interface for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions**



## 7. Near- to Mid-Term Solutions

Section 6 indicated that additional supply to the Focus Area was needed to supply the forecast electricity demand from the agricultural sector. Section 6 also indicated that there is sufficient supply to the larger WOL area, if some the existing resources were reacquired and interchange capability is not maintained. Hence, this Section and Section 8 recommends the most effective solution to supplying the load in the Focus Area and then given that solution, Section 9 presents the amount of resources (existing resources that must be reacquired or new equivalent capacity) that is needed) to ensure adequate supply to the broader WOL area.

Due to the lead time required to implement solutions to meet the Focus Area's supply requirements in the near-term (2021-2027) and mid-term (2028-2029), the IESO recommended actions ahead of the publication of this report. This section provides the rationale for the actions taken by the IESO, which were:

- **Mid-Term Recommendation:** On March 26, 2021, the IESO sent a letter to the lead transmitter in the region, Hydro One, in order to inform them of the need for a new 230 kV double circuit line from Lambton TS southwards to Chatham SS (Lambton South line) and associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations. While Hydro One will initiate the work, engagement and related activities, it will be subject to all required Environmental Assessment, regulatory (e.g., Leave-to-Construct), and other approvals and permits; and
- **Near-Term Recommendation:** On July 19, 2021, the IESO indicated through the AAR an intention to begin bilateral negotiations for Brighton Beach Generating Station. This is an existing facility supporting the area's needs today, that has been identified as required to continue supporting this immediate localized need in the near-term until the transmission line recommended in the March 26, 2021 letter is in-service.

### 7.1 Near-term Options Analysis

As outlined in Section 6.1.1, a 640 MW supply need into the Focus Area emerges in 2024 based on the Reference Need – which considered resources reaching contract expiry and maintaining full interchange capability. Even if the need to maintain interchange capability is relaxed (Reference, Sensitivity B), and remedial action schemes continued to be relied on, a 240 MW supply need still emerges in 2024.

The need is immediate, triggered by a single contract expiry, and is large in magnitude due to the ongoing and forecast load connections in the Focus Area. The lead time would significantly limit potential cost-effective options (i.e. insufficient time for large transmission reinforcement or for initiating a competitive procurement). The initial magnitude of the need when it emerges and impacts of forecast growth in the area, limit the pool of technically feasible options, even if lead time were not an issue.

Reference, Sensitivity B (considering resources reaching contract expiry but not maintaining full interchange capability) illustrates the minimum capacity and energy requirements in order to defer the need from 2024 to early 2028, when transmission enhancements or other long lead time solutions could be implemented, is 525 MW of capacity and 340 GWh of energy.

In order to determine the most cost-effective way to defer the need, the following options were considered:

1. **Load transfer** – This option considers the ability to transfer load outside the Focus Area.
2. **Local resources** – In this option, the identified capacity and energy needs are met through local resources, either through existing resources whose contracts are expiring between 2024-2027 and/or an equivalent amount of new capacity located within the Focus Area.

As discussed, new transmission would not be implemented in time to meet the 2024 need date. However, load transfers would be a low cost option that could be implemented by 2024. Typically load transfers occur between adjacent or proximate supply stations via the local distribution system, or in some cases by reconfiguring the transmission system (i.e. creation or removal of normally open points (switches) on the lines which could transfer load between pockets of the transmission system). In this case, the supply need extends across the entire Focus Area (Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent). Currently, there is the ability to transfer up to 50 MW of the 115 kV load in the Focus Area to an existing 115 kV circuit connected to Scott TS in the Lambton-Sarnia area. However, this creates operability and low voltage concerns connecting load radially along this distance. It is preferable to retain the capability to transfer load during outage conditions for the purpose of load supply. Load transfer of any significant amount of capacity is not technically feasible, based on the lack of available transmission infrastructure to support such a long-distance transfer.

For a resource to meet the need, it must be located in the Focus Area, ideally close to the greenhouse loads and directly connected to an integrated transmission station. They must also be capable of providing a significant energy component along with the required capacity since, until further transmission reinforcements are in place, energy availability within the Focus Area will be limited and worsen as resource contracts expire. Combined with insufficient lead time to carry out a competitive procurement, reacquiring existing resources with expiring contracts presents a cost-effective and least risk solution to ensuring the area's existing and growing needs will continue to be met in 2024.

Considering existing resources supporting the Focus Area's needs today that would be coming off contract between 2024-2027, it was identified that Brighton Beach GS could address the local need while system reinforcements are being constructed to meet the identified deferred 2028 need date. Like Lennox GS, it represents the only supplier in the local area with requisite scale to address this immediate need, offering 588 MW of capacity (approximately 500 MW of unforced capacity<sup>27</sup>) to support the growing loads in the Focus Area. This is an existing facility supporting the area's needs today, which will come to the end of its contract in 2024, but has been identified as being needed to ensure the reliability of the area as an interim solution to address the near-term needs.

---

<sup>27</sup> Unforced capacity, or UCAP is defined in the AAR as a resource's installed capacity that accounts for seasonal and ambient weather conditions, further reduced by forced outages.

As a result, it is recommended that the IESO plan to begin bilateral negotiations for Brighton Beach GS, until the mid-term recommendation is in-place. By this time, it is likely that competitive mechanisms will help address this growth, offering an opportunity for a wider range of suppliers to contribute through a medium-term or long-term mechanism to meet the mid- to long-term needs.

## 7.2 Mid-term Option Analysis

Similar to the near-term, the options identified to meet the mid-term needs prioritized the supply of Ontario loads, given known resource constraints – i.e., considering resources reaching contract expiry, but not maintaining interchange capability (Reference, Sensitivity B). As per the near-term options analysis, it was then assumed that resources reaching contract expiry (i.e. Brighton Beach GS) continue to operate until 2028. Thus as outlined in Section 6.1, a supply need into the Focus Area re-emerges in 2028 and grows to approximately 930 MW by 2029. This need is driven by the limitation of the FIC interface.

Thus options considered to address the mid-term needs involve improving the FIC interface limit by addressing the most restrictive path – Lambton to Chatham, or new local generation within the FIC boundary. These options are described below:

1. **Reinforce the existing Flow into Chatham interface (the Lambton South Line)** – In this option, a new 230 kV double circuit transmission line from Lambton TS to Chatham SS forms the next stage of transmission development in the area. The approximately 60-km transmission line would increase the FIC transfer capability to 2,300 MW (a 950 MW increase from 1,350 MW) and increase the deliverability of Lambton-Sarnia resources.
2. **No transmission expansion** – In this option, the identified capacity and energy needs are met through the addition of the least-cost resource alternative, located between Chatham SS and Lakeshore TS. This analysis included 950 MW of additional resources staged in as needs grow, corresponding to the increased capability achieved by the transmission reinforcement in option 1.

Both options increase the supply capability in the Focus Area by 950 MW, which more than addresses the 2029 Reference Need, Sensitivity B.

Note that in option 1, the Lambton South line addresses the upstream FIC constraint and enables the full transfer capability of the previously recommended Chatham west lines and Lakeshore TS, resulting in a WOC limit of 1,950 MW (winter capability).

Note that option 2 was evaluated considering two cost benchmarks based on resource types capable of supplying the magnitude of energy and capacity required - a new natural gas-fired simple cycle gas turbine (SCGT), and an energy storage facility.<sup>28</sup> However, the ultimate resource type could be a combination of various generation and/or storage technologies, depending on a variety of factors including the profile of energy required to meet this need, impact of demand response on greenhouse crop growth cycles, and ratepayer value.

Other options, including wind, solar, and renewables in combination with storage were considered as potential cost benchmarks for the analysis but would be more expensive than the resource options

---

<sup>28</sup> Refer to Appendix D for details on the resource cost assumptions.

presented.<sup>29</sup> The planned energy efficiency and use of existing distributed energy resources were incorporated into the demand forecasts. Note, as part of the addendum study for the Windsor-Essex IRRP, the IESO is working with distributors to better understand how existing distributed generation connected to their system can be better leveraged to address needs. This work, along with input from stakeholders helps to inform the ongoing regional and future bulk studies. Since there is no firm import agreement impacting the Ontario-Michigan interconnection at this time and the ability for the neighbouring jurisdiction to accommodate full imports is unknown, this was not considered as a potential solution. In addition, flow on the Ontario-Michigan interconnection is scheduled as a whole and so it can help and hinder at the same time. Imports cannot be directed to flow only onto the Windsor-Detroit tie, which would help the capacity need, but proportionally flows across the Sarnia-Port Huron ties as well, which further exacerbate the Lambton-Sarnia deliverability issues.

Due to the sustained periods of energy need (as described in Section 6), a reservoir size of over 11 times the capacity need was needed for the option 2 storage alternative, making it prohibitively expensive. As such, results of the near- to mid-term analysis presented here focused on the transmission and SCGT options comparison only.

Comparing the required near- to mid-term transmission reinforcement to the generation alternative, the Lambton South line results in a net present cost savings of approximately \$1.2B for supplying load under the reference scenario and continued use of current local resources.

These results indicate that the Lambton South line is the most economical next stage of bulk system reinforcement. Various sensitivity analyses were conducted to verify these results, yielding the same preferred solution.<sup>30</sup> Under the base cost assumptions, the resource option only starts to become a viable economic alternative when the value of system capacity is greater than \$190k/MW-year and more than 95% of the generator's capacity is considered deliverable to contribute to the overall provincial capacity need.

A reinforcement of the transmission system from Lambton TS to Chatham SS would provide additional benefits, unique to a transmission solution, beyond meeting the identified reliability requirements. While both options could help improve the deliverability of resources in the Lambton-Sarnia area, the transmission option decreases congestion of resources in Lambton-Sarnia. Analysis showed that constraints on the dispatch of resources in Lambton-Sarnia are practically eliminated with the transmission reinforcement, however the full potential to import/export across the Ontario-Michigan interconnection is still constrained. While the resource option would reduce the flow on circuits east of Chatham, which could help offset the reduced deliverability of Lambton-Sarnia resources, this would come at the expense of dispatching resources within the Focus Area to allow deliverability of Lambton-Sarnia resources (or in lieu of Lambton-Sarnia resources) at a greater cost in those hours where it would otherwise be constrained.

The Lambton South line also enables the west of Chatham reinforcements previously recommended to operate to their full capability, maximizing the benefit of these assets.<sup>31</sup>

---

<sup>29</sup> Refer to Appendix D for further details on the economic assessment methodology.

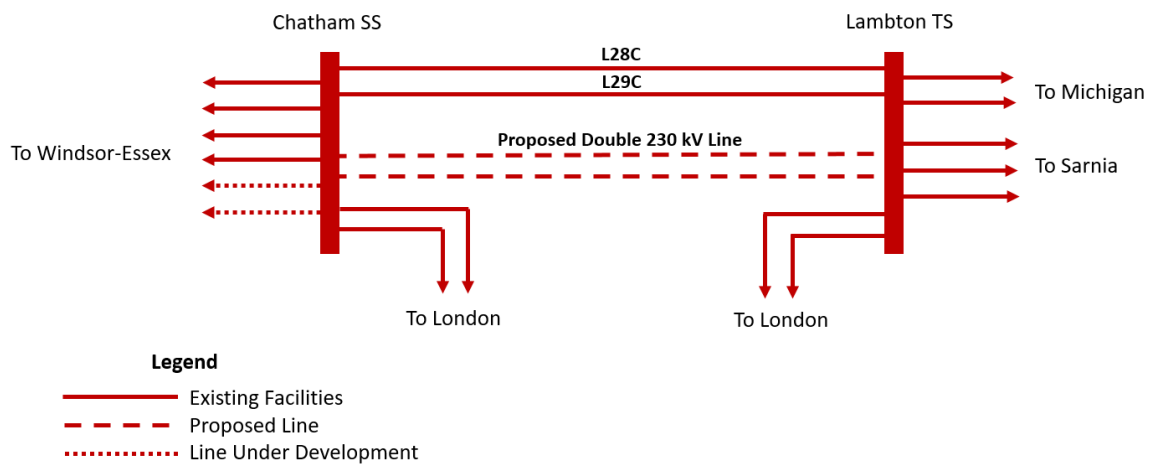
<sup>30</sup> No short circuit limitations were identified at Lambton TS, however if station upgrades are required to maintain the current solid bus operation at Lambton TS the associated cost would be within the bounds of the sensitivity analysis.

<sup>31</sup> As identified in the 2019 Windsor-Essex bulk study, the full capability of the recommended Chatham West lines is currently limited by upstream constraints.

### 7.3 Near- to Mid-term Recommendations

Based on the analysis presented in this section, to address the near-term needs the IESO plans to begin bilateral negotiations for Brighton Beach GS in the near-term until a new 230 kV double circuit line between Lambton-Sarnia and the municipality of Chatham-Kent is constructed. This line would improve the deliverability of resources in Lambton-Sarnia, and enable up to 900 MW of supply capacity into the Focus Area. On March 29, 2021 the IESO issued a handoff letter to Hydro One, the lead transmitter in the region. The letter recommended that they initiate the work, engagement and activities, subject to seeking Environmental Assessment and Leave to Construct approvals, required to develop and construct a new 230 kV double circuit line from Lambton TS southwards to Chatham SS and associated station facility expansions or upgrades required at the terminal stations.

**Figure 18 | Single line diagram of Proposed Near- to Mid-term Facilities**



These recommendations address the bulk needs (Reference, Sensitivity B) in the area up to the year 2030. Loads in the Dresden area will require a new supply station connected to the recommended Lambton South line, however local considerations for load supply connections such as these will be addressed through the ongoing regional planning for Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia.

## 8. Long-Term Solutions

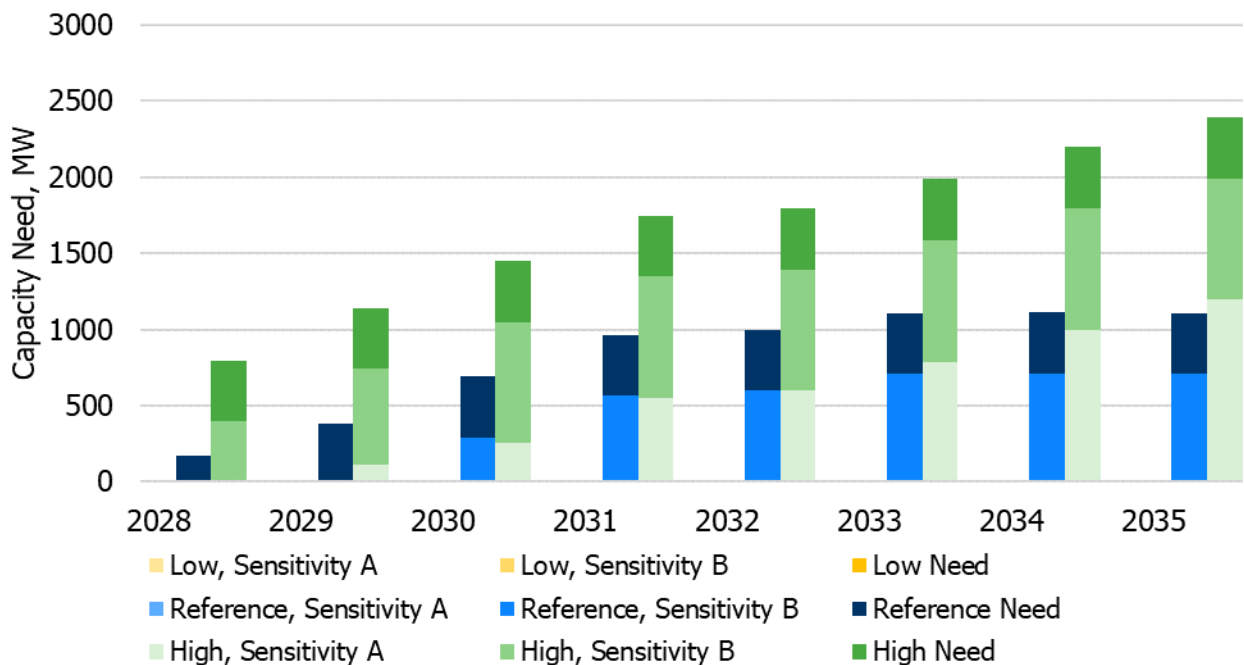
The recommendations outlined in the previous section address the supply capacity need for Reference, Sensitivity B in the area up to the year 2030. This section presents the options considered and analysis conducted to determine the recommendations to address the Reference Need for supply capacity in the Focus Area in the long-term (2030-2035).

### 8.1 Long-term Objectives

With the Lambton South line, for moderate levels of generation and Ontario-Michigan imports in the Lambton-Sarnia area, supply to the Focus Area is limited by the WOC interface (i.e. exceeding thermal ratings of the interface following the loss of two circuits between Chatham SS and Lakeshore TS). Under higher levels of generation and Ontario-Michigan imports in the Lambton-Sarnia area, the supply to the Focus Area is limited by the Lambton-to-Chatham path and under lower levels of generation in the Lambton-Sarnia area the supply is limited by the Longwood-to-Chatham path. These constraints correspond to a winter capability of 1,950 MW for the WOC interface and 2,350 MW for WOL.

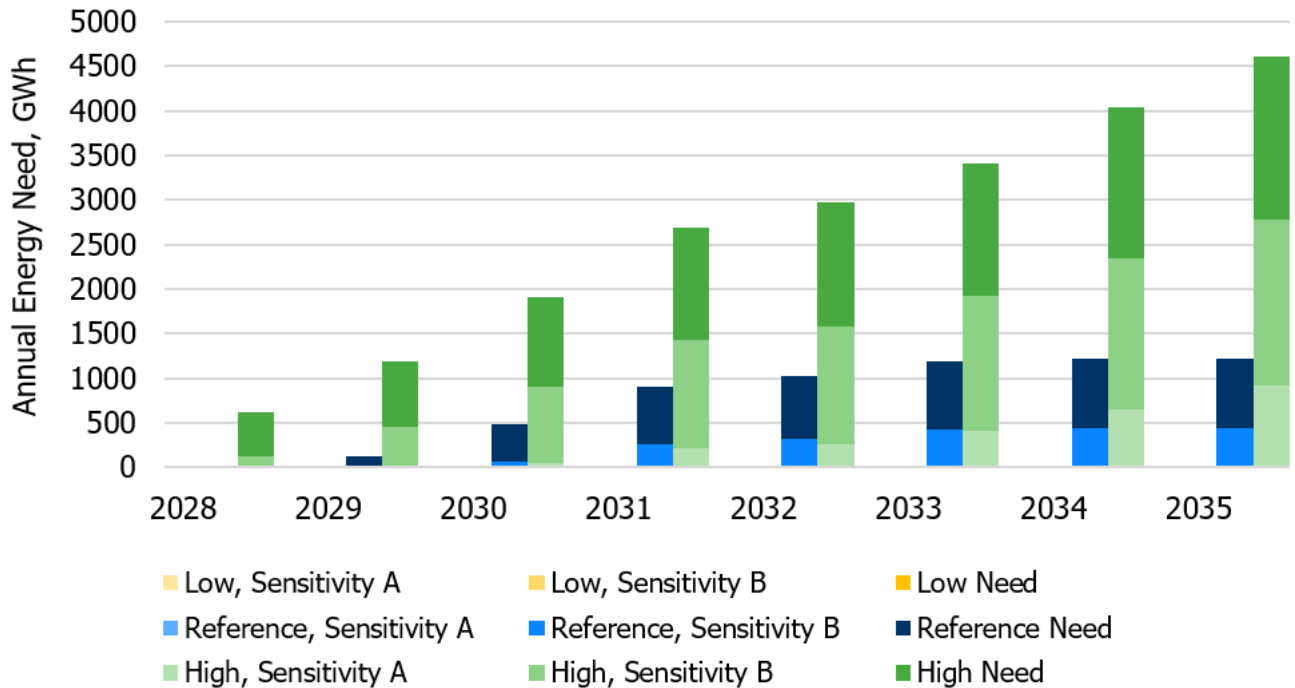
After accounting for the near- to mid-term recommendations, a 1,100 MW supply need remains by the end of the study period, as illustrated in the following figure.

**Figure 19 | Winter Capacity Need for the Focus Area with the Near- and Mid-term Recommendations for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions**



Correspondingly, by 2035, there remains a 1,200 GWh Reference Need, compared to the 6,100 GWh energy need without the mid-term recommendation. The reduction is due to the improved transfer capability into the area provided by the Lambton-South Line.

**Figure 20 | Annual Unserved Energy for the Focus Area with the Near- and Mid-term Recommendations for Each Forecast Scenario, Under Different Generation and Export Assumptions**



Two options were considered to address this long-term need for capacity in the Focus Area:

1. **Transmission expansion and local resources** – In this option, the transmission lines along the London<sup>32</sup> to Lakeshore path are reinforced either through:
  - a. A new 230 kV double circuit transmission line from Longwood TS to Chatham SS and from Chatham SS to Lakeshore TS, with 400 MW of local resources, or
  - b. A new 500 kV single circuit transmission line from Longwood TS to Lakeshore TS, with 550 MW of local resources.

<sup>32</sup> This refers to connection to the existing 500 kV Longwood TS situated south of Glen Oak, within Middlesex County.



