

Ministry of Energy

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Mr. Ron Tolmie
Editor
Sustainability-Journal
217 Petrie Lane
Kanata ON K2K 1Z5

Dear Mr. Tolmie:

I would like to personally thank you for participating in the formal review of Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP). We received over 1,000 formal submissions, met with hundreds of stakeholders and interested members of the public through our consultations, and engaged with Aboriginal communities and leaders in every region of the province.

We will review all submissions as we finalize the LTEP. Your input will be considered as we make decisions on Ontario's energy future.

Our plan will include an updated supply mix to reflect system changes in the three years since our last LTEP. Our system must remain highly reliable, make every effort to keep costs down, and ensure low emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants.

Ontario has been upgrading its transmission system to meet future growth and enable progress toward our supply mix goals. The review of the LTEP presents the opportunity to reassess those transmission priorities, while we review our energy goals and the means to achieve them. Your input, as well as that of others, will help us evaluate whether additional transmission is required.

The province has become a global leader in smart grid, with major investments and initiatives by the government, private sector and academia over the past several years. These investments have opened opportunities in economic development and increased connectivity across networks. Discussions through the LTEP review process have been positive and forward thinking, confirming the value in pursuing innovative solutions for our electricity infrastructure.

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Many jurisdictions around the world are exploring energy storage technologies and adapting their regulatory systems to accommodate them. There may be opportunities for Ontario to take advantage of integrating energy storage to increase system flexibility and ease the integration of distributed resources.

Aboriginal participation in the energy sector has been a key element of Ontario's energy plan. A number of provincial initiatives and programs have supported First Nation and Métis communities in developing projects and partnerships that provide opportunities for economic development and empower them to take control of their energy needs and interests. As we move forward, we will carefully consider the input we've received from First Nation and Métis communities so that we can continue to support and encourage Aboriginal participation in all aspects of the energy sector.

We will be updating our planning and consultation practices as well. Improving our regional planning process will help ensure that we plan for growth and long-term reliability that meets the diverse needs of our different regions.

As we carefully consider the questions facing the energy sector and make decisions in the areas mentioned above we will be guided by the principle of maintaining a clean, affordable and reliable electricity system for Ontario homes and businesses.

Thank you again for participating in this important initiative.

Sincerely,



Bob Chiarelli
Minister