

2026 10-Year System Outlook Report
(Nova Scotia Energy Board M12916)

Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator (IESO Nova Scotia)
Responses to The Industrial Group (IG) Information Requests

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Request IR – 1

Reference: Section 3.2.5 Battery Energy Storage Systems pdf page 15.

- a) Please confirm whether the recent announcements by IESO-NS confirming the expansion and acceleration of the battery storage procurement affects the 10-Year Outlook Resource Plan. (Announcement accessible at: <https://www.ieso-nb.ca/ieso-nova-scotia-accelerating-and-expanding-battery-procurement-enhancing-evaluation-of-options-to-meet-urgent-reliability-needs-at-the-best-possible-cost/>)
- b) If not, please describe the scope, timing, and expected in-service dates of any such expanded or accelerated procurement, and explain how it would affect the firm capacity additions, Planning Reserve Margin, and synchronous condenser requirements presented in the report.
- c) Please explain whether any such expansion or acceleration would affect the 300 to 400 MW battery storage capacity target under the Government of Nova Scotia's Clean Power Plan referenced in the report, or the timing for achieving that target.

Response IR - 1

- a,b) The expansion and acceleration of IESO Nova Scotia's second procurement process is aligned with the resource plan identified in the 2026 10 Year System Outlook.
- c) The commissioning of 150 MW of BESS capacity in 2025 and 2026 has partially met the target of 300-400MW of energy storage identified in the Clean Power Plan. The procurement process referenced is aligned to the remainder of that resource requirement, identified in Table 3 of the 2026 10 Year System Outlook as “IESO-NS BESS” with an installed capacity of 250MW and an in-service date prior to Winter 2029/2030. The 2026 IRP and the procurement process results will refine the optimal capacity, timing, and technology of resources needed.

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Request IR – 2

Reference: Section 5.2.2 Large Load Interconnection Requests; Table 8: Large-Load SIS.

- a) Please provide a status update on each of the projects listed in Table 8 and the System Impact Studies being completed, and whether IESO-NS has any updated new large load interconnection requests since the completion of this report in June 2026.
- b) For each project listed in Table 8, please confirm whether the load is proposed to be served as firm load, interruptible load, or a combination of both, along with confirmation on anticipated tariff class for service of these loads and the timeline for service.
- c) Has IESO-NS analyzed changes in system demand for the affected classes and/or planning reserve margin horizon arising from these new large load connections? If so, please provide the analysis. If not, please explain why and confirm whether and when it will be completed.
- d) Please describe the anticipated impact, if any, on system reliability or the frequency/duration of interruptions to other customers if some or all of these large loads (including the 325 MW IRL01 project) are ultimately served as firm load.
- e) Please confirm whether the loads identified in Table 8 are incorporated into the load forecast underlying Table 1 (Forecast System Peak and Net System Requirement) and Table 4 (IESO-NS 10-Year Load and Resource Outlook). If any are not included, please explain why not and describe the process and timing for incorporating such loads once they reach a further stage of development.
- f) If the loads identified in Table 8 (or any subset of them) were to be added to the load forecast, please quantify the resulting impact on forecast system peak, net system requirement, and the Planning Reserve Margin in each year of the outlook, and describe what, if any, additional firm capacity or transmission investment would be required as a result.

Response IR - 2

- a) System Impact Studies (SIS) are complete for IRL02 and IRL03. All others are ongoing. No additional transmission load interconnection requests have been validated since the publication of the 2026 10 Year System Outlook report.

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b) Table 8 lists load projects which have requested a transmission interconnection study from IESO Nova Scotia. Tariff class is determined by the Load Serving Entity and this directly informs whether portions of the load can be treated as interruptible. Please refer to PHP IR-2 for additional details.

c) Analyzing how changes in system demand would impact individual tariff classes is outside the scope of IESO Nova Scotia's mandate and is the responsibility of the Load Serving Entity providing service to the customer. As the load for the project associated with IRL04 is included in the load forecast published by NSPI, its impact on peak is included in the Load and Resource outlook in the 2026 10-Year System Outlook, which assesses if sufficient resources are available to maintain the target Planning Reserve Margin (PRM). IESO Nova Scotia has not studied potential impacts on the load and resource outlook from other projects. Any such analysis is dependent on whether the load is firm or interruptible. IESO Nova Scotia does not expect the 20% planning reserve margin target to change with the addition of one or a combination of these loads. In the 2026 Integrated Resource Plan, the high load scenario will provide an opportunity to analyze the impact of adding representative large loads to the Nova Scotia system.

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51 d) All new connections to the Nova Scotia Transmission System must meet applicable
52 reliability standards to connect. This includes maintaining system reliability under
53 expected design conditions over the life of a project. As a tariff class is not yet determined,
54 the impact on interruptions associated with any particular rate class cannot be determined
55 at this time.

56
57 e) IRL-04 has been incorporated into the load forecast.
58

59 f) Any impacts to the forecast system peak, net system requirement, and Planning Reserve
60 Margin are dependent on whether the customer is taking firm or interruptible service, and
61 whether there is any associated generation with the load that would offset some of the need
62 for the Nova Scotia electricity system to supply the load. Until the Interconnection Request
63 has completed study, the customer has defined the project they are committed to moving
64 forward with, and the tariff class they will take service under from the applicable Load
65 Serving Entity, an analysis quantifying the resulting impact on forecast system peak, net
66 system requirement, and the Planning Reserve Margin in each year of the outlook cannot
67 be completed.

