



January 13, 2024

By email to: [engagement@ieso.ca](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca)

Attn: Ms. Lesley Gallinger CEO, Independent Electricity System Operator Toronto, Ontario

Re: IESO's Proposed Renewable Energy Procurements

We are writing to you on behalf of [Seniors for Climate Action Now!](#), to provide the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) with our view and recommendations on the IESO's proposed renewable energy (wind, water, solar and bioenergy) procurement.

The IESO's increased reliance on natural gas and inordinately expensive large (new and refurbished) nuclear and possibly equally expensive, unproven, foreign, Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) to handle the electrification necessary to transition Ontario to a low carbon economy has been deeply upsetting. It flies in the face of respected expertise, including the Dunsky report on Distributed Energy Resources Potential that the IESO itself commissioned. We were therefore relieved to learn last month that the IESO has finally decided to procure 5,000 MW of renewable sources of power, especially wind and solar.

We are thus deeply concerned that the terms of that renewables procurement may, according to [the analysis of Mr. Jack Gibbons](#), President of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance, and an acknowledged and respected expert on the Ontario electricity system, in fact be filled mostly by existing renewable facilities qualifying to renew their contracts over the next decade. At a minimum the IESO's specifications are open to misunderstanding; at a maximum, they are deliberately deceptive. We therefore request that an immediate clarification of the terms of the procurement be issued to the public by the IESO.

Finally, because of the high probability that the IESO's attempt to procure an additional 1,500 MW of natural gas power may fall short because of the refusal of some municipalities to endure the climate and health consequences of natural gas plants, and because of [the very high cost and unpredictable delivery of both refurbished and new nuclear sources](#) to the people of Ontario,

SCAN! strongly recommends that the renewables procurement by the IESO be increased to three times the current renewable capacity of Ontario's electricity system by 2035.

For the future of our children and grandchildren.

Seniors for Climate Action Now! co-chairs

Lyba Spring

Nick De Carlo

CC:

Todd Smith, ON Minister of Energy

Marit Stiles, Leader ONDP

Bonnie Crombie, Leader OLP

Mike Schreiner, Leader GPO