For option 1a, the approximately 135-km 230 kV transmission line would increase the transfer capability into the Focus Area by 700 MW.<sup>33</sup> The limiting phenomena with option 1a does not change, however the corresponding limits are significantly improved.

For option 1b, the 500 kV transmission line would increase the transfer capability into the Focus Area by 550 MW (the winter transfer capability of the FIC interface increases from 2,300 MW to 2,850 MW and the WOC interface increases from 1,950 MW to 2,500 MW). The limiting phenomena with option 1b is voltage collapse for supply into WOC for the loss of the 500 kV circuit. As a result, the WOC winter transfer capability is only increased to 2,500 MW (compared to 2,750 MW with option 1a).

Since neither of these transmission options resolve the full 1,100 MW need, additional least-cost resources are needed to address the remaining capacity and energy Reference Needs. The differences in WOC limits for these two variations result in different resource requirements – 400 MW and 550 MW for option 1a and 1b respectively.<sup>34</sup>

**2. No transmission expansion** – In this option, the remaining capacity and energy needs are met through the addition of the least-cost resource alternative, ideally located between Chatham SS and Lakeshore TS. This stage considered 1,100 MW of resources staged in as needs grow, corresponding to the remaining capability and energy needs under the reference scenario.

Note, when determining the long-term needs, it was assumed that existing generators coming off contract did not continue to operate. However, when costing the resource alternative for both options, reacquisition costs were used where appropriate. Long-term use of resources west of Lakeshore would require additional regional transmission reinforcements, as described in Section 9.3. Where appropriate, these costs were included in the following assessment. Refer to Appendix E for further details on the cost assumptions.

A transmission-only option was also considered in the preliminary analysis, which would require a single 500 kV circuit from Longwood to Lakeshore in addition to either of the transmission portions of options 1a and 1b. The second 500 kV circuit would help to serve additional loads beyond the reference forecast. Based on preliminary cost estimates, the transmission-only options were significantly more expensive than the options presented. To accommodate further load growth beyond the Reference Need, it was determined that there is minimal cost advantage to building both single circuits at the same time. However, constructing the single 500 kV line in option 1b to accommodate a future 500 kV circuit does warrant further consideration, as this may impact the operability and capability to address further load growth beyond the Reference Need.

---

<sup>33</sup> Note, the winter transfer capability of the WOC interface increases from 1,950 MW to 2,750 MW – an 800 MW improvement. However, depending on the wind output and connection of Dresden loads there may not be a one-to-one increase in the transfer capacity into the Focus Area. Hence, the most restrictive limits were considered.

<sup>34</sup> The exact amount of resources required for option 1 will depend on the connection arrangement of the Dresden loads, within Chatham-Kent. Optimal connection of these loads would be through a station supplied by the new Lambton South lines, which may result in lower resource requirements. However, analysis was completed assuming the worst case scenario, that loads would connect to the existing system ahead of the mid-term reinforcement. The IESO will continue to work with the applicable transmitter(s) and distributors to finalize the load configuration and long-term recommendations, to optimize value for the ratepayer. This would not impact the option 2 resource amount.

## 8.2 Long-term Options Analysis

### Cost Considerations

This analysis uses the near- to mid-term recommendations as part of the base assumptions. Comparing the two combined transmission and resource options to the resource-only alternative, the 230 kV option (option 1a) results in a net present cost savings of approximately \$650-1,000M, while the 500 kV option (option 1b) results in a net present cost savings of approximately \$450-750M for supplying load under the reference load forecast and continued use of current local resources.

**Table 2 | Summary of Long-term Options**

Option	Description of Option	Cost (\$M)
1a	New double circuit 230 kV line from Longwood to Chatham to Lakeshore, and 400 MW of local resources	500 – 1,000
1b	New single circuit 500 kV line from Longwood to Lakeshore, and 550 MW of local resources	800 – 1,150
2	1,100 MW of local resources (no transmission enhancement)	1,500 – 1,600

These results indicate a combination of transmission and resources is the most cost-effective option. The differential between the 230 kV and 500 kV variations of the combined option is approximately \$200-250M.

Although Option 1a is the lower cost option, Option 1b better enables expansion if the demand for electricity in the Focus Area is higher than the Reference load growth scenario. Option 1b leaves more space at Lakeshore TS for an additional 500 kV circuit, if needed to continue to supply the area.

### Resource Considerations

Acquired supply resources under these options would provide additional benefits to the system through reliability services (e.g., operating reserve) and capacity to supply provincial needs. While a gas-fired turbine has historically been the pricing benchmark for new resources in Ontario, changes to carbon pricing and community support limit the viability of this assumption. Current carbon pricing has negligible impact on costing of electricity resources in Ontario, but proposed federal policy changes could result in significant costs being passed to ratepayers. This is especially true for new resources, as they are classified differently than existing resources and as such are significantly impacted by carbon pricing. These proposed changes have been accounted for in the operating costs of the resource option. In addition, an increasing number of entities in the area (municipalities, non-governmental organizations, industry associations etc.) are calling for a phase-out of gas-fired electricity and promotion of renewable energy.

Storage, on the other hand, must rely on other energy resources to charge during low-price hours in order to provide energy when needed, behaving as a net load. Thus, storage has a higher dependence on local market signals to determine when to charge and discharge to meet the area's

needs. Even with changes to the market to provide stronger signals and more information, there is an inherent uncertainty in the forecast and system conditions, which may increase the costs of this option relative to the study assumptions.

Through various engagement activities undertaken to inform plan development including public webinars and targeted discussions with communities and stakeholders, the IESO has been made aware of various opportunities for alternative resource technologies, e.g., storage, biomass, waste-to-energy, etc., which could help meet these needs and create local jobs at the same time. In addition to this strong interest in alternative energy solutions, another key theme of the community feedback received is the impact that plan recommendations may have on economic development lands and property in the area. The combination of transmission and resources in option 1 is cost-effective, but also helps balance between the land-use impacts of new transmission corridors and local resources, the opportunities they provide to communities, and building a diverse supply within and to the region.

Despite the uncertainty regarding which resource type is the most appropriate benchmark to use, the analysis shows lower costs for the combined transmission and resource option compared to the resource or transmission-only alternatives.

### **8.3 Long-term Recommendations**

Based on the analysis presented in this section, the IESO determined that a new single circuit 500 kV transmission line between London and the municipality of Lakeshore, along with 550 MW of local resources, is the most effective way to address the long-term capacity needs in the area. The transmission line is required to be in service by 2030. The 550 MW of local resources is the total amount required by 2035, where the requirement progressively increases up to this level starting in 2030. It can be met by reacquiring resources that exist today whose contracts have expired between now and 2035, or by acquiring new resources. This combined solution would reinforce the transfer of power towards the Focus Area and enable approximately 1,100 MW of additional capacity within the Focus Area. This preserves the option for a future additional single circuit 500 kV line to continue to supply the area if the load grows beyond the reference scenario. Similar to the near- to mid-term period, advancing either the resource or transmission portion of the long-term recommendation would allow load to connect ahead of the reference scenario and improve the deliverability of existing resources in Lambton-Sarnia earlier.

**Figure 21 | Map of Proposed Long-term Transmission Path and New Local Resources**



Preserving the capability for the recommended single circuit 500 kV line to accommodate a future additional circuit warrants further consideration and study, which would need to be confirmed before the Environmental Assessment is initiated. While the double circuit line would not offer an improvement in transfer capability with all elements in-service, there is potential value from a land-use and operability standpoint under a scenario where load levels remain relatively stable post 2035, or alternatively, it could help address a scenario where load grows beyond the level that two single circuit 500 kV lines could accommodate.<sup>35</sup>

The Appendices of this report provide data on the forecast load, interface data and assumptions used for resource sizing. This data is provided for interested parties to better understand the long-term profile for the 550 MW of resources required and help develop solution proposals independent of, or in preparation for, upcoming IESO resource acquisition mechanisms.

Ultimately, the IESO’s Market Renewal Program will provide more transparent price signals (e.g., locational marginal prices reflecting transmission congestion) that can help further drive market activities in the area which can contribute to addressing the growing needs. Furthermore, the IESO remains committed to transitioning to the long-term use of competitive resource acquisition mechanisms to meet Ontario’s resource reliability needs and has developed a Resource Adequacy Framework. Details of the resource need, energy profile, locational considerations and other requirements will inform future AARs and subsequent resource acquisition strategies.

<sup>35</sup> A double circuit 500 kV line does not meet any additional capacity needs relative to the single circuit 500 kV line since transfer capability is most limited by all in-service conditions, where the loss of both a single and a double circuit line need to be respected according to NERC and NPCC standards, so would result in similar limits.

## 9. Implications on the Broader WOL Area and Linkages with Regional Planning

Section 7 and 8 recommend transmission enhancements and identify the amount of capacity required in the Focus Area to supply the growing demand for electricity. However, as mentioned earlier, in addition to determining the adequacy of the supply to the Focus Area, a review of the supply to larger WOL area, which encompasses the Focus Area, is necessary not only because of the load growth expected in the Focus Area, but also because there is a significant amount of supply resources within WOL and 85% have contracts expiring by the end of the decade. This section identifies the amount of capacity needed to supply the larger WOL area if the recommendations in this report are implemented and assuming that when the generation contracts expire the generation is not reacquired. To address the need for capacity, resources would be acquired as per the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework – either through existing resources whose contracts have expired and/or an equivalent amount of new capacity located in the WOL area.

This section also identifies any remaining constraints on the capacity resources located in the WOL area to meet provincial capacity needs assuming the recommendations in Section 7 and 8 are implemented.

Finally this Section also discusses the interdependencies between this bulk plan (provincial-level) and the regional plan (local-level) being developed in parallel with LDCs in the region – through the ongoing Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum study and Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia regional planning cycle.

### 9.1 Reliability of Supply to the WOL Area

If the recommendations in Section 7 and 8 are implemented, minimum generation levels within the WOL area are driven by the need to maintain export capability on the Ontario-Michigan interconnection under peak loading conditions.

With the transmission component of long-term recommendation option 1b in place, starting in 2030 new or reacquired WOL resources would be required meet the WOL need, including maintaining export capability, growing to a 1,975 MW requirement by 2035. By locating approximately 550 MW of those resources within the Focus Area the supply needs in the Focus area are also addressed. This leaves a need of 1,425 MW to be addressed in the WOL area.

These minimum resource amounts for the Focus Area, along with the remainder needed in the broader WOL area, would be new or reacquired resources and represent what would be required to meet the need out to 2035, where the requirement progressively increases up to that level starting in 2030. These WOL resource requirements would be acquired as per the IESO's Resource Adequacy Framework and can be met by reacquiring resources that exist today whose contracts will expire between now and 2035 and/or by acquiring new resources.

## 9.2 Deliverability of Supply in the Focus Area and WOL area to the rest of Ontario

As described in the Annual Planning Outlook (APO), there is a growing need for additional capacity in Ontario emerging in 2022, exceeding 6,000 MW in 2026 as demand increases and available capacity decreases. Generation in the Focus Area and WOL area could contribute to meeting that need and this revenue stream has been incorporated into the cost assessment of the near- to mid-term and long-term options.

## 9.3 Interdependency with Regional Planning

In parallel with this bulk study, transmission planning continues at the regional level through the ongoing Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum and the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia regional planning cycle which recently began (Q3 2021) to address remaining local customer supply needs. While the focus of this bulk study is to address bulk transfer limitations and broader energy needs in the WOL area, customer supply needs persist on the regional level and will be addressed in regional plans.

The [2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP](#) triggered an addendum study to address remaining local needs in Kingsville and Leamington. Given the rapid growth and multiple reinforcements in development, an addendum allowed integrated regional planning at the local level to continue in tandem with the WOL bulk study. The addendum is focused on enabling further distribution load connections in Kingsville and Leamington, along with addressing the remaining load restoration and security needs in Leamington. The final recommendations for the addendum are expected by Fall 2021, and will outline next steps for local supply stations and connection facilities.

The recommendations from bulk and regional planning are linked, as the outcomes of one influences the other. Depending on where the 550 MW of capacity recommended in Section 8 is located within the Focus Area, a double circuit 230 kV transmission line between Windsor and Lakeshore may be needed to address local reliability issues. Concentrating the 550 MW resource requirement entirely in Windsor or entirely in Lakeshore may necessitate a transmission reinforcement between Windsor and Lakeshore. While the ideal location for new resources to serve the growing loads would be connected to Lakeshore TS, locating approximately 100-150 MW of those resources in the Windsor area would maintain the Ontario-Michigan interconnection capability and offset the need for reinforcement between Windsor and Lakeshore. This report only points out this interdependency and has included the associated costs in the assessment of long-term options discussed in Section 8, however the Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum will provide the details of the limitations and need.

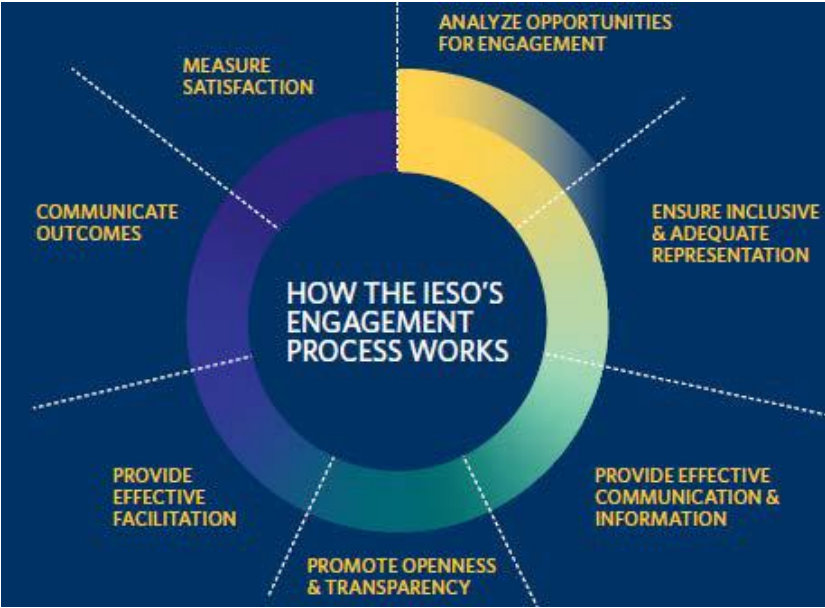
# 10. Engagement

The IESO is currently developing a [formalized process](#) for bulk system planning to enhance transparency and opportunities for stakeholder input. As part of that initiative, defining how stakeholders can participate in the electricity planning process and be kept informed has been identified as a critical component of the process design. Providing opportunities for input in the transmission planning process enables the views and preferences of communities and stakeholders to be considered in the development of the plan, and helps lay the foundation for successful implementation. The IESO has endeavored to encompass those principles throughout the WOL bulk work. This section outlines the engagement principles as well as the activities undertaken to date for WOL.

## 10.1 Engagement Principles

The IESO’s [engagement principles](#) help ensure that all interested parties kept informed and enable opportunities for purposeful engagement to contribute to electricity planning initiatives such as the development of this WOL bulk plan. The IESO adheres to these principles to ensure inclusiveness, sincerity, respect and fairness in its engagements, striving to build trusting relationships as a result.

**Figure 22 | The IESO’s Engagement Principles**



## 10.2 Engagement Approach

To ensure that the bulk plan reflects the needs of Indigenous communities, community members and interested stakeholders, engagement involved:

- Leveraging the [Southwest Bulk Planning Initiatives webpage](#) and [Windsor-Essex Regional Planning engagement webpage](#) on the IESO website to post updated information,



engagement opportunities, meeting materials, input received and IESO responses to the feedback;

- Regular communication with communities, stakeholders and interested parties through email, [Southwest Regional Electricity Network](#) updates, and IESO weekly Bulletin;
- Public webinars; and
- Targeted outreach throughout plan development with municipalities, customers, Indigenous communities and rights-holders, and those with an identified interest in southwest Ontario electricity issues. These discussions were instrumental in garnering feedback about increased expected economic development being driven by high greenhouse growth in Kingsville, Leamington and Dresden, as well as increased growth in residential and industrial developments.

Two public webinars were held at major junctures during bulk plan development to give interested parties an opportunity to hear about its progress and provide comments on key components including:

- Electricity demand forecast;
- Identified needs;
- Options evaluation for mid-term and long-term needs; and
- Draft long-term recommendations.

Both webinars received strong participation with cross-representation of stakeholders and municipal and Indigenous community representatives in attendance, and submitting written feedback during a 21-day comment period.

Comments received during this engagement focused on the following major themes:

- Alignment and coordination is needed with other community planning, local developments and growth plans. Future infrastructure and/or electricity supply should consider the priorities of energy and climate action plans and, in particular, alternative energy systems, renewable generation and electrification
- Consideration should be given to non-wires alternatives as part of the recommended solutions;
- Concern around potential delays in needed electricity infrastructure to enable investments and economic development;
- Consideration should be given to the land impact and minimizing the footprint of options;
- Integrated options that provide both local and broader provincial system benefit should be considered;
- Incorporate shifting economies, in particular for different resource technologies, into planning assumptions and cost benefit analysis; and
- Access to additional data used to inform the plan including to provide details on historic demand and future demand assumptions, existing and future system capabilities, and solution



assessment methodology and assumptions used to establish the need and evaluate potential solutions.

In addition to the public webinars and written comment windows, a virtual [Southwest Network meeting](#) was held to provide an overview and address questions on the new Lambton-to-Chatham transmission line that was announced in advance of this final WOL bulk plan.

Based on the discussions both on the WOL bulk plan and parallel Windsor-Essex regional planning initiative, it is clear that there is broad interest in several Southwestern Ontario communities to further discuss the potential for solutions that fully utilize existing transmission infrastructure and minimize the footprint of solutions.

Feedback received helped to guide further discussion throughout the development of this bulk plan as well as add due consideration to the final recommendations.

In response to feedback received requesting open access to data, information was provided following the second public webinar on the detail and format of data to be made available to support this bulk plan. Interested parties were able to comment on the proposed data sharing to ensure information provided is in an accessible format. Feedback informed the data that has been made available within the body of this report, the appendices, and supplemental excel files. This information will allow communities, stakeholders and interested parties to make more informed choices and plan strategically.

All background information, including engagement meeting presentations, recorded webinars, detailed feedback submissions, and responses to comments received, are available on the IESO's Windsor-Essex IRRP engagement [webpage](#).

### **10.3 Bringing Communities to the Table**

The IESO held meetings with communities to seek input on local planning priorities and initiatives that should be taken into consideration in the development of this bulk plan. At major milestones in the bulk plan development process, targeted discussions were held with the upper- and lower-tier municipalities in the planning area to discuss identify and address any key issues of concern, including forecast electricity needs, and options for meeting those future needs. These meetings helped to inform electricity needs at the municipal/community-level, develop options and recommended solutions, and further build and strengthen local relationships for ongoing dialogue beyond this bulk process.

### **10.4 Engaging with Indigenous Communities**

To raise awareness about the bulk planning activities underway and invite participation in the engagement process, outreach was made to Indigenous communities and rights-holders within the WOL electricity planning area throughout the development of the plan. Those invited to participate include the communities of Saugeen Ojibway First Nation, Nawash First Nation, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Mississaugas of the New Credit, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (HCCC), Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Bkejwanong (Walpole Island First Nation), and Métis Nation of Ontario.

Indigenous communities and rights-holders were invited to attend a general meeting along with stakeholders in July 2021, and an Indigenous-specific meeting was held the next day in order to provide another opportunity to ask questions and obtain their input to this final bulk plan.

Without limiting general and ongoing issues that community representatives/rights-holders raise, we did not receive specific feedback on WOL. However from other engagements dating back to 2017 with community representatives, the IESO is aware of growing interest from Indigenous communities and rights holders around new electricity infrastructure, including economic participation, relationships with government and industry that help facilitate participation and protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights and the environment.

The IESO remains committed to an ongoing, effective dialogue with communities and rights-holders to help shape long-term planning in regions all across Ontario.

#### **10.4.1 Indigenous Participation and Engagement in Transmission Development**

The IESO determines the most reliable and cost-effective option after it has engaged with stakeholders, rights-holders Indigenous communities, and publishes those recommendations in the applicable regional or bulk planning report. Where the IESO determines that the lead time required to implement those solutions require immediate action, the IESO may provide those recommendations ahead of the publication of a planning report, such as through a handoff letter to the lead local transmitter in the region, for example.

As part of the overall transmission development process, a proponent applies for applicable regulatory approvals, including an Environmental Assessment that is overseen by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). This process includes, where applicable, consultation regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights, with any approval including steps to avoid or mitigate impacts to said rights. MECP may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent while overseeing those delegated aspects and the consultation process generally. Following development work, the proponent will then need to apply to the OEB for approval through a Leave to Construct hearing, and only if approval is granted, can it proceed with the project.

In consultation with MECP, project proponents are encouraged to engage with Indigenous communities and rights-holders on ways to enable participation in these projects.

# 11. Conclusions and Recommendations

This report documents the bulk plan that has been developed for the West of London area, and recommends a multi-pronged approach to address the near- to long-term supply capacity needs using a combination of transmission reinforcements, resources, and targeted energy efficiency programs.

