



September 12th, 2025

Ontario Energy Board
2300 Yonge Street, 27th floor
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

**RE: Regional and Bulk Planning Advisory Group Participation
EB-2025-0248**

**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Community Growth
and Economic
Development

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Ian McVey
Director of
Environment and
Climate, Community
Growth and Economic
Development
Department

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Regional Municipality of Durham, I am pleased to submit this letter of interest for participation in the Ontario Energy Board's Regional and Bulk Planning Advisory Group under proceeding EB-2025-0248.

The Region nominates Mr. Nayel Halim, Policy Advisor, Sustainability, as our proposed member of the advisory group. Mr. Halim can be reached at 289-404-5170 or via email at nayel.halim@durham.ca.

Durham Region is experiencing rapid population and employment growth, creating unique challenges in energy infrastructure planning. The IESO has identified capacity constraints across several parts of the Region. These pressures are compounded by electrification trends across residential, commercial, and industrial sectors, resulting in electricity demand increases above the provincial average. With the IESO projecting a 75 per cent increase in provincial electricity demand by 2050, Durham has a strong interest in regional and bulk planning issues, including:

- Ensuring planning timelines align with local growth forecasts;
- Integrating distributed energy resources to address demand and meet climate goals;
- Managing the delicate balance between decarbonization and system reliability.

The Region has relevant experience in electricity planning processes, and has actively participated in the IESO's GTA East regional planning process working group, and is also currently engaged in the Long-Term 2 (LT2) procurement process. Regional staff have been working closely with the IESO to provide local data, growth projections, and planning perspectives to refine system forecasts and support informed decision-making. Staff are also actively monitoring procurement developments and participating in consultations related to transmission development and regional electricity planning.

The Region recognizes the importance of proactive municipal engagement to ensure that local growth needs, infrastructure considerations, and sustainability objectives are reflected in electricity planning and procurement. Participation in this advisory group will enable Durham to bring forward local insights, strengthen alignment between municipal and provincial priorities, and contribute constructively to shaping Ontario's integrated energy future.

Thank you for considering our expression of interest. We look forward to the opportunity to participate in this important initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian McVey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ian McVey,

Director of Environment and Climate, Community Growth and
Economic Development Department.