



**CHATHAM-KENT  
BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM**

# **Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan**

**E-LT1  
Kruger Energy L.P.  
Innergex Renewable Energy Inc.**

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## BACKGROUND

Ontario is entering a period of emerging electricity system needs, driven by increasing demand, the retirement of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station, the refurbishment of other nuclear generating units, and expiring supply contracts at other facilities. To address these needs, Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) has launched competitive energy procurement processes for 4,000 megawatts (MW) of capacity: the Long-Term Request for Proposals (LT1 RFP), a complimentary expedited process (E-LT1 RFP), and a Same Technology Upgrade process. The LT1 RFP, together with the E-LT1 RFP will competitively procure year-round effective capacity from dispatchable new build resources, including new build hybrid electricity generation and storage facilities<sup>1</sup>.

In response to IESO's RFPs, Kruger Energy and Innergex Renewable Energy (the "Proponent") are developing the Chatham-Kent Battery Energy Storage System (CK-BESS) Project with the intention of participating in the E-LT1 RFP. The CK-BESS Project will provide up to 145 MW over four hours (580 MWh) and will provide electricity to the grid when dispatched by the IESO to help ensure a reliable electricity supply in the region.

The Chatham-Kent BESS Project will be located on privately owned agricultural land in the municipality of Chatham-Kent, Ontario, approximately 7.5 km east of Tilbury, near the intersection of Finn Line and Pollard Line.



**PROJECT LOCATION MAP**

## Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan Objectives

The Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan has been designed to provide structured, proactive, and meaningful communication and engagement with stakeholders and indigenous communities throughout the Project's development. The Proponent initiated discussions with the municipality, local landowners and others, and will continue to engage

<sup>1</sup> Independent Energy System Operator, Resource Acquisition and Contracts, Long-Term RFP and Expedited Process. <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisition-and-Contracts/Long-Term-RFP-and-Expedited-Process>

with key parties as outlined in this plan. Recognizing that community and indigenous input is an integral component of a successful project, the goals of this plan will be carried out with respect for local values and input.

### **Engagement Plan Goals**

- Provide an overview of the E-LT1 RFP process and engagement objectives;
- Introduce the Proponent;
- Share Project information;
- Identifying potential interested parties;
- Summarize the engagement activities completed so far;
- Inform all key parties of future engagement activities;
- Provide opportunities for feedback;
- Document and respond to feedback and concerns; and
- Align the requirements of the IESO E-LT-RFP and the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (the “Class EA process”).

If the Project is selected by the IESO as a contract recipient of the E-LT1 RFP, this Engagement Plan will be updated to include additional outreach and engagement activities to be undertaken during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases.

## **PROPONENT INFORMATION**

The Chatham-Kent BESS Project is being developed by a partnership between Kruger Energy L.P. and Innergex Renewable Energy Inc., two leading independent renewable energy developers.

### **Kruger Energy**

Kruger Energy, a business unit of Kruger Inc., specializes in the development and management of green and renewable energy facilities. With a total installed capacity of 639 MW, Kruger Energy owns and manages 42 sites in the fields of wind, solar, hydro, energy storage and biomass. Its facilities are located in British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador and in several States of the US.

### **Innergex Renewable Energy**

As an independent renewable power producer, Innergex Renewable Energy Inc. develops, acquires, owns and operates hydroelectric facilities, wind farms, solar farms and energy storage facilities. Innergex conducts operations in Canada, the United States, France and Chile and manages a large portfolio of high-quality assets currently consisting as of early 2023 of interests in 84 operating facilities with an aggregate net installed capacity of 3,634 MW (gross 4,184 MW) and an energy storage capacity of 159 MWh.

## KEY PARTY IDENTIFICATION

The Proponent seeks to engage with key parties, in compliance with the requirements outlined in the IESO E-LT1 RFP, as well as any others identified and interested in the Project throughout its entire life cycle, from early development to decommissioning.

### Landowners

- Private and commercial owners or tenants of the properties located adjacent to the Project site.
- Municipal stakeholders
- Mayor and council of each local municipality in which the Project or proposed connection line will be located;
- Clerk of each local municipality in which the Project or proposed connection line will be located; and
- Planning services and zoning department.
- Indigenous communities
- Indigenous communities who may have an interest in the Project, including Indigenous governments and/or organizations.
- Government agencies and regional authorities
- Local Fire and Rescue Department;
- Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority;
- Independent Electricity System Operator;
- Ontario Ministry of Environmental, Conservation and Parks;
- Ontario Ministry of Energy;
- Electrical Safety Authority;
- Environment Canada; and
- Transport Canada.
- Special interest groups
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs);
- Industry Board; and
- Local Business and Business Industry Associations.

## ENGAGEMENT PLAN

This Engagement Plan includes several methods of communication for spreading Project information, actively engaging with stakeholders and indigenous communities, and collecting comments, concerns, and questions from interested parties, in compliance with the requirements outlined in the IESO E-LT1 RFP and industry best practices. While activities are described for all phases of the Project, from early development through decommissioning, the approach and activities will be adjusted appropriately as new information is gathered and the Project moves into the construction, operation, and decommissioning stages.