The Chatham-to-Lakeshore line, recommended in the Windsor-Essex bulk plan, would increase the overall transfer capability of the bulk transmission system west of Chatham and allow the connection of approximately 400 MW of additional load in Kingsville-Leamington. The Lambton South line would improve the deliverability of resources in Lambton-Sarnia and enable up to 950 MW of supply capacity into the Focus Area (450 MW in Windsor-Essex). The subsequent Longwood-to-Lakeshore line would reinforce the transfer of power towards the Focus Area and enable approximately 550 MW of additional capacity within the Focus Area, or 1,100 MW of capacity in combination with the recommended 550 MW of local resources.

To supply the broader WOL area while maintaining full export capability with all elements in-service, 1,425 MW of additional capacity is needed in the WOL area by 2035, where the requirement progressively increases up to that level starting in 2030, in addition to what is recommended to supply the Focus Area.

This bulk plan has been coordinated with regional plans, with the Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum set to be completed by fall 2021 and the planning cycle for the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region recently began (Q3 2021). In particular, depending on where the 550 MW of recommended local resources is located within the Focus Area a double circuit 230 kV transmission line between Windsor and Lakeshore may be needed to address local reliability issues and maintain interchange capability under all elements in-service.

For the associated long-term resource requirements, the IESO's Market Renewal Program will provide more transparent price signals (e.g., locational marginal prices reflecting transmission congestion) that can help further drive market activities in the area which can contribute to addressing the area's growing needs. As that is being implemented, the IESO remains committed to transitioning to the long-term use of competitive resource acquisition mechanisms to meet Ontario's resource reliability needs using the Resource Adequacy Framework. Details of the Focus Area and WOL resource need, energy profile, locational considerations and other requirements will inform subsequent resource acquisition strategies, and those strategies will be stated in the corresponding AARs.

For the recommended transmission solutions, the transmitter(s) seeking leave to construct will proceed with development work, including the Environmental Assessment process that is overseen by the MECP. This process includes engagement with Indigenous communities and rights-holders, community members and interested stakeholders and, where applicable, consultation regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights, with any approval including steps to avoid or mitigate impacts to said rights. The MECP may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent while overseeing those delegated aspects and the consultation process generally. The OEB will then assess

the projects and provide final approval through the Leave to Construct process, following which the transmitter will proceed with implementation and construction.

The IESO, along with the relevant distributors and transmitters, will continue to monitor the load growth, progress of developments toward plan deliverables, conservation measures, and pace of new connections in the Focus Area and the WOL area as a whole to identify any impacts on completed or future bulk and regional plans and recommendations for the areas.

## Appendix A – Planning Assessment Criteria

In developing this bulk plan, the IESO followed a number of steps including:

- Data gathering, including development of electricity demand forecasts;
- Conducting technical studies to determine electricity needs and the timing of these needs;
- Developing potential options; and
- Preparing a recommended plan including actions for the near and longer term.

Throughout this process, engagement was carried out with stakeholders interested in the area, in the form of public webinars and targeted discussions with the affected communities, local distribution companies and transmitters.

This bulk report documents the inputs, findings and recommendations developed through the process described above and provides recommended actions for the various entities responsible for plan implementation. The report helps ensure that recommendations to address near-term needs are implemented, while maintaining the flexibility to accommodate changing long-term conditions.

The overall objectives of planning are consistent among both regional and bulk planning, which are the following:

- Ensure reliability and service quality;
- Enable economic efficiency; and
- Support sector policy and decision making.

There are various reliability standards which, as the electricity system planner and operator, the IESO is obliged to meet. NERC and NPCC membership requires the bulk system be planned to consider specific operating conditions, such as peak and light load, and a set of contingencies to ensure the bulk system is planned reliably and meets standards. Additionally, the IESO is required to demonstrate its adherence to these standards through compliance reporting.

Reliability standards require the IESO to define its own performance criteria to meet under the conditions and contingencies specified. The Ontario Resource and Transmission Assessment Criteria (ORTAC) define the planning performance criteria for Ontario which are more specific and/or more stringent standards than NERC/NPCC. The IESO also considers operational issues and solutions that simultaneously consider bulk system reliability needs, regional needs, and assets reaching end of life, as appropriate.

The study used the planning criteria in accordance with events and performance as detailed by:

- NERC TPL-001 “Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements” (TPL-001),
- NPCC Regional Reliability Reference Directory #1 “Design and Operation of the Bulk Power System” (Directory #1), and
- IESO Ontario Resource and Transmission Assessment Criteria (ORTAC).

In addition to meeting established criteria and standards, the IESO also seeks to enable economic efficiency and support sector policy. Bulk system planning has a role in ensuring policy objectives can be incorporated with maximum benefit to ratepayers, and in identifying opportunities for improving overall system economics, especially in a competitive environment. This includes seeking economic opportunities, such as reducing losses, congestion, or other service costs, facilitate inertia/trade requirements, and providing timely and relevant information to market participants to enhance their participation and decision making leading to greater market efficiency and competition. It also includes supporting policy implementation affecting the power grid, such as sensitivity analysis of the economic impact of carbon pricing policies on congestion costs, as well as considering community energy plans and goals.

## Appendix B – Load Forecast Data

The following datasets are included in this section and are also available in the excel file provided:

- Overall annual West of London peak forecasts
  - Table 3 & 4: Total coincident low, reference, and high scenarios for summer (May through October) and winter (January through April, November, December)
- Focus Area peak forecasts
  - Table 5 & 6: Total coincident low, reference, and high scenarios for summer (May through October) and winter (January through April, November, December)
- Annual station (those without greenhouse loads) peak forecasts, by region
  - Table 7 & 8: Summer and winter peak planning forecast in the Windsor-Essex region
  - Table 9 & 10: Summer and winter peak planning forecast in the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region
- Annual greenhouse peak forecasts
  - Table 11 & 12: Total West of London coincident low, reference, and high scenarios for summer and winter
  - Table 13 & 14: Peak demand forecast for West of London stations with greenhouse load for summer and winter
  - Table 15: Peak segmentation assumptions for West of London stations with greenhouse load

Refer to the excel file provided for the following datasets:

- Table 16: Forecast West of London greenhouse hourly load profiles (2021, 2035)
- Table 17: Forecast West of London total hourly load profiles (2021, 2035)
- Table 18: Historical hourly Leamington DESN 1 and DESN 2 station load profiles (2020)

## Overall West of London Forecasts

**Table 3 | Total Coincident Winter West of London Peak Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	1730	1989	2264	2362	2426	2307	2253	2277	2253	2254	2454	2254	2273	2281	2275
Reference	1730	1989	2264	2391	2484	2511	2630	2834	2953	3095	3461	3400	3520	3532	3521
High	1730	1989	2265	2393	2517	2787	3179	3464	3713	3852	4245	4198	4399	4599	4786

**Table 4 | Total Coincident Summer West of London Peak Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	1893	2030	2081	2111	2120	2108	2119	2124	2115	2128	2158	2166	2090	2181	2192
Reference	1893	2030	2081	2115	2151	2168	2313	2470	2564	2697	2963	2952	3036	3056	3037
High	1893	2030	2093	2139	2198	2417	2796	3028	3228	3364	3651	3648	3801	3980	4121

## Focus Area Forecasts

**Table 5 | Total Coincident Winter Focus Area Peak Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	1204	1458	1728	1810	1843	1775	1744	1759	1744	1736	1857	1744	1754	1762	1755



Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Reference	1204	1458	1728	1838	1901	1979	2123	2316	2446	2592	2863	2897	3007	3013	3007
High	1204	1458	1729	1840	1935	2255	2673	2946	3206	3349	3648	3694	3886	4096	4293

**Table 6 | Total Coincident Summer Focus Area Peak Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	1124	1284	1526	1593	1601	1542	1543	1549	1534	1535	1613	1542	1544	1553	1547
Reference	1124	1284	1526	1617	1650	1711	1858	2011	2114	2249	2449	2498	2580	2595	2580
High	1124	1284	1533	1631	1697	1960	2341	2570	2777	2916	3137	3194	3345	3519	3665

### Annual Station Peak Forecasts, by Region

**Table 7 | Winter Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW)<sup>36</sup>**

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Belle River TS	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
Crawford TS	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Essex TS	36	36	34	33	33	32	32	32	32	32	32	33	33	33	33

<sup>36</sup> No changes to these forecasts (net and coincident) have been made since the [2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP](#).  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Industrial Customer #1	36	36	34	33	33	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	33
Industrial Customer #2	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Industrial Customer #3	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Industrial Customer #4	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Industrial Customer #5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Keith TS	66	65	64	62	61	61	61	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
Lauzon DESN 1	80	79	77	75	74	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	74	74
Lauzon DESN 2	70	70	70	70	69	69	69	69	68	68	68	68	68	68	68
Malden TS	104	104	101	100	99	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98	99
Tilbury TS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tilbury West DS	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16
Walker MTS #2	39	39	38	37	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	37	37
Walker TS #1	37	37	35	34	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	34

**Table 8 | Summer Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW)** <sup>37</sup>

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Belle River TS	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
Crawford TS	62	61	60	60	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59	60	60
Essex TS	47	46	46	46	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	46	46	46	46
Industrial Customer #1	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
Industrial Customer #2	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Industrial Customer #3	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Industrial Customer #4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Industrial Customer #5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Keith TS	58	57	57	57	57	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	57	57	57
Lauzon DESN 1	126	124	123	122	121	121	120	120	120	121	121	121	122	122	122
Lauzon DESN 2	88	88	87	87	87	87	86	86	86	86	86	86	86	86	86
Malden TS	143	141	141	140	139	139	139	139	139	139	139	140	140	140	141
Tilbury TS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<sup>37</sup> No changes to these forecasts (net, coincident, and corrected for extreme weather) have been made since the [2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP](#).  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Tilbury West DS	17	17	17	17	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19	19	19
Walker MTS #2	49	48	48	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	48	48	48
Walker TS #1	47	47	46	46	45	45	45	45	45	45	46	46	46	46	46

**Table 9 | Winter Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW) <sup>38</sup>**

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Industrial Customer #1	43	43	43	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
Duart TS	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8
Forest Jura DS	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
Industrial Customer #2	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Industrial Customer #3	0	0	0	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Kent TS	135	136	138	139	140	141	143	144	145	146	148	149	150	151	153
Lambton TS	58	58	58	59	59	59	59	60	60	60	60	60	61	61	61
Modeland TS	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72

<sup>38</sup> These forecasts account for the expected peak contribution of distributed generation, and are coincident for the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region.  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

<b>Station</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2030</b>	<b>2031</b>	<b>2032</b>	<b>2033</b>	<b>2034</b>	<b>2035</b>
Industrial Customer #4	17	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Industrial Customer #5	16	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Industrial Customer #6	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
Industrial Customer #7	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Industrial Customer #8	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
St. Andrews TS	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Industrial Customer #9	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
Wallaceburg TS	29	30	30	30	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	33	33	33	34
Wanstead TS	40	41	42	42	43	43	44	44	45	46	46	47	47	48	48
Wonderland TS	59	60	61	62	63	64	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
Industrial Customer #10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

**Table 10 | Summer Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load (MW) <sup>39</sup>**

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Industrial Customer #1	45	45	45	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Duart TS	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	16
Forest Jura DS	19	20	20	20	21	21	21	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	24
Industrial Customer #2	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
Industrial Customer #3	0	0	0	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Kent TS	156	158	160	161	162	164	165	167	168	170	171	173	174	176	177
Lambton TS	66	66	67	67	67	67	68	68	68	68	69	69	69	69	70
Modeland TS	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97
Industrial Customer #4	18	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Industrial Customer #5	16	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Industrial Customer #6	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
Industrial Customer #7	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

<sup>39</sup> These forecasts account for the expected peak contribution of distributed generation and extreme weather, and are coincident for the Chatham-Kent/Lambton/Sarnia region.  
West of London Bulk Transmission Report, 23/09/2021 | Public

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Industrial Customer #8	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
St. Andrews TS	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Industrial Customer #9	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
Wallaceburg TS	38	39	39	40	40	40	41	41	42	42	43	43	43	44	44
Wanstead TS	47	47	48	49	49	50	51	51	52	52	53	54	54	55	55
Wonderland TS	97	98	100	101	102	104	105	106	108	109	111	112	113	115	116
Industrial Customer #10	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

## Annual Greenhouse Forecasts

**Table 11 | Total Winter West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	443	685	964	1038	1035	1042	1045	1044	1046	1047	1035	1047	1045	1045	1046
Reference	443	685	964	1068	1095	1252	1436	1615	1767	1935	2073	2234	2333	2333	2334
High	443	685	964	1068	1126	1533	1997	2258	2543	2711	2874	3046	3229	3423	3628

**Table 12 | Total Summer West of London Greenhouse Demand Forecast (MW)**

Forecast Scenario	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Low	366	590	833	892	890	895	898	897	899	900	890	900	899	898	899
Reference	366	590	833	916	938	1065	1214	1359	1483	1618	1729	1860	1941	1940	1941
High	366	590	839	930	985	1315	1699	1918	2149	2288	2419	2559	2708	2865	3031

**Table 13 | Gross Winter Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load (MW)**

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Kingsville TS*	123	123	124	124	124	124	124	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
Leamington DESN 1*	202	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205	205
Leamington DESN 2	203	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206
South Middle Road DESN 1	-	157	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206
South Middle Road DESN 2	-	-	181	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206	206
Remainder of greenhouse forecast, reference (not yet assigned to a station)	-	80	130	210	240	390	571	752	902	1067	1217	1367	1467	1467	1467
Remainder of greenhouse forecast, high (not yet assigned to a station)	-	80	130	210	271	671	1132	1394	1677	1844	2018	2180	2364	2557	2762

\*Station load contains both agricultural and non-agriculture load



**Table 14 | Gross Summer Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load (MW)**

Station	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035
Kingsville TS*	89	93	93	93	93	93	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Leamington DESN 1*	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
Leamington DESN 2	59	59	60	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
South Middle Road DESN 1	-	73	86	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106
South Middle Road DESN 2	-	-	65	66	88	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
Remainder of greenhouse forecast. reference (not yet assigned to a station)	106	256	420	482	484	600	746	892	1014	1148	1269	1390	1472	1472	1472
Remainder of greenhouse forecast, high (not yet assigned to a station)	106	256	426	496	531	850	1231	1451	1680	1818	1959	2089	2239	2397	2562

\*Station load contains both agricultural and non-agriculture load

**Table 15 | Peak Segmentation Assumptions for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load**

Station	Non-Agriculture	Vegetable	Cannabis
Kingsville TS	30%	36%	34%
Leamington DESN 1	30%	52%	18%
Leamington DESN 2	-	74%	26%

<b>Station</b>	<b>Non-Agriculture</b>	<b>Vegetable</b>	<b>Cannabis</b>
South Middle Road DESN 1	-	29%	71%
South Middle Road DESN 2	-	53%	47%
Remainder of greenhouse forecast (not yet assigned to a station)	-	76%	24%

## Appendix C – Supply Need Data

Refer to the excel file provided for the forecasted hourly supply need for the following scenarios:

- Table 19: Near-term Supply Need: Flow into Chatham Reference, Sensitivity B Need (2024, 2027)
- Table 20: Mid-term Supply Need: Flow into Chatham Reference, Sensitivity B Need (2028, 2029)
- Table 21: Long-term Supply Need: Flow into Chatham Reference Need with mid-term recommendations; Lambton South line (2030, 2035)

Reference Need refers to the base case for determining supply needs for the purpose of identifying options, which assumes that to supply the reference demand forecast, resources would not be reacquired at the end of their contracts and the interchange path between Ontario and Michigan would be maintained. Sensitivity B considers resources in the study area would not be reacquired at the end of their contracts, without maintaining interchange capability.

## Appendix D - Assessment of Supply

The IESO assessed supply to the Focus Area and WOL based on two assessments, capacity and energy. This will be detailed further in the following sections.

### **Capacity Assessment**

A deterministic approach was used to evaluate the need for additional capacity behind the FIC, WOC, and WOL interfaces. A need was identified where the annual coincident load forecast exceeded the total installed capacity of transmission-connected gas generation in winter or summer (discounted by seasonal derates) and the internal and Ontario-Michigan interface transfer limits.

For example, in the Focus Area a Reference capacity supply need is identified when the Focus Area demand plus exports on the Windsor-Detroit intertie, is larger than the Focus Area generation resources (900 MW, less derates and contract expiry) plus the transmission capacity into the Focus Area (i.e., on the FIC interface).

Similarly, a WOL Reference capacity supply need is identified when the WOL demand plus exports on the entire Ontario-Michigan interconnection, is larger than the WOL generation resources plus the transmission capacity into WOL from the rest of the province. When resolving the WOL needs, the location of resources within the Focus Area impacts their effectiveness at meeting the need due to internal constraints within the WOL area. Where impactful, these locational constraints are identified.

The assessment considered the installed capacity of transmission-connected gas generation in winter or summer (discounted by seasonal derates). To be conservative, needs were not discounted by contributions from wind or solar, since these resources cannot be dispatched up, and the output is variable. This variability cannot be accounted for through the deterministic calculations. Most critically, wind generation is higher during off peak periods and therefore not well correlated with gas generation.

### **Energy Assessment**

A deterministic approach was taken to evaluate the need for energy behind the FIC, WOC, and WOL interfaces. A need was identified when the hourly coincident load forecast (plus exports, as appropriate based on the study scenario) exceeded the total installed capacity of transmission-connected gas generation in winter or summer (discounted by seasonal derates) and the transmission interface transfer limits. This unserved energy is another indication of the magnitude of a need behind a transmission interface and also informative of its duration. Similar to the capacity assessment, needs were not discounted by contributions from wind or solar.

## Appendix E – Economic Assessment Assumptions

The following is a list of the assumptions made in the economic analysis:

- The net present value (NPV) of the cash flows is expressed in 2020 CAD.
- The USD/CAD exchange rate was assumed to be 0.78 for the study period.
- The NPV analysis was conducted using a 4% real social discount rate. Sensitivities at 2% and 8% were performed.
- An annual inflation rate of 2% is assumed.
- The assessment was performed from an electricity consumer perspective and included all costs incurred by project developers, which were assumed to be passed on to consumers.
- The existing supply resources described in Section 5 were reflected in the analysis. Mid-term analysis assumed that the near-term recommendation is in-place until 2028. Beyond 2028, the mid- and long-term analysis assumed all existing resources in the Focus Area and WOL coming off contract do not continue to operate to better assess the full scope of options required.
- The NPV study period for the mid-term extended from the start of 2028, the year that the solution would need to be in service, to the end of 2097, when a transmission asset replacement decision would be required. Similarly, the NPV study period for the long-term was from 2030 to 2099. For the long-term generation-only alternative, capital injection was estimated as a percentage of overnight capital costs (12%) to extend resource life a further 10 years.
- Reacquisition costs were assumed to be 80% of the facilities' net revenue requirement as the baseline assumption. A sensitivity of 80-20% of the facilities' net revenue requirement was assessed for reacquisition costs. Actual reacquisition costs would be determined through subsequent resource acquisition mechanisms.
- The life of the station upgrades was assumed to be 45 years; the life of the line was assumed to be 70 years; and the life of the SCGT generation and storage assets was assumed to be 30 years and 10 years respectively. The life of the storage asset was based on a capacity of 3,600 cycles, which is assumed to be used to serve the local need first, and then global energy and ancillary services for the rest of the year. Cost of asset replacement were included where necessary to ensure the same NPV study period.
- Development timelines for transmission was assumed to be 6-8 years; development timelines for generation and storage were assumed to be 3 years following a procurement.
- Capital costs for the transmission options were determined based on \$2-3M/km estimates for a new double circuit 230 kV line, \$2-4.5M/km estimates for a new single circuit 500 kV line, and a \$30-35M/station estimate for station upgrade costs required to terminate the new

circuits or add an autotransformer. This was informed by the 2015 SECTR and Bruce-by-Milton cost estimates in the Leave to Construct application evidence on file with the Ontario Energy Board, as well as the input received from Hydro One. A 50% contingency was assumed for the purpose of this analysis.

- Capital cost for the transmission reinforcement between Windsor and Lakeshore required to maintain resources west of Lakeshore (as described in Section 9.3) was included for resource alternatives exceeding 600 MW. A sensitivity of +/- 20% was assessed on the capital and ongoing fixed costs for generation.
- All long-term solutions will require voltage control devices, preferably in the form of small capacitors and reactors throughout the area and/or automatic regulation in the form of a static var compensator. Since this was common to all options, these costs were not factored into this analysis.
- Costs for additional transformation in the 500 kV yard at Longwood TS were included in the long-term option 1a assessment to enable sufficient voltage support and power transfer from the 500 kV bus to the 230 kV bus. Note, this could alternatively be resolved through additional reactive capacity or reconfiguration of the existing transformers in the 500 kV switchyard at Longwood TS.
- The size of the resource option was determined by the capacity needs presented in Section 6. This showed a 2,050 MW capacity need over the 15-year assessment period. Based on the capability of the mid-term transmission option, this was split into 950 MW and 1,100 MW requirements for the mid-term and long-term respectively. Within each assessment, this was staggered into multiple separate units to align with the need growth, and optimize the resource option, so as not to overbuild capacity before it is needed.
- A SCGT was identified as one of the lowest-cost resource alternatives. The estimated overnight cost of capital assumed is about \$800-900/kW (2020 CAD) depending on the unit size, based on escalating values from a previous study independently conducted for the IESO.
- Natural gas prices were assumed to be an average of \$4/MMBtu throughout the study period
- An energy storage facility was identified as another low-cost resource alternative. Total energy storage system costs are composed of capacity and energy costs (i.e. energy storage devices are constrained by their energy reservoir). The estimated overnight cost of capital assumed is about \$1000-1300/kW (2020 CAD) depending on the storage capacity to energy requirement, based on escalating Ontario-specific values from a previous study independently conducted for a collection of entities including the IESO.
- Sizing of the storage solution was based on meeting the peak capacity and peak energy requirements for the local reliability need, such that the reservoir size is capable of using existing gas resources to sufficiently charge to meet the hours of unserved energy.
- Sizing of the storage option for the purposes of this analysis was conducted assuming perfect foresight, i.e. demand is predictable and so the facility knows exactly when and how much energy is needed and charges ahead of time, sometimes requiring multiple days to charge, in order to supply that need.

