

DECISION AND ORDER

EB-2025-0072

INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY SYSTEM OPERATOR

Application for exemption from section 21.2.2 (b) of IESO License to complete the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan

BY DELEGATION,

BEFORE: Brian Hewson

Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance

March 31, 2025

APPLICATION

On January 20, 2025, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) filed an application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), in accordance with section 70(1.1) of the *Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998* (OEB Act), for an exemption to section 21.2.2 (b) of the IESO's licence El-2013-0066, to provide it with additional time to complete the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan (IRRP).

This Decision and Order is being issued by the Delegated Authority without a hearing pursuant to section 6 of the OEB Act.

Section 21.2.2 (b) of the IESO licence requires the IESO to complete an IRRP within 18 months of determining that an IRRP is necessary for a region¹. Where an IRRP has not been completed within 18 months, the IESO is required to notify the OEB of additional time required, up to a maximum of six additional months. On April 5, 2024, the IESO notified the OEB that it required an additional six months to complete the Toronto IRRP. The OEB acknowledged the IESO's new publication date of March 20, 2025.

In its application the IESO stated that it has now determined that it will not be able to complete the Toronto IRRP within the allowed time and has requested an exemption to section 21.2.2 (b) to extend the date for publication to October 31, 2025. IESO has explained in its application that it requires additional time as it is concurrently conducting the South and Central Bulk Planning Study, the Port Lands Study, and the Toronto Local Achievable Potential Study. Allowing additional time to complete the Toronto IRRP will enable the IESO to align the Toronto IRRP with these studies resulting in greater planning coordination and better evaluation of solution options for the Toronto region. The IESO is also engaged with stakeholders in evaluating options that would enable the retirement of the Portlands Energy Centre. IESO has also noted that it has been asked by the City of Toronto to take into consideration a study of electricity needs being undertaken by City of Toronto staff. These engagements require additional time to ensure community awareness and support for large-scale wires and/or non-wires solutions.

¹ IESO License EI-2013-0066

DECISION

The OEB has considered the IESO's application and grants exemption to the IESO, from section 21.2.2 (b) of its licence for additional time to complete the Toronto IRRP. The OEB agrees with the IESO that the existing date is not achievable, and an extension allows for the development of a comprehensive and cohesive plan that captures the relevant and timely planning information. The OEB therefore approves a revised publication date for the Toronto IRRP of October 31, 2025.

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Independent Electricity System Operator is granted an exemption from section 21.2.2 (b) of its licence to complete the Toronto Integrated Regional Resource Plan by October 31, 2025.

DATED at Toronto, March 31, 2025

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

Brian Hewson

Vice President, Consumer Protection & Industry Performance