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Request IR – 3

Reference: Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Regional Electricity Cooperation and System Integration, signed July 23, 2026:
<https://www.gnb.ca/en/org/energy/energy-publications/maritime-regional-electricity-cooperation-and-system-integration.html>

Preamble: The MOU commits the parties to deliver, by Fall 2026, an initial Maritime Regional Resource and Transmission Roadmap (Phase 1) and an initial cost/benefit analysis of enhanced regional planning and operational coordination, including options for a Maritime Independent Electricity System Operator (MIESO), and by Spring 2027, a Phase 2 Roadmap and Plan and a decision on the implementation path for a Maritime IESO.

- a) Please describe IESO-NS's role and level of participation to date (if any) in the work contemplated by the MOU, including the Utilities-ISO Committee, and the resources and personnel it has committed or expects to commit to that work.
- b) Please explain how this initiative, its timelines, and its potential implications impact the relevancy and outcomes within the 10-Year System Report and describe whether and how IESO-NS expects the Phase 1 and Phase 2 deliverables to affect its load forecast, resource adequacy assessment, or transmission planning, including the Reliability Intertie project described in Section 5.4.1.
- c) Please describe any anticipated impact of this regional initiative on Nova Scotia's ability to import or export capacity and energy, and on the reliability or cost implications for Nova Scotia ratepayers, including specifically industrial customers.
- d) Please confirm whether IESO-NS expects the outcomes of the MOU process to be reflected in the upcoming 2026 Integrated Resource Plan or in future 10-Year System Outlook reports, and if so, when? If not, why not?

Response IR - 3

- a) As noted in the MOU, IESO Nova Scotia will participate as a member of the Utilities-ISO committee. IESO Nova Scotia currently anticipates committing a senior representative to the Utilities-ISO committee who will be able to draw on resources from within the

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31 organization as required. As of the date of filing, IESO Nova Scotia has participated in
32 preliminary discussions with other potential members of the Utilities-ISO Committee listed
33 in the MOU.

34
35 b) The 2026 10 Year System Outlook continues to be the most current assessment of system
36 capacity and resource adequacy in Nova Scotia over the 2026-2036 horizon. IESO Nova
37 Scotia is not aware of any interaction between the scope of work in the MOU and the
38 ongoing development of the NS-NB Reliability Intertie described in Section 5.4.1 of the
39 2026 10 Year Outlook Report. Assessments of any potential impacts to other processes or
40 planning outputs referenced are not possible until the work described in the MOU is
41 complete.

42
43 c) As no deliverables resulting from the referenced MOU have been completed, IESO Nova
44 Scotia has no assessment of any anticipated impacts to the noted items.

45
46 d) The timing as described in the MOU is such that no deliverables will be completed until
47 several months after IRP assumptions and scenarios have been developed and reviewed
48 with IRP participants; accordingly no direct link is possible. IESO Nova Scotia notes that
49 there are multiple scenarios in the analysis plan for the 2026 IRP that examine enhanced

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50 Regional Collaboration. It is not possible at this time to anticipate how any outcomes of
51 the work described in the MOU will influence future 10 Year System Outlook Reports.

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Request IR – 4

- a) Please confirm whether IESO Nova Scotia is aware of any offshore wind development proposals or initiatives in Nova Scotia (including in relation to the Wind West initiative or any other offshore wind development activity), and if so, please describe the current status of any such proposals.
- b) Please explain why the report does not include offshore wind as a resource option in the 10-year resource plan or transmission development plan and describe whether and when offshore wind is expected to be assessed as part of IESO-NS's resource planning process, including the upcoming 2026 Integrated Resource Plan.
- c) Please describe any transmission or interconnection planning implications that IESO-NS has identified, or expects to identify, in connection with the potential development of offshore wind resources in Nova Scotia, including any implications for the Transmission Development Project List in Table 9 or the synchronous condenser program described in Section 5.4.2.

Response IR - 4

- a) IESO Nova Scotia is aware of the offshore wind development proposals or initiatives listed below.
- Hydro Quebec's Request for Information to inform potential development of offshore wind farms off Nova Scotia¹

¹ [Hydro-Québec launches Request for Information to inform potential development of offshore wind farms off Nova Scotia](#)

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- The Memorandum of Understanding on Offshore Wind Energy and Infrastructure Collaboration between Massachusetts and the Province of Nova Scotia²
- The completed Offshore Wind Prequalification process conducted by the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Energy Regulator³

b) The 10 Year System Outlook is not a venue to compare different resource options; that analysis is done in an Integrated Resource Plan. The 10-Year System Outlook is IESO Nova Scotia's annual assessment of system capacity and resource adequacy. The 2026 10-Year System Outlook resource plan reflects the Government of Nova Scotia's 2030 Clean Power Plan and NS Power's 2023 Evergreen IRP scenario CE1-E1-R2, neither of which included offshore wind as a resource serving Nova Scotia domestic load for the 2026-2036 horizon. Adjustments to the timing and capacity of specific projects have been made where changes to project progress have changed.

IESO Nova Scotia confirms that offshore wind is a candidate resource option in the 2026 IRP.

² [memorandum-of-understanding-offshore-wind-energy-infrastructure-collaboration.pdf](#)

³ [Offshore Wind Prequalification | CNSOER](#)

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38 c) Any transmission or interconnection planning implications are specific to the
39 transmission path (across land or subsea) and technology (AC or DC) selected to
40 deliver offshore wind to an offtake market. These details are not yet available.