- Resources were assumed to be sited at the preferred location, at Lakeshore TS or between Lakeshore TS and Chatham TS, up to the capability of the existing system. Costs to address existing short circuit limitations at Leamington TS and Lakeshore TS which limit the amount of resources that can be added at the preferred location were included in the assessments, as appropriate.
- The reference demand forecast is presented in Section 4.3. Sensitivities to test the impacts of the low and high growth scenarios on the NPV were performed. Once the need in each scenario surpassed the capability of the transmission solutions being evaluated (i.e., 950 MW in the mid-term and 1,100 MW in the long-term), the demand was flat lined for the purposes of the production cost analysis. While NPVs were calculated based on the life of the longest asset (70 years), holding demand at the respective mid-term and long-term values ensures an equal comparison of options to continue to meet the reference scenario load.
- The magnitude of demand growth in this area exceeds the capability of energy efficiency or demand response to cost-effectively reduce the needs, and were therefore not considered as alternatives, but is considered further through ongoing regional planning in the area.
- System capacity value was \$128k/MW-year (2020 CAD) based on an estimate for the cost of the marginal new resource (Net CONE), a new SCGT in southwestern Ontario, with a sensitivity of +/- 25% assessed.
- Production costs were determined based on energy requirements to serve the local reliability need, assuming fixed operating and maintenance costs of \$22-32/kW-year for gas-fired resources and \$14/kW-year for storage, variable operating and maintenance costs of \$3-6/MWh and a heat rate of 7-10 MWh/MMBtu for gas-fired resources.
- Carbon pricing assumptions are based on the proposed federal carbon price increase, from \$50/tonne in 2022 to \$170/tonne by 2030, and applied to a facility's production. Existing generators emitting above their carbon allowance pay the federal carbon price on those emissions. A sensitivity of up to +225% was assessed on the carbon costs for the gas-fired generation option to assess the risk of potential policy changes to the current carbon pricing strategy.
- The cost of constraining the generation alternative to produce energy for a local need versus the cost of system supply was considered.
- Reduction of the system cost of an ancillary service, such as operating reserve (OR), was also considered.
- A resource's potential contribution to system needs, outside of serving the local needs, was assessed based on the deliverability of that resource's remaining capacity to province's load center. A sensitivity of +/- 16% was assessed on the system benefit of a resource.

## Report By IESO

2. Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum Report – (February 2022)



---

# Windsor-Essex Integrated Regional Resource Plan Addendum

February 10, 2022

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Background</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. Updated Electricity Demand Forecast</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4. Study Scope and Needs</b>	<b>10</b>
4.1 Capacity Needs	11
4.1.1 Kingsville TS	11
4.1.2 Kingsville-Leamington	11
4.2 Load Restoration Needs	12
<b>5. Options and Recommended Plan to Address Regional Electricity Needs</b>	<b>16</b>
5.1 Screening Options	16
5.1.1 Non-Wires Options for the Capacity Needs	16
5.1.2 Non-Wires Options for the Load Restoration Needs	18
5.1.3 Screening Outcomes	18
5.2 Options for Addressing Supply Capacity Needs	18
5.2.1 Reconfiguration of Kingsville TS	18
5.2.2 New Transformer Stations and Connection Lines	19
5.2.3 Recommendation	21
5.3 Options for Addressing Load Restoration Needs	22
5.3.1 New 230 kV Circuits Between Kingsville and Leamington	22
5.3.2 Distribution System Transfer Capability	23
5.3.3 Generation	24
5.3.4 Recommendation	25
5.4 Recommended Plan and Implementation	26
<b>6. Interdependencies</b>	<b>27</b>
6.1 Broader Windsor-Essex Regional Issues	27
6.1.1 Lauzon TS and the Lauzon 115 kV Sub-System	27

6.1.2	Coordination with the West of London Bulk Plan	28
	J3E/J4E Sub-System	29
6.2	Novel Projects	32
6.3	Energy Efficiency	33
6.4	Community Energy Plans	33
<b>7.</b>	<b>Community and Stakeholder Engagement</b>	<b>36</b>
7.1	Engagement Principles	36
7.2	Engagement Approach	36
7.3	Bringing Municipalities to the Table	38
7.4	Engaging with Indigenous Communities	38
7.4.1	Indigenous Participation and Engagement in Transmission Development	39
<b>8.</b>	<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>40</b>
	<b>Appendix A – Updated Forecasts and Load Data</b>	<b>41</b>
	<b>Appendix B – Updated Study Results</b>	<b>42</b>
	Kingsville-Leamington Capacity Needs	42
	Leamington Tap Load Restoration Needs	42

# 1. Executive Summary

This report documents the results of the addendum study conducted by the Windsor-Essex Integrated Regional Resource Plan (“IRRP”) Technical Working Group, consisting of the five local distribution companies, the lead transmitter, and the IESO. Encompassing both 230 kV and 115 kV high voltage networks in Southwest Ontario, the Windsor-Essex electricity planning region is defined from the City of Windsor to the western portion of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. It includes large generators in the Windsor areas, diverse growing load centres, and an interconnection point with Michigan’s power system.

Strong indoor agricultural growth – primarily due to expanding vegetable greenhouses switching to indoor grow lights and year-round production – has driven significant and fast-growing electricity demand; the agricultural sector demand in this region is expected to grow from an approximately 500 MW winter peak today to around 2,100 MW in 2035. Due to this rapid growth, planning in southwestern Ontario has been occurring continuously over the last few years. In 2019, the IESO released both the [2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP](#) and the [2019 Windsor-Essex Bulk Plan](#), which made recommendations for supplying this growing load. Subsequently, and developed in parallel with this addendum study, the IESO made further recommendations through the [2021 West of London Bulk Plan](#).

To conduct this addendum with updated information was first proposed in the 2019 IRRP, specifically to assess remaining local reliability issues in the Kingsville and Leamington areas: capacity needs to enable new distribution-level customers to connect, as well as load restoration needs. After consideration for both wires and non-wires options, the Technical Working Group recommends two new 230 kV load supply stations in the Kingsville and Leamington areas to address the forecast capacity requirements. These stations are to be supplied from new 230 kV double-circuit lines from Lakeshore Switching Station (“SS”), and accompanied by the offloading of the existing Kingsville transformer station (“TS”). Furthermore, it is recommended that Hydro One and its customers determine cost-justified measures (new 230 kV line between Leamington TS and the new stations, distributed energy resources, and/or opportunities for distribution load transfer capability) that can mitigate the load restoration needs.

This planning report also identifies broader interdependencies and longer-term considerations for the local electricity system. Recommendations made in this addendum must be aligned with the timing of the multiple bulk reinforcements that address transfer limitations and energy needs impacting overall supply to Windsor-Essex – including the new 230 kV and 500 kV transmission reinforcements and 550 MW of local resources identified in the [2021 West of London bulk plan](#). While a recommendation for further transmission reinforcements between the Leamington area and Windsor is not made at this time, this report notes that the long-term location of generation resources and load levels in this region can impact future needs and the requirement for such reinforcement.

With the next cycle of regional planning for Windsor-Essex scheduled to begin in Q3 2022, energy-related developments will continue to be monitored. Multiple pilot projects that are either already underway or could participate in future programs or funding sources outside of regional planning will

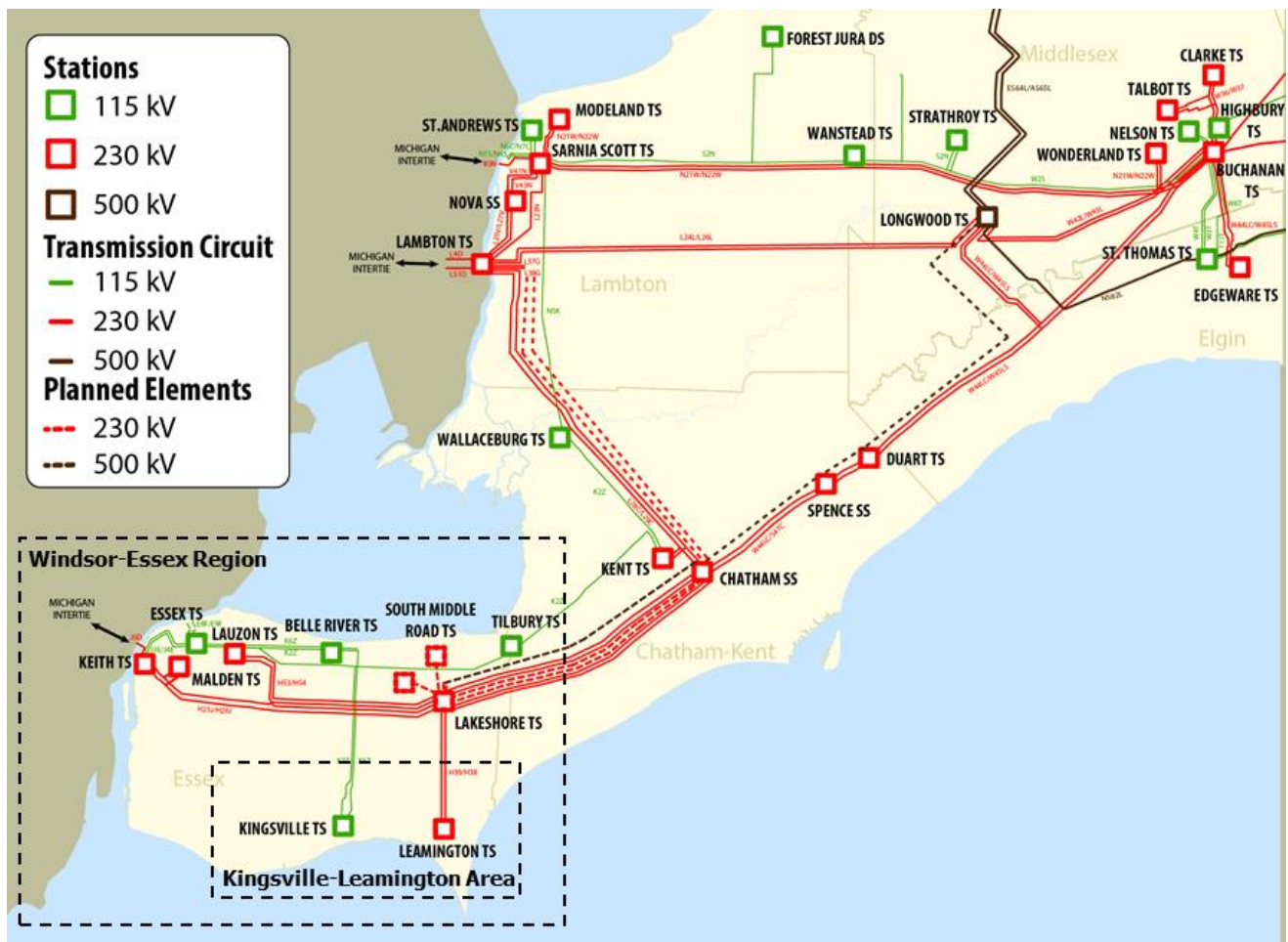
help inform the viability of demand-side solutions as greenhouse loads connect. Similarly, there continues to be opportunities for energy efficiency to help manage needs, and industry best practices (i.e., adoption of LEDs) should be monitored alongside the community-led energy plans developed by the County of Essex and City of Windsor as they are implemented.

## 2. Background

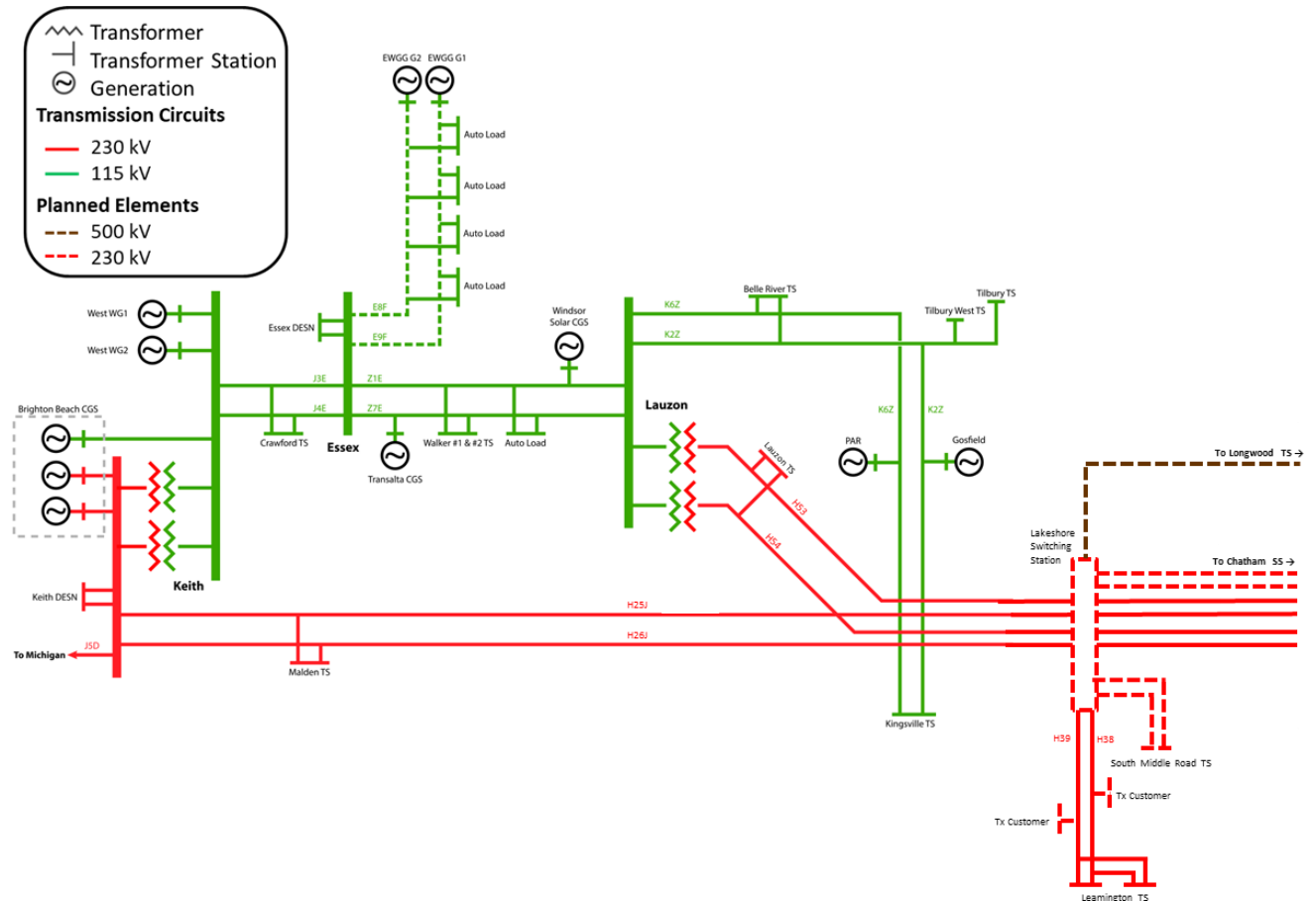
In 2019, as part of the regional planning process formalized by the Ontario Energy Board (“OEB”), the IESO led and published an [IRRP for the Windsor-Essex region](#). The IRRP identified local electricity system needs over a 20-year time horizon, as well as recommendations to address them. It was developed on behalf of the Technical Working Group (“Working Group”), consisting of the following distributors and transmitter that supply the region:

- E.L.K. Energy Inc. (“E.L.K. Energy”)
- Entegrus Powerlines Inc. (“Entegrus”)
- Enwin Utilities Ltd. (“ENWIN”)
- Essex Powerlines Corporation (“Essex Powerlines”)
- Hydro One Networks Inc. Distribution (“Hydro One Distribution”)
- Hydro One Networks Inc. Transmission (“Hydro One Transmission”)

**Figure 1 | Map of the Windsor-Essex Region and Kingsville-Leamington Area**



**Figure 2 | Windsor-Essex Region Electrical Single Line Diagram**



High load growth, driven by the rapidly expanding indoor agriculture sector concentrated in the Kingsville and Leamington area (“Kingsville-Leamington”), necessitated multiple stages of reinforcements to ensure adequate electricity supply to the Windsor-Essex region. A [2019 Windsor-Essex Bulk Plan](#) was completed in tandem with the IRRP, then followed by the [2021 West of London Bulk Plan](#). A summary of both regional and bulk recommendations stemming from these plans is contained in Table 1.

**Table 1 | Summary of Recommended Actions**

Plan	Recommendation	Expected In-Service Date
2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP	IESO Grid Innovation Fund targeted call for indoor agriculture projects	Ongoing
	Light-Emitting Diode (“LED”) Incentive for greenhouses	Ongoing
	Upsized replacement of end-of-life Keith TS autotransformers T11/T12	2024

<b>Plan</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Expected In-Service Date</b>
	Upsized replacement of end-of-life Lauzon TS stepdown transformers T5/T6	2025
2019 Windsor-Essex Bulk Plan	Lakeshore SS <sup>1</sup>	2022
	230 kV double-circuit Chatham-to-Lakeshore line	2025
2020 Windsor-Essex Regional Infrastructure Plan <sup>2</sup>	South Middle Road DESN 1	2022
	South Middle Road DESN 2	2025
2021 West of London Bulk Plan	Bilateral negotiations for continued operation of Brighton Beach Generating Station ("GS") until 2028	2024-2028
	230 kV double-circuit Chatham-to-Lambton line	2028
	500 kV single Longwood-to-Lakeshore line	2030
	550 MW of local generation	2030

At the conclusion of the 2019 Windsor-Essex IRRP ("2019 IRRP"), the Working Group recommended an addendum study ("the Addendum") to address remaining local capacity and load restoration needs concentrated in Kingsville-Leamington. Given the magnitude of the load growth, amount of transmission system changes, and quickly-evolving greenhouse sector in this region, conducting this study enabled remaining local issues to be resolved with the most up-to-date information obtained from the Working Group and through further public engagement. Moreover, by conducting the Addendum in advance of the next Windsor-Essex regional planning cycle starting in Q3 2022 and in parallel with the 2021 West of London Bulk Plan, it facilitated better coordination with bulk recommendations and enabled a continuous dialogue with all stakeholders.

<sup>1</sup> Enables the connection of Leamington DESN 2 (dual-element spot network) in 2020, transmission-connected customers on the Leamington tap in 2022, and South Middle Road DESN 1 and 2.

<sup>2</sup> Led by Hydro One.



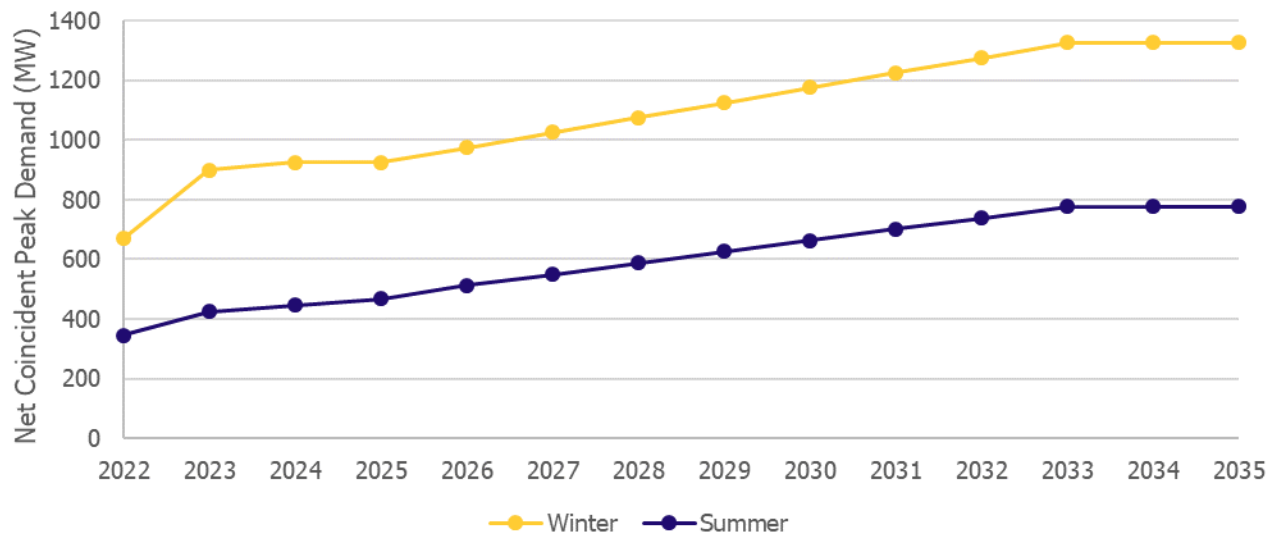
### 3. Updated Electricity Demand Forecast

The Addendum leveraged the summer and winter peak planning forecasts created for the 2019 IRRP, but updated information regarding the greenhouse load growth located in Kingsville-Leamington. This includes over 150 MW of incremental winter capacity connection requests that were received by Hydro One Distribution after the completion of the 2019 IRRP. These connection requests continue to be driven by lit greenhouse expansions concentrated in Kingsville-Leamington – especially south of Highway 8, between Division Rd in Kingsville and Highway 77 in Leamington. Throughout the Addendum, the Working Group and public stakeholders continued to emphasize the preference for this geographic area; Kingsville-Leamington attracts greenhouse expansions due to the local industry expertise, access to labour, access to both Canadian and U.S. markets, and the availability of supporting services and infrastructure in nearby town centres. Growth with the indoor agriculture sector is also more broadly driven by an interest in increased food security, large contracts for greenhouse produce, winter or year-round production, and new product categories.

