

NOVA SCOTIA ENERGY BOARD**IN THE MATTER OF:** *The Public Utilities Act***IN THE MATTER OF:** Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator's 2026 10-Year System Outlook Report**INFORMATION REQUESTS****To:** Nova Scotia Independent Energy System Operator ("IESO-NS")**From:** The Industrial Group**Responses Due:** October 9, 2026**Contact Person** Nancy G. Rubin, K.C.
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 Telephone: (902) 420-3200 / Fax (902) 420-1417Issued at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 18th day of September, 2026.**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-ns.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.

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.

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?

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.