## Pre-Contract Phase

During this phase, engaging activities focus on meeting E-LT1 RFP requirements, identifying key stakeholders, indigenous communities, and interested parties, and initiating engagement. Activities include:

- Requesting from the Ontario government a **list of local Indigenous communities** who exercise their constitutionally protected Indigenous or Treaty Rights on the land where the Project site is located.
- Initial **outreach to Indigenous communities** (identified above) to share information about the Project and inquire as to their engagement protocols. Engage accordingly.
- Creation of a **website** where Project information can be accessed, including the location, the proposed technology, a preliminary schedule, and contact information. The dedicated website will be maintained and consistently updated throughout the E-LT1 RFP process. All the relevant information and documents will be posted on the website as per IESO E-LT1 RFP: <http://www.chathamkentbess.com>
- Distribution of the **Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan** to the Municipality and to the public through the website at least 15 days before the community public meeting.
- Distribution of a **notice for the January 2023 public meeting** to all addresses within 1 km of the Project area, as well as identified Indigenous communities, the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, and relevant agencies. The notice will also be posted on the website at least 15 days before the community public meeting and published in community newspapers.
- Holding a **community public meeting** in January 2023 to offer direct opportunity for stakeholders or any other interested parties to meet the Project team, ask questions and provide feedback. Display boards will provide key Project information, including:
  - Proponent identity and contact information;
  - Project name, nameplate capacity and storage technology;
  - Scale map showing the boundaries of the Project site and interconnection, such as the location of the connection line and connection point;
  - Community benefits; and
  - Development timeline and Project schedule.
  - Public comment forms will be available for stakeholders to fill out during the community public meeting. Questions, answers and feedback gathered at the community public meeting will be documented and be posted on the Project website.
- Documenting of feedback and answering questions. Questions and answers received throughout the Project's development will be recorded and tracked in an **engagement log**. Project development will take into consideration the comments and feedback received.

## Development Phase

During this phase, engagement activities will be focused on continuing to inform local communities and interested parties of the Project's progress, managing feedback, and ensuring that permitting requirements set out by the various authorities are met. Engagement activities will include:

- Hosting a second community public meeting prior to finalizing the permitting process. This meeting will present results of technical studies completed for the Project and communicate how feedback was incorporated into the Project design.
- Engaging and coordinating with various authorities having jurisdiction (JHA) regarding the permitting requirements.
- Meeting local and Indigenous officials, to keep them apprised of Project progress and receive feedback. Maintaining good relations with the community is important for building an effective relationship and raising the Project benefits and acceptance for all those involved.
- Updating the Project website with relevant new information.

## Construction Phase

During this phase, engagement activities started during development will continue. Engagement activities will include:

- Keeping municipal and Indigenous officials, landowners and stakeholders apprised of Project progress.
- Coordinating with the local first responders and the Municipality for the development of a Site Security and Safety Response Plan.
- Training of local first responders prior to the start of operations.
- Addressing concerns, complaints, and grievances.
- Updating the Project website with relevant new information.

## Operations Phase

The Chatham-Kent BESS will operate for at least 20 years from the time it achieves commercial operations. Engagement activities during this phase will be focused on executing all negotiated agreements with the host landowners, the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the Province of Ontario, and Indigenous communities, as applicable. In addition to ensuring the efficient and safe operations of the facility, engagement activities will include:

- Maintaining site security and public safety protocols;
- Addressing concerns, complaints, and grievances; and
- Updating the Project website with relevant new information.

## Decommissioning Phase

At the end of the Project's life, it is anticipated that the Project will be decommissioned. To this end, a Decommissioning Plan will be prepared according to municipal and provincial requirements. Landowners, neighbours, the Municipality and other interested parties will be engaged to ensure that the community is informed of the Decommissioning Plan.

## ENGAGEMENT LOG AND GRIEVANCE - FEEDBACK MANAGEMENT

Maintaining a strong relationship with local communities is essential to the success of any project. Issues and concerns should be addressed with diligence, and constructive input can be opportunities for Project improvement. We therefore encourage and welcome communication and feedback during the Project's planning process and throughout its life.

External communications will be recorded in an engagement log and tracked. For each inquiry, issue, concern, request, complaint, or comment, the information documented will include:

- Time and date;
- Communication method (i.e., via email, regular mail, telephone call, in person);
- Name(s) and contact information (email, phone or address) of person(s) involved, if provided;
- A description of the inquiry, issue, concern, request, complaint or comment;
- The Proponent's response and, if applicable, action taken to resolve the issue; and
- Follow-up communications or additional actions (if required).

All interested parties are welcome to communicate with the Proponent at any time in the Project's development. We are committed to addressing any inquiries, issues, concerns, requests, complaints or comments and the engagement log will demonstrate how these have been considered in Project planning and operations.



## APPENDIX A – KEY EXTERNAL PARTIES

This initial list includes identified external parties that may be affected by, or interested in, the Project. Furthermore, the Proponent has requested from the Ontario government a list of local Indigenous communities who exercise their constitutionally protected Indigenous or Treaty Rights on the land where the Project site is located. The identified Indigenous communities will be added to the list when available.

EXTERNAL PARTY	CONTACT
<b>Landowners</b>	
Landowners and tenants of properties adjacent to the Project.	- Individuals will be determined through door to door and mail campaigns
<b>Municipal Stakeholders</b>	
Municipality of Chatham-Kent	- Mayor - Municipal Council and Clerk Planning Coordinator - Secretary Treasurer of Planning Board - General Manager of Community Development - Deputy Director of Economic Development
Local Fire and Rescue Department	- Fire Chief - General Manager
<b>Indigenous communities</b>	
To be completed	To be completed
<b>Government agencies and regional authorities</b>	
Ontario Ministry of Environmental, Conservation and Parks	- Minister's Office - Director of the Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch - Sarnia District Manager
Ontario Ministry of Energy	- Ontario Energy Board
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority	- General Manager - Secretary Treasurer
Electrical Safety Authority	- General Manager
Environment Canada	- Engineering and Development Branch
Transport Canada	- Ontario Regional Office
<b>Special Interest groups</b>	
Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)	- IESO Board
Hydro One Inc.	To be determined
Entegrus	- President
Kent Federation of Agriculture	- President - Vice-Presidents - Executive Director