The updated Kingsville-Leamington forecast, as shown in Figure 3, accounts for the:

- Existing non-agricultural electricity demand in the area;
- Timing of customer connections supplied by the existing Leamington tap lines, which will be connected to the future Lakeshore SS;
- Timing and capacity allocated to South Middle Road TS, also to be connected to Lakeshore SS; and
- Future distribution-connected customers in the area who are still waiting for capacity.

**Figure 3 | Updated Kingsville-Leamington Planning Forecast**



The forecast in Figure 3 is consistent with the reference forecast scenario used in the West of London Bulk Plan and assumes the same annual growth rate, but shows only the distribution-connected customers in Kingsville-Leamington and excludes the existing or expected directly-connected transmission customers.<sup>3</sup> Greenhouse load information is primarily provided by Hydro One Distribution, as most of the new growth is in its service territory. This information includes customer connection requests, with details of their location, requested capacity (winter and summer), and crop type (vegetable or cannabis). Figure 3 also reflects the latest status of System Impact Assessment applications, as well as the development time of both Windsor-Essex bulk system reinforcements and new local transformer stations (i.e., South Middle Road TS).

---

<sup>3</sup> More forecast details can be found in the [bulk report and appendices](#).

## 4. Study Scope and Needs

By applying the Ontario Resource and Transmission Assessment Criteria (“ORTAC”), multiple types of needs were identified during the development of the 2019 IRRP. These include station and supply capacity needs, as well as load security and restoration needs. These categories of needs are summarized below.

**Station capacity:** the electricity system’s ability to deliver power to the local distribution network through regional step-down transformer stations. The capacity rating of a transformer station is the maximum demand that can be supplied by the station and is limited by the station equipment. Station ratings are often determined based on the 10-day limited time rating (“LTR”) of a station’s smallest transformer(s), under the assumption that the largest transformer is out of service.

**Supply capacity:** the electricity system’s ability to provide continuous supply to a local area.<sup>4</sup> This is limited by the load meeting capability of the transmission supply to the area. The load meeting capability is determined by evaluating the maximum demand that can be supplied to an area accounting for limitations of the transmission element(s) (e.g., a transmission line, group of lines, or autotransformer), when subjected to contingencies and criteria prescribed by ORTAC. Load meeting capability studies are conducted using power system simulations analysis. Supply capacity needs are identified when the peak demand for the area exceeds the load meeting capability.

**Load security and restoration:** the electricity system’s ability to minimize the impact of potential supply interruptions to customers in the event of a major transmission outage, such as the double contingency loss of two adjacent circuits on a common structure. Load security describes the total amount of electricity supply that would be interrupted in the event of a major transmission outage. Load restoration describes the electricity system’s ability to restore power to those affected by a major transmission outage within reasonable timeframes.

The following needs were scoped into the Addendum for further analysis and options evaluation:

- Capacity needs at Kingsville TS;
- Capacity needs in the general Kingsville-Leamington geographic area; and
- Load restoration need on the Leamington tap lines.

These needs are described in detail in Sections 4.1 and 4.2.

---

<sup>4</sup> Local areas, in the context of IRRPs, are electrically-confined or radial portions of the system within the region or sub-region.

## 4.1 Capacity Needs

### 4.1.1 Kingsville TS

Kingsville TS comprises two 115 kV/27.6 kV transformers supplying low-voltage switchgear at a distribution voltage of 27.6 kV. Assuming a 0.95 power factor, it has summer and winter LTRs of 117 MW and 125 MW, respectively. Kingsville TS also has a load meeting capability of 95 MW, limited by voltage change violations for the loss of the K2Z circuit. According to the winter planning forecast, this supply capability is exceeded today by approximately 30 MW, and is currently managed by operational measures outlined in a Remedial Action Scheme.<sup>5</sup>

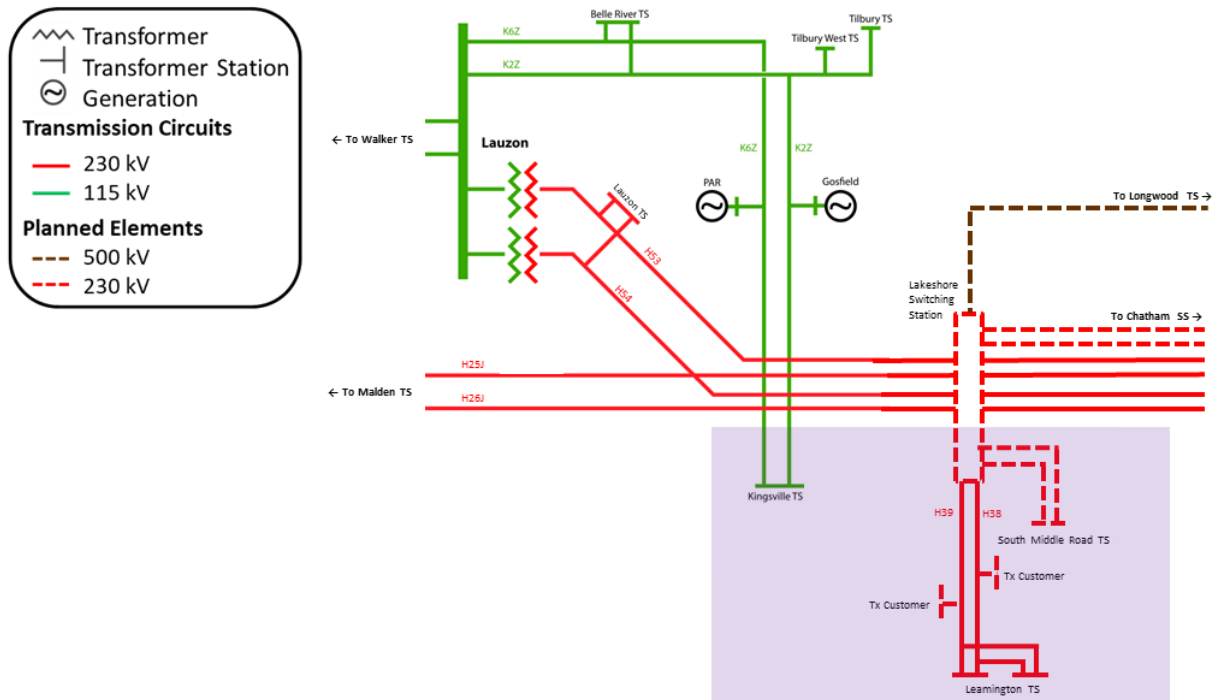
### 4.1.2 Kingsville-Leamington

Supply to customers located in Kingsville-Leamington is provided through both current and planned transformer stations:

- Existing Kingsville TS on the 115 kV sub-system;
- Existing Leamington DESN 1 & 2 supplied by 230 kV circuits (referred to as the Leamington tap lines) from Lakeshore SS (in-service 2022); and
- South Middle Road DESN 1 & 2 (in-service 2022 and 2025), also supplied at 230 kV from Lakeshore SS.

There are also directly-connected transmission customers who will be supplied from the 230 kV Leamington tap lines starting in 2022. These facilities are shown in a single line diagram in Figure 4.

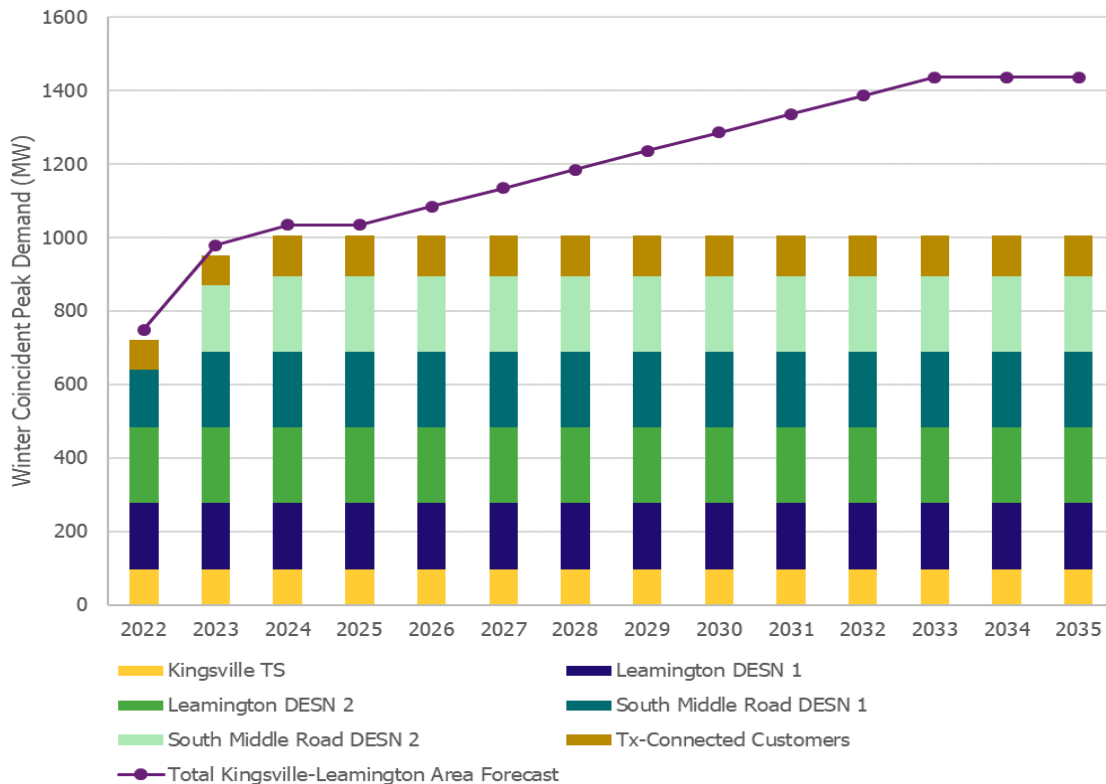
**Figure 4 | Electricity Supply in Kingsville-Leamington**



<sup>5</sup> Remedial Action Schemes are designed to detect abnormal system conditions and take corrective actions that may include changes in load, generation, or system configuration to maintain system stability, acceptable voltages, or power flows.

With adequate bulk transfer capability into Lakeshore SS, the total load meeting capability of the transformer stations in Kingsville-Leamington is limited by each station’s LTR – with the exception of Kingsville TS, which is first limited by voltage change violations as mentioned in Section 4.1.1. Assuming a 0.95 power factor, each 230 kV DESN in this area therefore provides approximately 205 MW and 190 MW of capacity for the winter and summer, respectively. An additional 110 MW of winter capacity is allocated to the transmission-connected customers on the Leamington tap lines.

**Figure 5 | Kingsville-Leamington Capacity Need<sup>6</sup>**



When comparing the capacity that can be allocated to each station against the demand forecast for Kingsville-Leamington (as shown in Figure 5), a local capacity need arises in 2026.<sup>7</sup> This need is expected to be approximately 440 MW by 2035 – of which 410 MW is forecast based on distribution-level greenhouse customers awaiting connection, and the remaining 30 MW is attributed to the already overloaded Kingsville TS.

## 4.2 Load Restoration Needs

Once Lakeshore SS is in-service, a load restoration need remains on the Leamington tap lines; two directly-connected transmission customers and Leamington DESN 1 and 2 are currently supplied radially through a 12 km double-circuit line (H38 and H39). Subsequent to an outage of both H38 and H39, supply on the tap would be interrupted by configuration. At winter peak times, this

<sup>6</sup> Demand is shown vertically stacked according to in-service dates of the transformer stations. This total Kingsville-Leamington area forecast line omits anticipated directly-connected transmission customers, other than those known to be connected on the Leamington tap and have completed System Impact Assessments.

<sup>7</sup> This timing and the forecast accounts for the development timelines required for already-planned bulk and regional reinforcements that will enable new customers to connect.

interruption would total approximately 500 MW. Of this 500 MW, Hydro One Transmission has indicated that the restoration targets of load in excess of 250 MW cannot be restored within 30 minutes, nor can load in excess of 150 MW be restored within four hours. This is in violation of load restoration planning requirements (ORTAC Section 7.2) and is summarized in Table 2 below.

**Table 2 | Load Restoration Planning Requirements on the Leamington Tap Lines**

<b>Time Post-Contingency</b>	<b>ORTAC Requirement: Peak Load to be Restored</b>	<b>Achievable Based on the Current and Planned Transmission System?</b>
Within 30 minutes	250 MW	No
Within four hours	100 MW	No
Within eight hours	150 MW	Yes – the circuits are assumed to be restored by the transmitter within eight hours

While these restoration needs were ultimately identified according to the peak demand forecast for the Leamington tap lines, hourly forecasts helped characterize the needs further. Using load profile data consistent with the 2019 IRRP and the 2019 Windsor-Essex and 2021 West of London bulk plans, an hourly forecast was created for Leamington DESN 1 and 2 and the two directly-connected transmission customers. It leveraged the following load shapes:

- Non-agricultural – consistent with the 2019 Annual Planning Outlook West Zone load profile, and applied to the known existing residential, commercial, and industrial customers at Leamington DESN 1; and
- Greenhouse (vegetable and cannabis) – from load profiles developed through the 2019 IRRP and bulk plan, and applied to the remaining forecast on the Leamington tap.<sup>8</sup>

While hourly load levels depend on real-time factors such as weather, market conditions, and the individual customer or facility behaviour, these forecast profiles helped illustrate the potential impact of a double contingency event across the different months and hours of the year. The figures below contain heat maps that show some load characteristics.

---

<sup>8</sup> For additional details on load type and crop segmentation, refer to Appendix A.

**Figure 6 | Heat Map Showing Possible Frequency of Load on the Leamington Tap Lines in 2035, by MW and Month**

MW Range	500+	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	444	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	
	389	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	3%	
	333	4%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%	3%	4%	
	278	5%	5%	4%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	4%	5%	
	222	7%	6%	5%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	6%	6%	
	167	7%	6%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	7%	7%	7%	
	111	8%	8%	8%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	8%	8%	8%	
	56	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	
	0	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
		Month												

**Figure 7 | Heat Map Showing Possible Frequency of Load on the Leamington Tap Lines in 2035, by MW During Winter Hours (January-April, November-December)**

MW Range	500+	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	444	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	389	0%	0%	0%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	333	0%	1%	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	278	1%	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	222	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%		
	167	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%	2%	3%		
	111	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%		
	56	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
	0	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Hour																							

**Figure 8 | Heat Map Showing Possible Frequency of Load on the Leamington Tap Lines in 2035, by MW During Summer Hours (May-October)**

MW Range	500+	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	444	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	389	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	333	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	278	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	222	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		
	167	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%		
	111	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%		
	56	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
	0	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%		
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Hour																							

Each cell in the heat map indicates the expected frequency of a load level on the Leamington tap, according to the month or hour of the year or season. For instance, it is estimated that in 2% of total hours in 2035, loading on the Leamington tap exceeds 444 MW and occurs in January. Conversely, load levels are estimated to infrequently exceed 167 MW in summer months such as May to August. From an hourly perspective, a sustained loading of at least 56 MW is estimated across all hours of the day. High load levels greater than for instance, 444 MW, will likely occur during early morning hours like 8 AM – 10 AM during the winter.

While it is difficult to predict the frequency and timing of N-2 contingencies that occur on the 13 km, 230 kV circuits between Leamington TS and Lakeshore SS, this load information helps describe the potential impact of such an event if it were to happen. In general, load levels on the Leamington tap will likely exceed the 150 MW and 250 MW thresholds outlined in the restoration planning criteria. Moreover, it is likely that these load levels will normally persist for periods greater than the 30-minute and four-hour timeframes in the criteria – potentially ~78% of the time in the winter, when electricity demand is driven in large part by the greenhouse customers relying on indoor grow lights for multiple consecutive hours each day. Table 3 summarizes the estimated load behaviour specifically according to the load restoration targets.

**Table 3 | Forecast Leamington Tap Load Levels in 2035, According to Load Restoration Criteria Thresholds**

<b>Load (MW)</b>	<b>Summer Hours</b>	<b>Winter Hours</b>	<b>Total Hours</b>
0-149	77%	22%	50%
150-249	12%	24%	18%
250+	10%	54%	32%



## 5. Options and Recommended Plan to Address Regional Electricity Needs

### 5.1 Screening Options

During regional planning, an array of options can be considered to meet local needs. Wires options include transmission assets such as switching stations, transformer stations, and transmission lines. There are also non-wires options, which encompass both dispatchable and non-dispatchable technologies. Demand response, energy efficiency, distributed energy resources like distributed generation (“DG”) or storage, and larger transmission-connected generation can all be considered non-wires options. Operational measures, such as Remedial Action Schemes and control actions like load rejection, can also be leveraged to manage needs.

During an IRRP, options are developed and evaluated to enable the recommendation for the most cost-effective and technically feasible solution to address the identified needs. This process is complemented by considerations for stakeholder preferences and feedback. While traditional wires infrastructure is always a viable option for regional needs, some non-wires options are more suitable for specific need types and characteristics. Therefore, wires options often act as a benchmark for cost effectiveness or a signal for “local value”, assuming other options are deemed technically feasible and can meet the need as well. In cases where other barriers downstream of regional planning (i.e., regulatory frameworks for cost-sharing and recovery, or operationalization to meet local reliability constraints) impede the adoption of some of these cost-effective options, pilot or demonstration projects can be explored.<sup>9</sup>

Considerations when identifying the potential for non-wires options in the Addendum are described below.

#### 5.1.1 Non-Wires Options for the Capacity Needs

In general, non-wires options can resolve supply and station capacity needs by reducing net load in the affected area. For station capacity needs specifically, these options cannot be transmission-connected resources that are connected upstream of the limiting step-down transformer.

Given the magnitude of the Kingsville TS and Kingsville-Leamington capacity needs, however, non-wires options are not well-suited to entirely defer or replace wires reinforcements. For instance, the connection of DG is subject to equipment limitations such as minimum loading, feeder capacity, station thermal capacity, and short circuit requirements. As described in Section 4.1, over 400 MW of new station capacity is required in Kingsville-Leamington in the near-term. This amount of incremental DG, regardless of fuel type, is unlikely to be able to connect to the existing and planned transformer stations in the area due to short circuit limitations.<sup>10</sup> The intended operation and reliance on these facilities are also factors for consideration. DG applicants accepted by Hydro One that are

---

<sup>9</sup> Barriers to non-wires alternatives and recommendations to address them were a part of the [Regional Planning Process Review](#).

<sup>10</sup> At the time of this report, Hydro One has indicated that DG connection space at South Middle Road TS would be known after station completion. For existing station DG connection availability, consider Hydro One’s [capacity evaluation tool](#) for generation applicants.

intended for “load displacement”, for example, are not currently assumed to enable an equivalent amount (MW) of capacity because their operations would be subject to the facility owners’ individual strategies (i.e., used for peak-shaving but not generating enough to completely displace the customer’s load).<sup>11</sup> In IRRPs, contracted DG output at peak is accounted for during the development of the net demand forecast.

Other non-wires options such as energy efficiency measures and demand response are also unlikely to mitigate the full capacity needs in the Addendum, though they can still provide system and local capacity benefits and there is value in continuing to explore their capabilities. Due to the majority of the greenhouse load being driven by grow lights, the potential for energy efficiency achieved through LEDs – to be used in place of the more traditional high pressure sodium lighting – has been of particular interest. It is expected that the rate of adoption of LEDs will increase over the next 5-10 years, but as of now, the technology is still considered relatively new and factors such as its impact on crop yield, its life span, and the amount of efficiency savings are uncertain.<sup>12</sup> Adjusting the ratio between high pressure sodium lights and LEDs from 75/25 to 50/50, for instance, is only expected to result in about a 9% decrease to the winter peak load forecast by the end of the forecast period. So while the adoption of LED grow lights and other energy efficiency measures in the greenhouse industry are expected to continue and will need to be monitored, there is no confirmation at the time of this report that uptake of these measures can yield winter capacity savings in the range of 400+ MW.

Similarly, demand response can be considered as a potential option for local capacity needs, to the extent that loads in the area are able to curtail lighting during peak hours. Yet many of the challenges first identified in the 2019 IRRP continue to persist:

- The Capacity Auction acquires resources designed to meet global adequacy rather than specific local or regional needs;
- Misalignment between the winter morning peaks expected in Kingsville-Leamington and the provincial peak times that the Capacity Auction resources are required to be available; and
- Uncertainty around the impact of lighting curtailment (depending on duration and frequency) on the growers’ crop production.

The amount of demand response that has historically been acquired for system capacity needs can also indicate this option’s feasibility for the Addendum. In the latest [capacity auction](#), 63 MW and 59 MW of total capacity cleared for the winter 2020 and summer 2021 obligation periods, respectively. These past auction results provide context as to the scale of demand response that would be required to address the Kingsville-Leamington capacity needs; 60 MW is approximately 2% of the entire West zone peak demand of around 2,700 MW. Displacing the full 400+ MW capacity need requires meeting approximately 80% of existing load in Kingsville-Leamington (i.e., Kingsville TS and Leamington TS) with demand response measures. This is unlikely to be achievable in the near-term.

---

<sup>11</sup> List of DG applicants can be found on the Hydro One [webpage](#).

<sup>12</sup> Refer to the IESO’s collaboration with the Centre for Energy Advancement through Technological Innovation on the [“Energy Management Best Practices for Cannabis Greenhouses and Warehouses” report](#).

Consequently, the Addendum focuses on evaluating wires options to meet the capacity needs of the magnitude that have been forecast for Kingsville-Leamington. To manage and mitigate needs ahead of wires implementation, and to evolve in step with both the broader electricity and greenhouse sectors, there is value in continuing to explore new technologies and demand-side strategies. More on existing initiatives that the IESO is undertaking in this space can be found in Sections 6.2 and 6.3.

### **5.1.2 Non-Wires Options for the Load Restoration Needs**

Due to the nature of planning criteria outlined in ORTAC 7.2, non-wires options such as energy efficiency and demand response cannot be applied to restoration needs because they do not restore supply to transmission customers after a contingency. However, generation options (transmission-connected or distribution-connected) may be suitable depending on technical feasibility and cost-effectiveness. More details on this matter, specific to the Leamington tap load restoration needs, are described in Section 5.3.

### **5.1.3 Screening Outcomes**

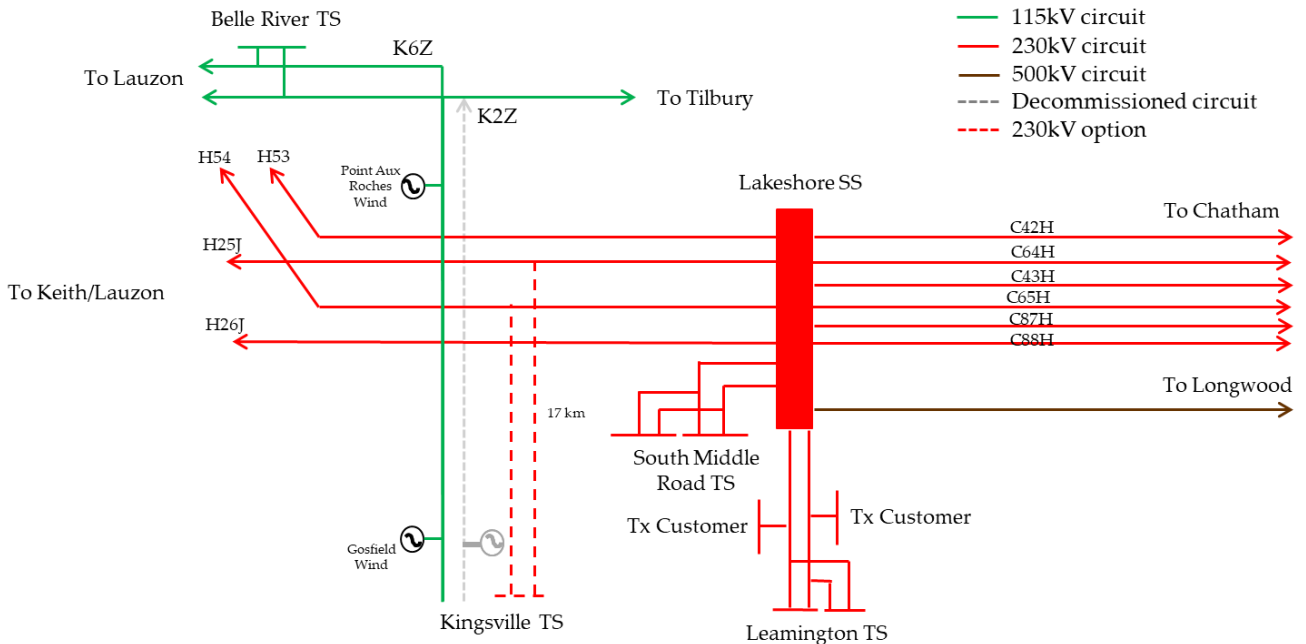
In conclusion, after the considerations described above, the Working Group developed and evaluated wires options to meet the urgent capacity needs at Kingsville TS and forecast for the broader Kingsville-Leamington area. For the load restoration needs scoped into the Addendum, wires options (including new transmission reinforcements or distribution-level transfer capabilities) were considered alongside some non-wires options – specifically, transmission-connected or distribution-connected generation.

## **5.2 Options for Addressing Supply Capacity Needs**

### **5.2.1 Reconfiguration of Kingsville TS**

The conversion of the existing 115 kV Kingsville TS to a new 2 x 75/123 MVA, 230/27.6 kV Bermondsey type DESN was one option considered to address the capacity needs at Kingsville TS and in the broader Kingsville-Leamington area. A reconfigured Kingsville TS could be supplied by new 230 kV double-circuit lines - either approximately 17 km long if building to the H53/54 or H25/26J circuits at Woodslee Junction, or about 26 km if building to Lakeshore SS and following existing transmission corridors. This option was estimated to cost \$88-118M (depending on the length of the new line preferred), take 4-5 years, and would require Class Environmental Assessment and Leave to Construct approvals from the OEB.

**Figure 9 | Configuration of Option for Reconfiguration of Kingsville TS to 230 kV, Supplied from Woodslee Junction**



There are some benefits to the higher voltage supply to Kingsville TS: it would expand capacity in the area (particularly at the already overloaded Kingsville TS), as well as relieve supply capacity constraints on the 115 kV sub-system in Windsor-Essex (see Section 6.1.1). However, this option is still insufficient to meet the forecast growth without two other new DESNs, and has the additional cost of stranding existing assets: the existing 2 x 50/83 MVA stepdown transformers, as well as the 24 km, 115 kV K2Z circuit.

### 5.2.2 New Transformer Stations and Connection Lines

Another option to increase capacity in the area is the addition of new 230 kV transformer stations and double-circuit 230 kV connection lines. There are a few variations to this option, including the number and general location of the required station(s), as well as the preferred connection point for the new lines.

As described in Section 3, updated information on the distribution customer queue for Kingsville-Leamington was incorporated into the Addendum during its development. At the time of this study, the local forecast capacity need is approximately 430 MW – enough to warrant consideration not for one new 230/27.6 kV DESN station, but two.

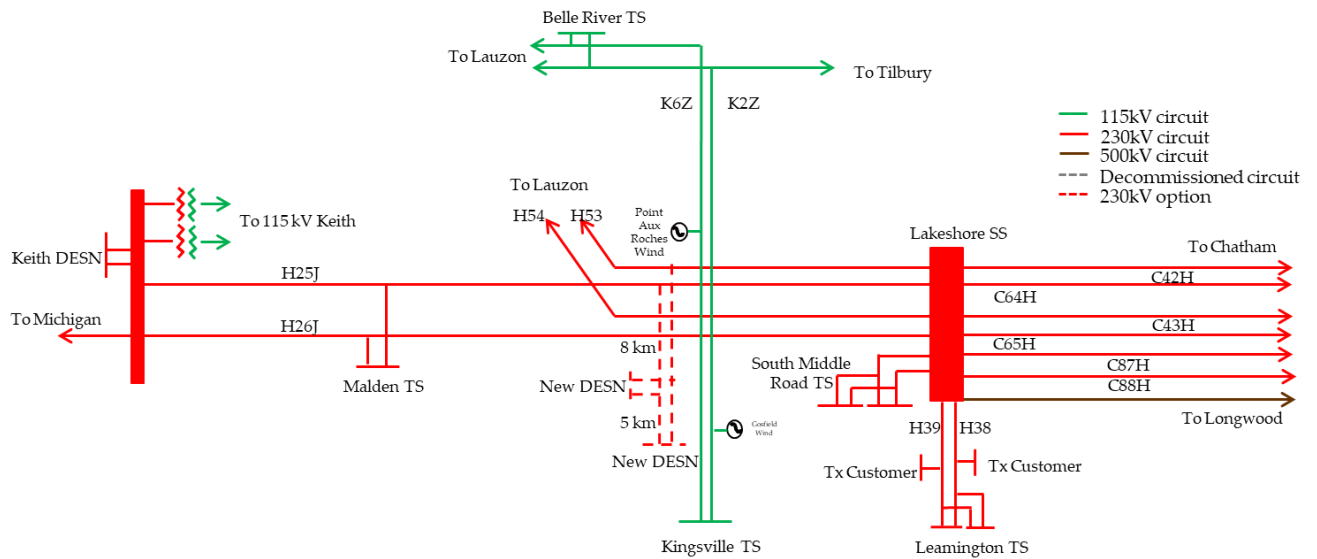
New 230 kV connection lines would be required to supply these DESNs for two key reasons: the majority of the customer connection requests are located around Kingsville TS and Leamington TS, but both the existing 115 kV KxZ circuits and the 230 kV Leamington tap are unable to accommodate the incremental 410 MW that the DESNs would add. Moreover, given the density of load customers already supplied from the stations in the area, Hydro One Distribution indicated technical challenges (i.e., lack of spacing for feeder egress and/or lengthy feeders) by continuing new feeder buildout from the existing stations. Transmission-level savings from a shorter 230 kV line to a single site with

both new DESNs would result in additional distribution-level costs and increased difficulty for the feeder buildout.

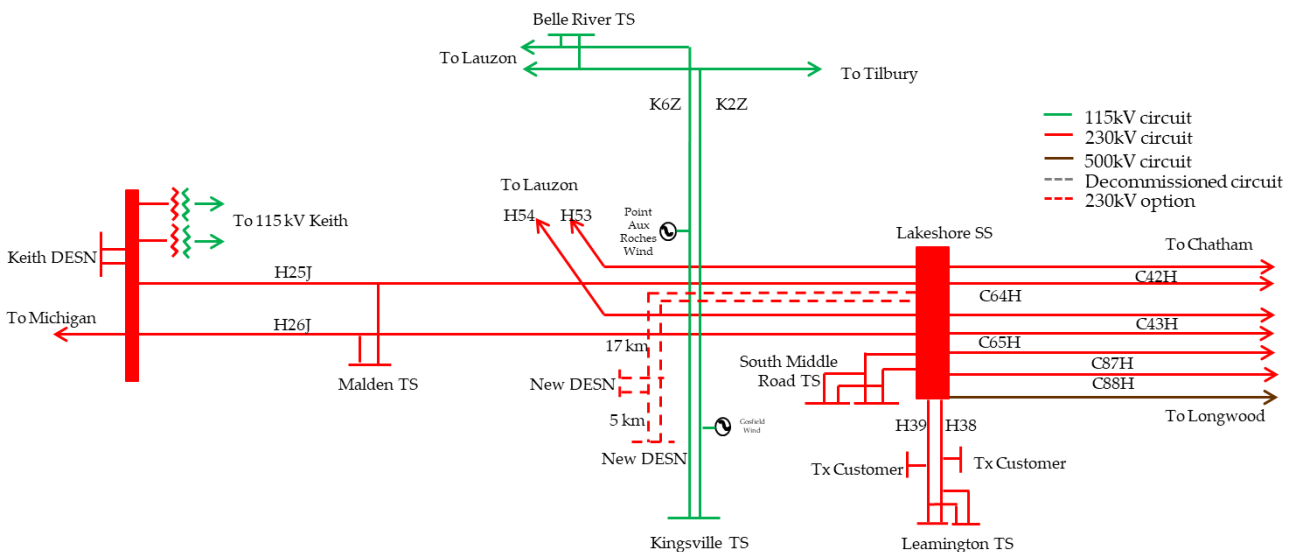
Consequently, three options (shown in the figures below) were considered for building the new radial 230 kV line to connect the two proposed DESNs:

1. ~13 km from H53 and H25J at Woodslee Junction
2. ~22 km from Lakeshore SS
3. ~45 km from Keith TS

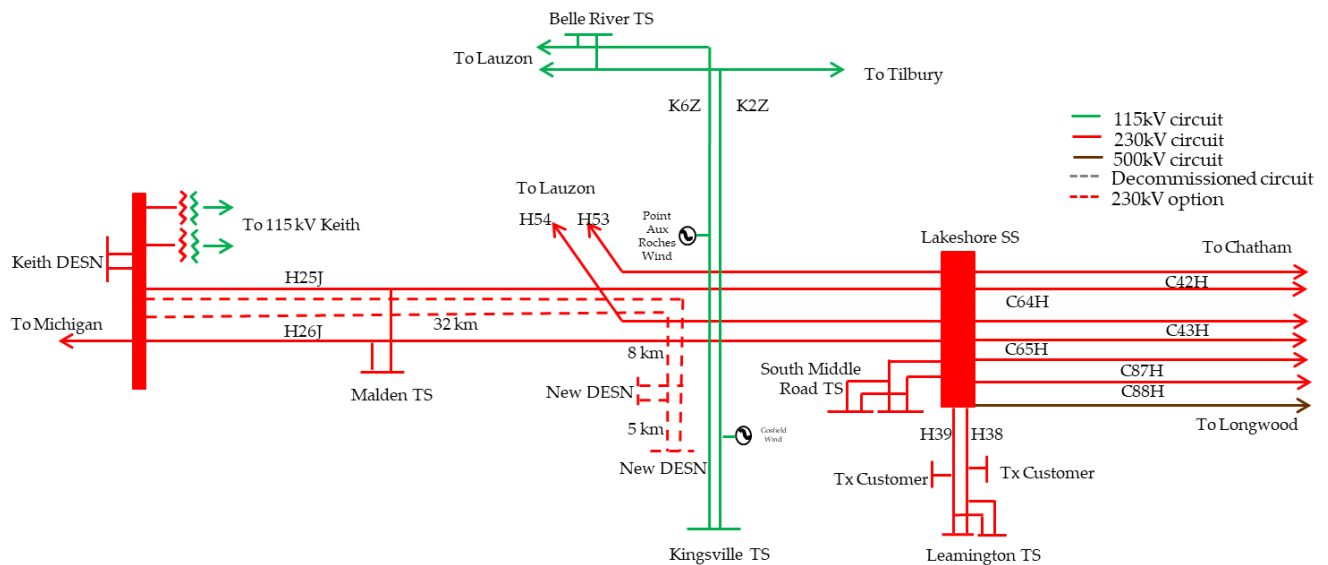
**Figure 10 | Configuration of Option 1 for New 230 kV Transformer Stations and Connection Lines**



**Figure 11 | Configuration of Option 2 for New 230 kV Transformer Stations and Connection Lines**



**Figure 12 | Configuration of Option 3 for New 230 kV Transformer Stations and Connection Lines**



All of these options would provide some incremental capacity to the area, but to varying extents. Option 1, with the shortest new connection lines, is the most inexpensive of the three configurations but enables less capacity than the full LTRs of the DESNs due to voltage limitations. It also provides less flexibility for the wires option proposed in Section 5.3.1. Options 2 and 3 are similar in that the proposed connection lines would extend to a station (rather than tapping the existing 230 kV circuits in the area), but Option 2 would be less expensive due to the shorter circuit length. Option 2 enables approximately 410 MW of station capacity with the two new DESNs, at a total estimated cost of \$140M. It too would require 4-5 years, a Class Environmental Assessment, and Leave to Construct approval. Furthermore, it still preserves flexibility for a long-term reinforcement to Keith TS to increase supply to Windsor (see the interdependencies with the J3E/J4E sub-system supply capability in Section 6.1.2).

### 5.2.3 Recommendation

At the conclusion of the 2019 IRRP, options to address the overload at Kingsville TS and the remaining capacity needs in Kingsville-Leamington were primarily centred on the conversion of Kingsville TS from its 115 kV supply to a 230 kV supply. In particular, consideration was given to the timing of such reconfiguration relative to the in-service dates of the planned new transformer stations, South Middle Road DESN 1 and 2 (previously referred to as Lakeshore DESN 1 and 2 in the 2019 IRRP), as well as the location of the new customers and the optimal distribution network buildout.

The customer connection queue, however, continued to increase during the development of the Addendum. Not only would the reconfiguration of Kingsville TS be insufficient to accommodate the updated forecast, the cost for conversion is estimated to be the same as an entirely new and separate 230 kV DESN nearby. Moreover, the transmission line components along K2Z and K6Z are in good condition – Hydro One had indicated that shieldwire, wood poles, and conductors along these

circuits do not require replacement. The 2 x 50/83 MVA transformers at Kingsville TS were also recently installed (2018-2021) due to the original transformers reaching their end of life. From this perspective, there is no further end-of-life value that reduces the cost of stranding assets with the reconfiguration option.

Consequently, the option to build two new DESN stations supplied from 230 kV double-circuit lines from Lakeshore SS is preferred for its cost-effectiveness and ability to meet the forecast capacity need. Included in this recommendation is the offloading of Kingsville TS to its 95 MW load meeting capability. While exact station siting is subject to the Environmental Assessment and development work undertaken by the transmitter after regional planning, the Technical Working Group has determined that preference is for the new stations to be located close to and northeast of Kingsville TS. Siting either of the stations at the already expanded Leamington TS would not be preferred due to spacing constraints for any further distribution feeder buildout and increased distribution-level costs. The first new DESN is best situated close to Kingsville TS to enable proper offloading, whereas the second DESN, if located farther northeast, could facilitate some distribution-level redundancy between all the stations in Kingsville-Leamington.

The Working Group notes that with this recommendation, an approximately 20 MW capacity need remains of the 430 MW total capacity need outlined in Section 4.1.2. Further load growth is not expected to impact the need for these recommended reinforcements. An incremental 20 MW or more would require another DESN and possibly more circuits. The cost of these additional reinforcements is not justified at this time; rather, it is recommended that the continued economic development and overall load in the region are monitored, alongside any non-wires initiatives, before triggering further transmission investments in the next cycle of Windsor-Essex regional planning.

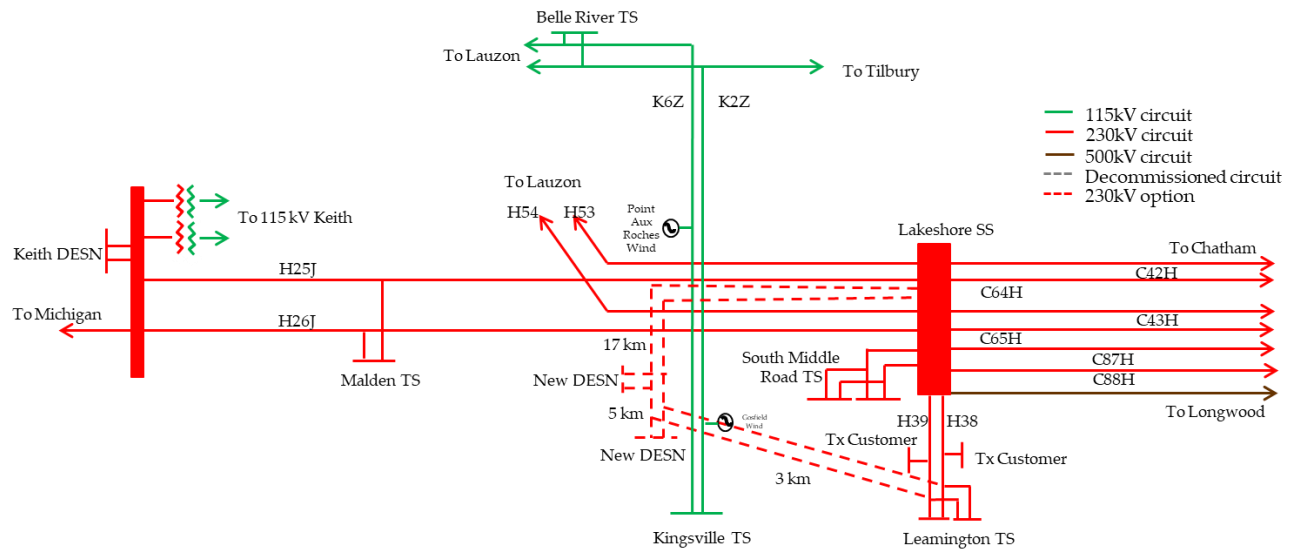
## 5.3 Options for Addressing Load Restoration Needs

### 5.3.1 New 230 kV Circuits Between Kingsville and Leamington

The option of a new, approximately 3 km, 230 kV double-circuit line between Leamington TS and the new DESN stations was considered for the Leamington load restoration needs. Figure 13 below shows this potential configuration.



**Figure 13 | Configuration of Option for New 230 kV Lines**



These 230 kV lines are estimated to cost around \$15M including the expense of the new 230 kV in-line breaker and switch arrangement, and would also require 4-5 years of development time. Approximately 290 MW of restoration capability to Leamington TS would be added – under double contingency events on H38 and H39, supply to Leamington TS would be restored from Lakeshore SS through the new lines connecting the DESNs that were recommended in Section 5.2. This option and cost estimate includes in-line breakers between the new DESN and Leamington TS, and assumes the in-line breakers would be operated normally open due to short circuit limitations in the area. This means that during normal conditions there would be no flow on the 3 km line; rather, the path would only be used for load restoration following a contingency event.

### 5.3.2 Distribution System Transfer Capability

Another option considered for the Leamington load restoration needs is emergency distribution-level load transfers. At the time of this report, Hydro One Distribution estimated the following transfer capability between stations in Kingsville-Leamington:

- 50 MW between Kingsville TS and Leamington TS;
- 30 MW between South Middle Road DESN 1 and Leamington TS; and
- 0 MW between South Middle Road DESN 1 and Kingsville TS.

The amount of transfer capability resulting from South Middle Road DESN 2 and the new DESNs identified in Section 5.2 are not known at this point in the planning and development processes. Additionally, the Working Group identified some challenges with relying on distribution-level transfer capability as a post-contingency load restoration measure. Actual transfer capability is likely lower than the amount identified above since it is limited by the real-time loading of the feeders and transformers. Compounding this issue are two considerations: all stations in this local area are already at their load meeting capability (or have been allocated customers to utilize their full capacity), and the majority of load is driven by greenhouse lighting. While individual customer behaviour will vary, the homogeneity and density of the load in response to lighting strategies and weather could reduce the likelihood for room for transfers between nearby stations.



### 5.3.3 Generation

Generation (both transmission-connected and distribution-connected) was also considered as a potential option to address load restoration needs. There is potential for dispatchable energy resources (including battery storage, gas generation, or storage paired with an intermittent fuel type such as solar) to provide back-up supply to the Leamington tap in the event of outages. However, several challenges were identified with this option.

Stations in Kingsville-Leamington already host a number of distributed energy resources – this is summarized in Table 4, according to Hydro One’s [list of applications](#) for DG connections.

**Table 4 | Existing Distributed Generation by Fuel Type in Kingsville-Leamington**

Station	Biomass (MW)	Combined Heat and Power (MW)	Natural Gas/Diesel (MW)	Solar (MW)	Wind (MW)	Other (MW)	Total (MW)
Kingsville TS	0	13	8	3	26	3	53
Leamington DESN 1	2	36	3	4	0	14	58
Leamington DESN 2	0	3	0	1	0	1	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>116</b>

During the development of the IRRP forecast, the impact of contracted DG was accounted for by using seasonal peak capacity contribution factors in conjunction with the known installed capacity. Since not all DG facilities are contracted, the amount summarized in Table 4 is in excess of what can be relied upon to create a net forecast for the IRRP.

While these resources could provide back-up supply, there are technical and economical issues that must be considered. Under operating scenarios currently allowed on the Hydro One-owned distribution system, customers are permitted to rely on DG for self-supply but are unable to export back to the grid during contingencies. Yet, the ability to operate as an island would be critical for generation to be a viable option for restoring load lost by configuration on the Leamington tap – specifically if wanting to leverage DG through aggregation and/or beyond what is assumed already in the net planning forecast.

Another consideration are the services that would be provided by the generation option and counted upon in its valuation. Resources, whether transmission-connected or distribution-connected, could provide a capacity value by contributing to provincial resource adequacy needs. As described in this section, they could also provide a local value by deferring or replacing a wires alternative that was identified for a regional need. However, there is uncertainty in the overlapping of needs and the feasibility of stacking these services, which impacts the overall cost-effectiveness of the resource option. For instance, a battery storage facility located near Leamington TS could contribute to provincial summer capacity needs and/or help meet bulk winter capacity requirements identified in

the West of London bulk plan, presumably by responding to real-time market signals and discharging during hours of high demand. Since load restoration needs are defined according load levels expected during peak hours, it is uncertain how much back-up supply this same storage facility can provide during a double contingency on the Leamington tap. Note that the contribution from contracted distributed resources was also already accounted for in this need's identification. Moreover, there is currently no market mechanism to signal local load restoration needs to generation resources and compensate for them. Therefore, this hypothetical storage facility cannot necessarily be relied upon for both local restoration needs and provincial capacity needs, depending on their timing.

#### **5.3.4 Recommendation**

A combination of wires and non-wires options are required to meet the full load restoration need: a new 230 kV double-circuit line between Leamington TS and the new DESN station to provide approximately 290 MW of load restoration capability, and a further 60 MW provided through distributed energy resources and/or distribution-level transfer capability.

A new 230 kV double-circuit line between Leamington TS and the new DESN station (plus the necessary in-line breakers and switches) is the only technically feasible option to address the scale of the need and provides the most incremental restoration capability. This option's cost-effectiveness is also significantly improved because it adds restoration capability not only to Leamington TS, but to the new DESN stations in the Kingsville area too once they are in-service. For instance, for double contingencies on the new 230 kV connection lines recommended in Section 5.2.3, approximately 290 MW could be restored to the new stations from Lakeshore SS and through the Leamington tap. This benefit would not be provided by generation options that are sited on the Leamington tap for restoration purposes.

However, due to the total restoration capability required for the four-hour and 30-minute timeframes, this new line alone would not be sufficient in meeting the Leamington restoration need. Rather, an additional 60 MW of restoration capability is required according to planning criteria. Thus there is value in exploring the other measures (such as distributed energy resources) to further mitigate and manage this need through pilot or demonstration projects funded through other initiatives. Some of these ongoing projects and programs are specified in Section 6.2. Similarly, local distributors, in conjunction with Hydro One where appropriate, can investigate opportunities to improve distribution load transfer capability between the stations in Kingsville-Leamington to maximize restoration potential.

As an alternative, there is the opportunity for the transmitter and transmission customer(s) (in this case, the distributors supplied from the Leamington tap) to consider load restoration cases on an individual basis. Per ORTAC 7.4, "the transmitter and its customer(s) may agree to higher or lower levels of reliability for technical, economic, safety, and environmental reasons provided the bulk power system adheres to North American Electric Reliability Corporation and Northeast Power Coordinating Council standards". Hydro One may seek agreement from the impacted customers to determine if the risks are acceptable and not proceeding with infrastructure reinforcements is supported.

## 5.4 Recommended Plan and Implementation

The Working Group recommends the actions described below to meet identified needs in the Addendum.

**Table 5 | Summary of Needs and Recommended Actions**

Need	Item #	Working Group Recommendation	Lead Responsibility	Timeframe for Recommendation
Kingsville TS capacity need	1	Transfer load in excess of the station load meeting capability to the new DESNs once in-service	Hydro One	2026 <sup>13</sup>
Kingsville-Leamington capacity need	2	Initiate engagement and approvals for two new 230 kV DESNs and double-circuit connection lines from Lakeshore SS	Hydro One	2022
	3	Monitor load growth, regional and bulk transmission projects, DERs, and energy efficiency; continue gathering information on developments in the indoor agriculture industry and emerging technologies as required to inform the next planning cycle	IESO	Ongoing
Leamington tap load restoration need	4	Initiate engagement with customers to determine cost-justified measures (new 230 kV line, distributed energy resources, and/or distribution load transfer capability) that can mitigate this need	Hydro One	2022
	5	Include the option for a new 230 kV line between Leamington TS and the new DESNs in the Environmental Assessment for Item #2	Hydro One	2022

<sup>13</sup> Estimated in-service date of the first new DESN. However, offloading Kingsville TS earlier if there is available local capacity would be beneficial.

## 6. Interdependencies

While the Addendum focuses on electricity system needs and investments that are concentrated in Kingsville-Leamington, they should be integrated with other planning-related activities in the region. The sections below discuss some of these interdependencies, including how these recommendations relate to other Windsor-Essex needs, non-wires projects, and community-led plans.

### 6.1 Broader Windsor-Essex Regional Issues

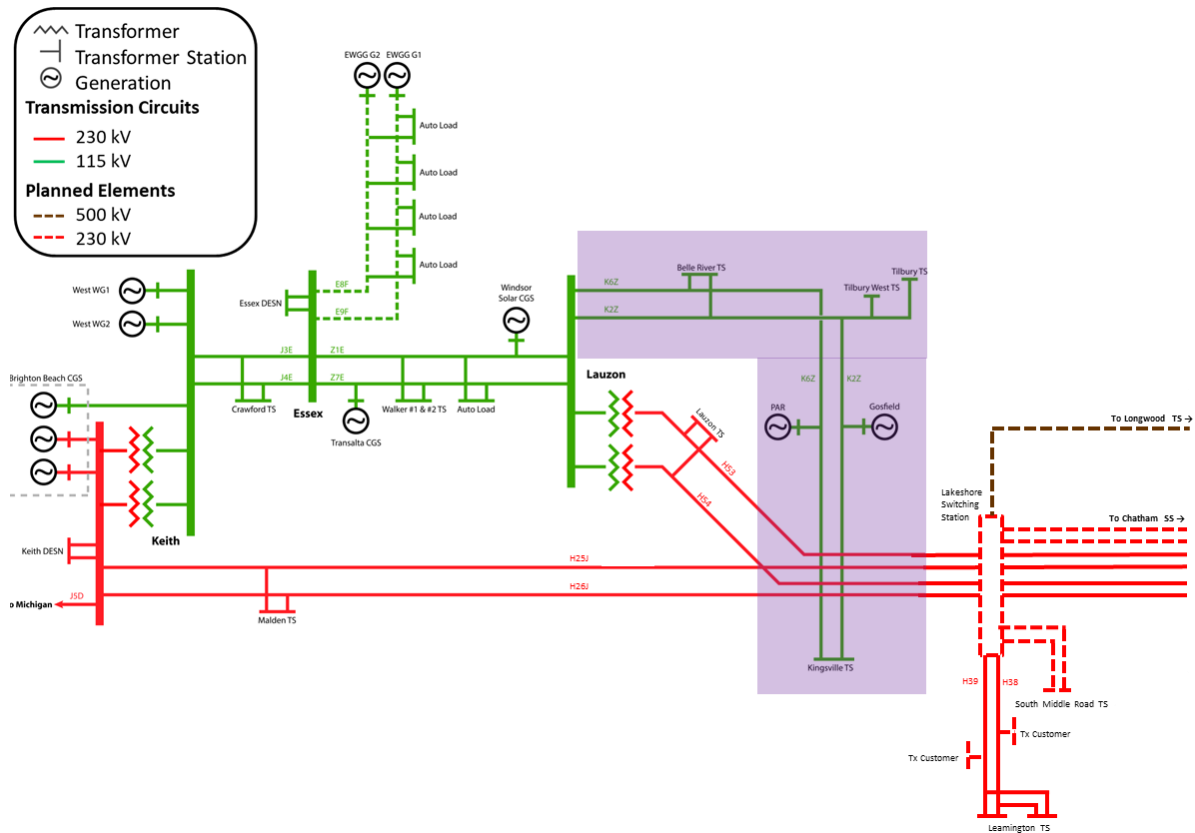
#### 6.1.1 Lauzon TS and the Lauzon 115 kV Sub-System

During the development of the 2019 IRRP, a number of needs were identified for the Lauzon 115 kV sub-system, as well as the nearby 230 kV Lauzon TS:

- Supply capacity need for the 115 kV sub-system (includes total load between Kingsville TS, Belle River TS, and Tilbury West DS);
- Station capacity need at Lauzon DESN 1;
- Supply capacity need at Lauzon TS (includes total load supplied by DESN 1 and 2); and
- End-of-life needs at Lauzon TS: step-down transformers T6 and T8 in 2024, step-down transformers T5 and T7, and 230/115 kV autotransformers T1 and T2 in 2029.

This sub-system includes the transformer stations and generators supplied through the 115 kV circuits K2Z and K6Z, as shown in Figure 14.

**Figure 14 | Windsor-Essex Region Electrical Single Line Diagram: Lauzon 115 kV Sub-System**



Due to the Lauzon DESN 1 capacity need, the Working Group recommended that T5/T6 be upsized to accommodate the station forecast. Subsequently, since the 2019 IRRP, Hydro One has proceeded with replacement plans for the existing 50/66.6/83.3 MVA two-winding T5/T6 with new 75/100/125 MVA three-winding transformers by December 2025.

By transferring load from Kingsville TS to the recommended new 230 kV transformer stations, the Lauzon 115 kV sub-system is also offloaded, helping to alleviate the supply capacity need. No new information obtained during the Addendum has indicated a capacity need at Lauzon DESN 2 or justification for a similar upsizing. For this reason, it is recommended that T7/T8 be replaced like-for-like, and that the T1/T2 autotransformer end-of-life needs are re-evaluated in the next Windsor-Essex Planning cycle.

### 6.1.2 Coordination with the West of London Bulk Plan

Similar to the 2019 IRRP, the Addendum was conducted in parallel with a separate bulk study: the [West of London bulk plan](#). This plan assessed the bulk transmission supply across the West of London area, including the concentration of loads in Lambton-Sarnia, Windsor, Kingsville-Leamington, and Chatham-Kent, large generators in Lambton-Sarnia and Windsor, and four interconnection points with Michigan’s power system. It covers both the 230 kV and 115 kV high voltage network in southwestern Ontario and the 500 kV connection to the rest of the province at Longwood TS, near the city of London.

While the Addendum, consistent with the scope of regional planning, focuses on local capacity and restoration needs, its recommendations must be aligned with the timing of the multiple bulk reinforcements that address bulk transfer limitations and energy needs impacting overall supply to Windsor-Essex. Both regional and bulk recommendations (made prior to the completion of the Addendum) are listed chronologically in Table 6.

**Table 6 | Planned Regional and Bulk Transmission Reinforcements (Prior to the Addendum)**

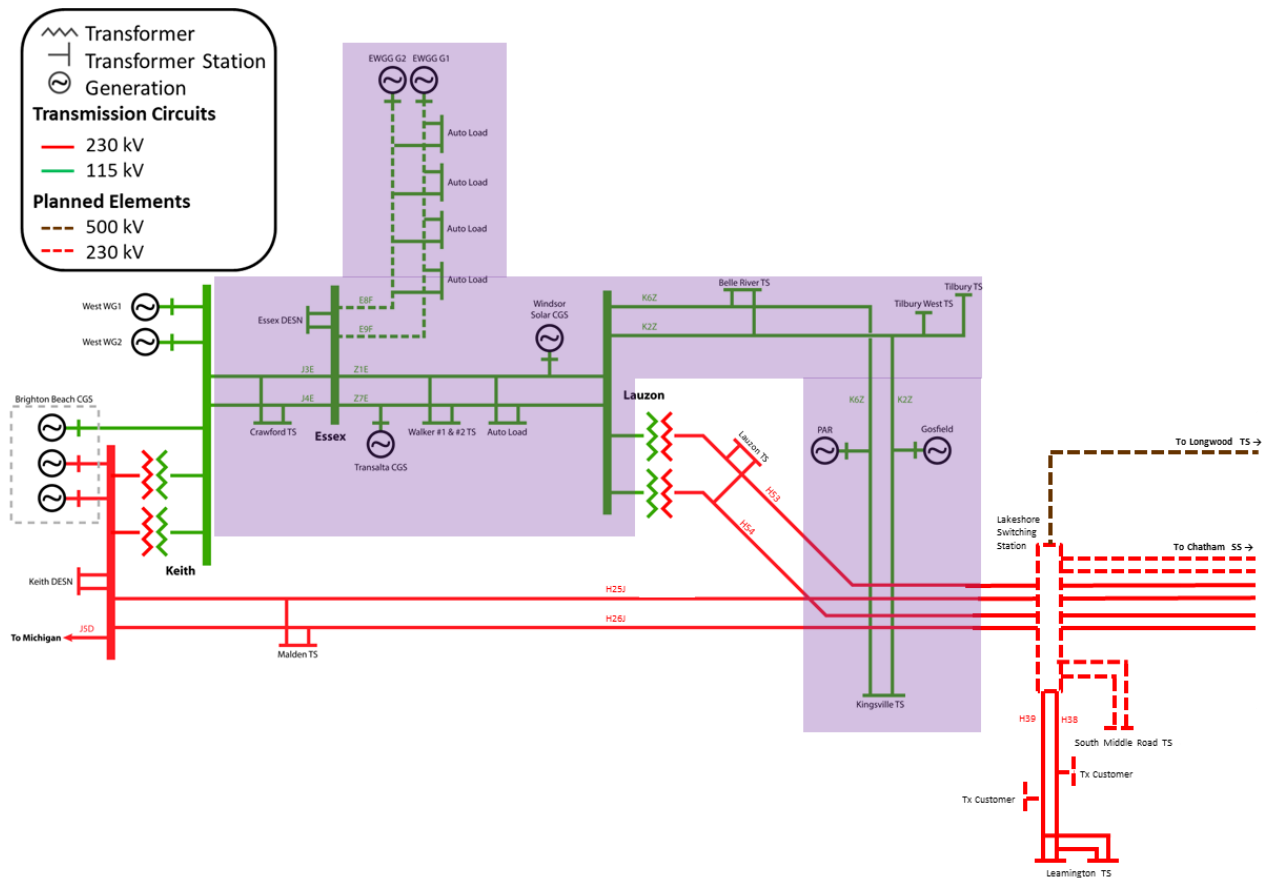
<b>Reinforcement</b>	<b>In-Service Date</b>
Lakeshore Switching Station	2022
South Middle Road DESN 1	2022
South Middle Road DESN 2	2025
Bilateral negotiations for continued operation of Brighton Beach GS	2024-2028
230 kV double-circuit Chatham-to-Lakeshore line	2025
230 kV double-circuit Chatham-to-Lambton line	2028
500 kV single Longwood-to-Lakeshore line	2030
550 MW of local generation	2030

Given the typical lead times for new transmission infrastructure, the Addendum’s recommendations for two additional DESNs and 230 kV lines in Kingsville-Leamington are expected to take at least four to five years. The first new DESN is estimated to be in service in 2026, with the following DESN in service in the late 2020s.

**J3E/J4E Sub-System**

The location of the local resources proposed in the West of London bulk plan has further implications on long-term Windsor-Essex needs. In the 2019 IRRP, the J3E/J4E sub-system was defined and assessed. Shown in Figure 15, this includes all loads supplied on the 115 kV network from the J3E/J4E circuits and the Lauzon 230/115 kV autotransformers.

**Figure 15 | Windsor-Essex Region Electrical Single Line Diagram: J3E/J4E Sub-System**



1. Loss of J3E, for which the companion circuit with a lower long-term emergency rating, J4E, may be overloaded;
2. Loss of both H53 and H54, for which the entire sub-system must be supplied through the J3E/J4E circuits; or
3. Loss of both H25J and H26J, for which J3E and J4E become the only path of supply eastwards from Keith, and H53 and H54 become the only path of supply westwards from Lakeshore SS.

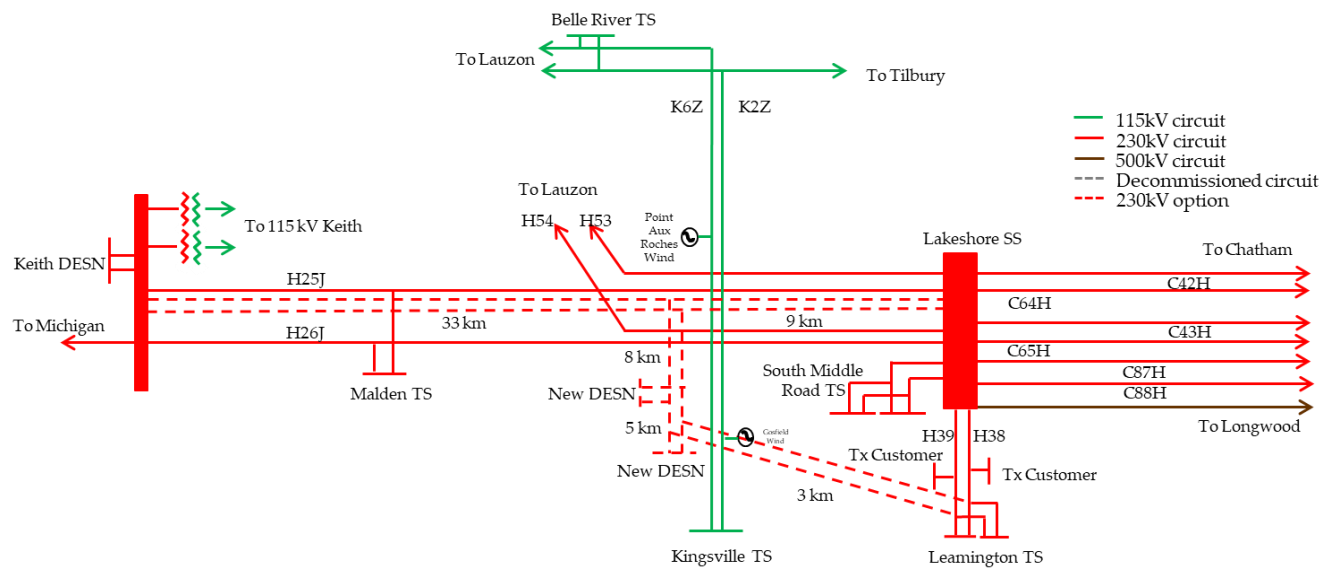
At the time of the 2019 IRRP, no need was identified for the J3E/J4E sub-system due to the forecast load being lower than the load meeting capability, which was most limited under the first two contingencies listed above. However, with growing load that is concentrated in Kingsville-Leamington and supplied from Lakeshore SS, and given the West of London bulk study recommendations, increasing the flow capability eastwards from Keith may be necessary in the long-term.

The West of London bulk plan identified that starting in 2030, 550 MW of local resources will be required in the Windsor-Essex region and/or the community of Dresden within Chatham-Kent. This recommendation can be met by reacquiring resources that already exist (such as current generation

facilities sited in Windsor) or by acquiring new resources.<sup>14</sup> Siting the 550 MW resource requirement entirely in Windsor – specifically at Keith TS – could exacerbate thermal overloads on the JxE circuits. This phenomenon also depends on the level of imports (up to 400 MW) into Windsor-Essex on the J5D intertie. Simultaneously, having some of these resources (approximately 100-150 MW) sited in the Windsor area is also necessary to maintain supply west of Lakeshore SS for the same double contingency on H25J and H26J.

These reliability issues are currently managed by control actions specified in the Windsor Area Remedial Action Scheme – for instance, events that result in the loss of one or two of select 115 kV or 230 kV circuits from Keith TS lead to the rejection of Windsor area generation, Keith autotransformers T11/T12, load, and/or capacitors. As loads near or at Lakeshore SS increase, however, dependence on these operational measures may no longer be feasible and instead may need to be alleviated by transmission reinforcements, such as the upgrading of the J3E and J4E circuits or the addition of circuits between Lakeshore and Keith.<sup>15</sup> The latter option is shown in Figure 16 as an extension of the Addendum’s recommendations for new stations and 230 kV lines in Kingsville-Leamington. This additional reinforcement to Keith TS is estimated to cost approximately \$155M-\$170M and includes about another 33 km of new 230 kV double-circuit lines, station development at Keith TS, and underground Keith TS line egress to Ojibway Junction.

**Figure 16 | Potential Long-Term 230 kV Reinforcement Between Keith and Lakeshore**



<sup>14</sup> Long-term competitive resource acquisition mechanisms will be outlined through the [Resource Adequacy Framework](#), with signals for acquisition targets in the [Annual Acquisition Report](#).

<sup>15</sup> The typing and design criteria of Remedial Action Schemes are defined in the Northeast Power Coordinating Council’s Directory #7. As load grows in this area, the impact of these Remedial Action Schemes failing to operate as intended will change, which impacts the situations in which the scheme can continue to be relied upon on an enduring basis according to ORTAC 3.4.1.



Since the need for further reinforcements to maintain supply to the J3E/J4E sub-system depends on the location of generation resources and load levels in the long-term, a recommendation is not being made at this time and options to address the issue are not limited to what is shown in Figure 16. These needs will be re-assessed in future Windsor-Essex planning cycles once there is sufficient certainty in the generation outlook for the region.

## 6.2 Novel Projects

Pilot projects – either those that are already underway or could participate in future programs or funding sources outside of regional planning – continue to help inform and build capacity within the community for future demand-side solutions as greenhouse loads connect.

For instance, the 2019 IRRP, through the IESO's Grid Innovation Fund, recommended a targeted call for projects to reduce electricity demand in the indoor agriculture sector. This call was intended to help explore new technologies, practices, and services that could accelerate the adoption of cost-effective demand-side solutions by greenhouse growers. At the time of this report, the IESO's Grid Innovation Fund has provided over \$2.2M in financial support to four greenhouse pilot projects in the Windsor-Essex region to reduce peak demand while alleviating load growth:

- Allegro Acres Inc.: To evaluate the performance of low-intensity LED lighting and controls used over a 24-hour period against the current practice of using high-intensity high pressure sodium lighting over a 16 to 17-hour period. This lighting strategy has the potential to reduce electricity use by 15 to 33 percent, based on a previous study.
- Great Lakes Greenhouses Inc.: To develop an artificial intelligence-powered program that uses data and a learning algorithm to increase energy efficiency without reducing crop yield in large-scale commercial greenhouses.
- ICF Consulting Canada, Inc.: To demonstrate the potential and viability of a full-scale horticultural lighting demand response program to reduce electricity demand from indoor agriculture during local and bulk system peak periods.
- Hydro One Networks Inc.: To offer a flexible interconnection solution called the Automatic Load Rejection Scheme in congested areas of the system through a Distributed Energy Resource Management System platform.

Another [active project](#), led by the University of Windsor with support from the Grid Innovation Fund, is aimed at enabling rapid economic expansion of Ontario's greenhouse sector through the delivery of innovative distributed energy resource project options.

Opportunities for novel projects whose learnings can be leveraged in future regional planning in Windsor-Essex continue to arise. In 2021, the Grid Innovation Fund and the OEB's Innovation Sandbox launched a [Joint Targeted call](#) for research and demonstration projects that can provide value to consumers. Objectives of this call include testing the effectiveness of distributed energy resources and their ability to defer or eliminate the need for traditional electricity infrastructure, and supporting innovative activities or business models that are currently impeded by regulatory requirements.

## 6.3 Energy Efficiency

As indoor grow lights continue to be the largest driver for the greenhouse electricity demand, new information regarding industry best practices (i.e., adoption of LEDs instead of high-pressure sodium lights) will need to be monitored to inform future regional planning. In the meantime, energy efficiency is a low cost resource that can help manage and mitigate needs until the recommended reinforcements are in-service.

The IESO has directed increased efforts and investment to the Windsor-Essex region over the past several years, to encourage the adoption of energy efficiency processes and technologies in businesses and communities. In 2020, the Save on Energy Regional LED Incentive for Greenhouses received 17 applications and committed 200 GWh of energy savings and 5 MW of demand savings. In 2021, applications for LED grow lights continue to be high, even with a lower incentive than the original 3x adder that was available in 2020 to spur up-take.

The [Local Initiatives Program](#) was also developed to cost-effectively meet system needs, drive cost competitiveness, and promote consumer-driven solutions in targeted areas of the province where local needs were identified through the regional planning process. Included in the areas selected for the first cycle of local initiatives is the service territory supplied by Belle River TS.

Moving forward, the IESO will continue to explore strategies for expanding energy efficiency program opportunities for the long-term and targeting them to regions with local needs.

## 6.4 Community Energy Plans

In 2019, the County of Essex, City of Windsor, and other local municipalities declared a climate emergency and called for cooperation in reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the region. The [County of Essex](#) and [City of Windsor](#) each established energy plans that support local economic development while taking climate change action and improving energy performance. The City of Windsor's community energy plan targets a 40% greenhouse gas reduction by 2041 from 2014 levels. The City of Windsor also recently requested that the government of Ontario place an interim cap of 2.5 megatons per year on the greenhouse gas pollution from Ontario's gas-fired power plants, and develop and implement a plan to phase-out all gas-fired electricity generation by 2030 to help Ontario and the City of Windsor meet their climate targets.

In the Essex County Regional Energy Plan, specific targets were identified under seven strategic directions:

- Efficient homes and buildings;
- Efficient greenhouses;
- Efficient industry;
- Efficient transportation;
- Efficient local supply and distribution;
- Efficient community planning; and
- Data-driven insights and reporting.

These strategic directions will be advanced through a variety of initiatives, including 16 priority projects between 2021-2025. These projects range from developing municipal policies and incentives (such as aligning the Regional Energy Plan with the County Economic Transportation Master Plan, or the County Economic and Employment Land Strategy), to forming governance groups to oversee implementation. Some of these governance groups include a County of Essex Retrofit Entity that would be established to offer standardized energy retrofits to homes and commercial and institutional buildings, as well as a Greenhouse Growers Energy Services Co-operative to consolidate expertise as it relates to energy efficiency and supply needs in the greenhouse sector. Other near-term endeavours involve scale projects, such as a neighbourhood-scale Integrated Energy Master Plan for both a manufacturing cluster and a net-zero community, and more broadly, raising energy and climate literacy.

At the minimum, these local plans indicate community priorities and preferences that help inform IRRP recommendations. As the community energy targets and plans are implemented, their implications will need to be captured in future IRRPs in Windsor-Essex. Forecasts should reflect changing load behaviour and customer segmentation, and consider increased electricity demand that results from the electrification of different sectors, or decreased demand due to energy efficiency measures and retrofits. Any new energy projects or resources should be accounted for as well, either modelled in the load forecast or as part of the needs or options identification. Table 7 summarizes the regional and community energy plans’ estimated resource requirement to support their recommendations and targets.

**Table 7 | Preliminary Estimate of Implementation Impacts by 2041**

Element	Windsor Community Energy Plan, Nominal Capacity	Essex Regional Energy Plan, Nominal Capacity
Solar photovoltaics	+90 MW	+225 MW
District energy combined heat and power	+50 MW	+40 MW
Greenhouse combined heat and power	---	+260 MW
Energy efficiency retrofits (homes and buildings), net impact <sup>16</sup>	---	-60 MW
Transportation	To be determined based on charging profile	To be determined based on charging profile

The forecast developed for the 2019 IRRP and this Addendum utilizes the latest and confirmed information at the time of the report, but there is the opportunity for them to be updated and for other scenarios to be developed in future planning cycles. Moreover, the recommendations outlined in the Addendum will complement energy use in the area as it evolves over the long-term.

<sup>16</sup> Estimated retrofit efficiency peak capacity avoidance after accounting for increased demand from new construction under future efficiency standards.

Transmission infrastructure such as new transformer stations and lines add electricity capacity to support local electricity demand, irrespective of the specific end use in the community. Once in service, these investments also can provide more connection capability for future generation projects that are specified in the Windsor Community Energy Plan and Essex County Regional Energy Plan.

## 7. Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Engagement is critical in the development of an IRRP. Providing opportunities for input in the regional planning process enables the views and preferences of communities to be considered in the development of the plan, and helps lay the foundation for successful implementation. This section outlines the engagement principles as well as the activities undertaken for the Addendum.

### 7.1 Engagement Principles

The IESO's [engagement principles](#) help ensure that all interested parties are aware of and can contribute to the development of this Addendum. The IESO adheres to these principles to ensure inclusiveness, sincerity, respect and fairness in its engagements, striving to build trusting relationships as a result.

**Figure 17 | The IESO's Engagement Principles**



### 7.2 Engagement Approach

To ensure that the Addendum reflects the needs of Indigenous communities, community members, and interested stakeholders, engagement involved:

- Leveraging the [Windsor-Essex Regional Planning engagement webpage](#) and [Southwest Bulk Planning Initiatives webpage](#) on the IESO website to post updated information, engagement opportunities, meeting materials, input received, and IESO responses to the feedback;
- Regular communication with communities, stakeholders, and interested parties through email, [Southwest Regional Electricity Network](#) updates, and IESO weekly Bulletin;
- Public webinars; and

- Targeted outreach throughout plan development with municipalities, customers, Indigenous communities and rights-holders, and those with an identified interest in Windsor-Essex electricity issues. These discussions were instrumental in garnering feedback about increased expected economic development being driven by high greenhouse growth in Kingsville-Leamington, as well as increased growth in residential, commercial, and industrial developments.

Two public webinars were held at major junctures during Addendum development (in tandem with the West of London bulk study) to give interested parties an opportunity to hear about its progress and provide comments on key components including:

- Updated electricity demand forecast;
- IRRP-identified needs that were scoped into the Addendum;
- Options evaluation; and
- Recommendations.

Both webinars received strong participation with cross-representation of stakeholders and municipal and Indigenous community representatives in attendance, and submissions of written feedback during a 21-day comment period.

Comments received during this engagement focused on the following major themes:

- Alignment and coordination is needed with other community planning, local developments, and growth plans. Future infrastructure and/or electricity supply should consider the priorities of energy and climate action plans and, in particular, alternative energy systems, renewable generation and electrification;
- Consideration should be given to non-wires alternatives as part of the recommended solutions;
- Concern around potential delays in needed electricity infrastructure to enable investments and economic development;
- Consideration should be given to the land impact and minimizing the footprint of options;
- Integrated options that provide both local and broader provincial system benefit should be considered;
- Incorporate shifting economies, in particular for different resource technologies, into planning assumptions and cost benefit analysis; and
- Access to additional data used to inform the plan including to provide details on historic demand and future demand assumptions, existing and future system capabilities, and solution assessment methodology and assumptions used to establish the need and evaluate potential solutions.

Based on the discussions both on the Addendum and the parallel WOL bulk plan, it is clear that there is broad interest in several Southwestern Ontario communities to further discuss the potential for solutions that fully utilize existing transmission infrastructure and minimize the footprint of solutions.

Feedback received helped to guide further discussion throughout the development of this Addendum, as well as add due consideration to the final recommendations.

In response to feedback received requesting open access to data, information was provided following the second public webinar on the detail and format of data to be made available. Interested parties were able to comment on the proposed data sharing to ensure information provided is in an accessible format. Feedback informed the data that has been made available within the body of this report, the appendices, and supplemental Excel file. This information will allow communities, stakeholders, and interested parties to make more informed choices and plan strategically.

All background information, including engagement meeting presentations, recorded webinars, detailed feedback submissions, and responses to comments received, are available on the IESO's Windsor-Essex IRRP engagement [webpage](#).

### 7.3 Bringing Municipalities to the Table

The IESO held several meetings with local municipalities in the Windsor-Essex region at major milestones throughout the development of this Addendum. These targeted discussions focused on the study area to identify any key issues, including with the forecast electricity needs and proposed options for meeting those future needs. Key feedback received during these targeted discussions were related to the continued amplification of growth in Kingsville-Leamington and their preferred option to provide the greatest amount of capacity to support growth over the long-term. Other feedback included, the urgency for capacity in the interim while new infrastructure is being developed and constructed, and the importance of the coordination between municipal infrastructure planning with the implementation of these recommendations in future years. In addition, continued engagement with municipalities in between planning cycles should be conducted to stay apprised of rapidly evolving priorities and developments within these communities.

### 7.4 Engaging with Indigenous Communities

To raise awareness about the regional planning activities underway and invite participation in the engagement process, outreach was made to Indigenous communities and rights-holders within the Windsor-Essex electricity planning area throughout the development of the Addendum, in tandem with the West of London bulk study. Those invited to participate include the communities of Saugeen First Nation, Nawash First Nation, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Mississaugas of the New Credit, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council, Haudenosaunee Development Institute, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Bkejwanong (Walpole Island First Nation), Caldwell First Nation, and Métis Nation of Ontario.

Indigenous communities and rights-holders were invited to attend a general meeting along with stakeholders in July 2021, and an Indigenous-specific meeting was held the next day in order to provide another opportunity to ask questions and obtain their input.

Without limiting general and ongoing issues that community representatives/rights-holders raise, the IESO did not receive specific feedback on Windsor-Essex. However, from other engagements dating back to 2017 with community representatives, the IESO is aware of growing interest from Indigenous communities and rights holders around new electricity infrastructure, including economic participation, relationships with government and industry that help facilitate participation and protection of Aboriginal and treaty rights and the environment.

The IESO remains committed to an ongoing, effective dialogue with communities and rights-holders to help shape long-term planning in regions all across Ontario.

#### **7.4.1 Indigenous Participation and Engagement in Transmission Development**

The IESO determines the most reliable and cost-effective option after it has engaged with stakeholders, Indigenous communities/rights-holders, and publishes those recommendations in the applicable regional or bulk planning report. Where the IESO determines that the lead time required to implement those solutions require immediate action, the IESO may provide those recommendations ahead of the publication of a planning report, such as through a handoff letter to the lead local transmitter in the region, for example.

As part of the overall transmission development process, a proponent applies for applicable regulatory approvals, including an Environmental Assessment that is overseen by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (“MECP”). This process includes, where applicable, consultation regarding Aboriginal and treaty rights, with any approval including steps to avoid or mitigate impacts to said rights. MECP may delegate the procedural aspects of consultation to the proponent while overseeing those delegated aspects and the consultation process generally. Following development work, the proponent will then need to apply to the OEB for approval through a Leave to Construct hearing, and only if approval is granted, can it proceed with the project.

In consultation with MECP, project proponents are encouraged to engage with Indigenous communities and rights-holders on ways to enable participation in these projects.



## 8. Conclusion

The Windsor-Essex IRRP Addendum re-evaluates capacity and load restoration needs in Kingsville-Leamington that were first identified in the 2019 IRRP, and recommends a plan to address them.

In the near term, the Addendum recommends the implementation of two additional 230 kV transformer stations in Kingsville-Leamington, supplied through new double-circuit lines from Lakeshore SS, as well as the offloading of Kingsville TS. Responsibility for these actions will be undertaken by the appropriate members of the Working Group.

In the long term, the Addendum recommends further analysis between Hydro One and its customers in Kingsville-Leamington to determine when additional 230 kV lines between Leamington TS and the new transformer stations will be implemented for load restoration purposes. There is also value in exploring further non-wires alternatives projects or programs that help mitigate the local restoration needs.

The Technical Working Group will reconvene when a new regional planning cycle for Windsor-Essex is initiated in Q3 2022, per the minimum five-year schedule mandated by the OEB. The IESO will continue to participate in this Working Group. This includes providing input and ensuring a coordinated approach with future bulk system plans or local pilot projects, if such linkages are identified during the regional planning activities. In the next cycle, the Working Group will consider updated forecast information for the entire region, continue to monitor community energy planning activities, and account for the multiple regional and bulk transmission reinforcements planned for the next decade.

# Appendix A – Updated Forecasts and Load Data

Refer to the Excel file provided for the following datasets:

- Historical load:
  - Table 8: Leamington TS, DESN 1 and 2, Hourly Historical Load (2021)
  - Table 9: Kingsville TS, Hourly Historical Load (2020, 2021)
- Peak forecasts:
  - Table 10: Winter Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load
  - Table 11: Summer Planning Peak Demand Forecast for Windsor-Essex Region Stations with No Greenhouse Load
  - Table 12: Gross Winter Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load
  - Table 13: Gross Summer Peak Demand Forecast for West of London Stations with Greenhouse Load
- Hourly forecasts:
  - Table 14: Forecast Total Windsor-Essex Hourly Load Profiles (2022, 2035)
  - Table 15: Forecast Total Kingsville-Leamington Hourly Load Profiles (2022, 2035)
  - Table 16: Forecast Total Leamington Tap Hourly Load Profiles, Restoration Need, and Need with Transmission Reinforcement Option (2022, 2035)
- Table 17: Peak Segmentation Assumptions for Windsor-Essex Stations with Greenhouse Load

## Appendix B – Updated Study Results

Study assumptions (including facility ratings and generation output) used for the Addendum are consistent with those documented in the 2019 IRRP Planning Study Report. Only updated power system assessment results that are relevant to the Addendum needs and recommendations are documented below.

### Kingsville-Leamington Capacity Needs

Following the completion of Lakeshore SS, the new tap will be supplied from the 230 kV bus at Lakeshore. Each 2 x 75/125 MVA Bermondsey type DESN is assumed to have LTRs of 205 MW and 190 MW for the winter and summer, respectively.<sup>17</sup> Consistent with the Leamington TS expansion and South Middle Road TS, four additional 21.6 MVar capacitor banks were also assumed at the new low-voltage buses as part of this reinforcement. No station-to-station or intra-station (bus-to-bus) load transfers were assumed in this assessment, and a load power factor corrected to 0.95 lagging was used.

**Table 18 | New Kingsville Tap Load Meeting Capability Results**

Connection Point	Limiting Contingency	Violation	Load Meeting Capability (MW)
Two new supply stations from Lakeshore SS	N-1, single contingency on the tap circuit	Exceed LTR ratings (205 MW, winter) at each DESN	410 (winter)

### Leamington Tap Load Restoration Needs

A new double-circuit 230 kV line between Leamington TS and the new DESNs was proposed, with in-line breakers and operated normally open due to short circuit limitations. The Leamington tap load restoration was evaluated as outlined below. For the loss of both H38 and H39, 290 MW can be restored through the new 230 kV line within the 30-minute and four-hour requirement. 60 MW remains unrestored for the four-hour restoration target. The remainder of the load (150 MW) is assumed to be restored within eight hours, according to the transmitter's circuit restoration time estimates.

<sup>17</sup> The LTR of each DESN is defined by the most restrictive step-down transformer 10-day LTR rating. Since the LTR cannot be known until the units have been built and treated, an assumption is made on the capabilities of recently commissioned similar units.

**Table 19 | Leamington Tap Load Restoration Requirements – Post New 230 kV Double-Circuit Line**

Affected Stations	Contingency	Load Lost by Configuration and Rejection or Curtailment	30-min Restoration Requirement	4-hour Restoration Requirement	8-hour Restoration Requirement
Leamington DESN 1&2, two transmission-connected load customers	N-2, H38 and H39	500 MW	0 MW	60 MW	0 MW

**Table 20 | Leamington Load Restoration Capability Results – Post New 230 kV Double-Circuit Line**

Affected Stations	Limiting Contingency	Violation	Post-Contingency Load Meeting Capability
Leamington DESN 1&2, two transmission-connected load customers	N-2, H38 and H39	Voltage change >10% post-contingency pre-under-load tap changer (“pre-ULTC”) voltage change on 27.6 kV Leamington TS buses	690 MW (200 MW per new DESN & 290 MW Leamington TS)