

IESO Announces Results of LRP I RFP

Today the Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) concluded the Request for Proposal process for the first competitive Large Renewable Procurement (LRP I RFP) and announced which projects have been offered contracts.

The Procurement Targets for the LRP I were 300 MW of wind, 140 MW of solar, 75 MW of waterpower, and 50 MW of bioenergy. CanSIA is pleased to see that 7 projects for 139.885 MW of the 140 MW solar Procurement Target have been awarded through the process. The IESO has also included the weighted average bid price for each type of technology. For solar, the weighted average bid price for awarded contracts is 156.67 \$/MWh and the range of bid prices is 141.50 – 178.50 \$/MWh. This weighted average bid price is approximately 25% lower than current FIT prices, reflecting the economies of scale that come with utility scale solar development compared to smaller scale systems.

Renewable Fuel	Procurement Target (MW)	Awarded Contracts (MW)	Average Contract Price (\$/MWh)
<i>Wind</i>	300	299.5	85.94
<i>Solar</i>	140	139.885	156.67
<i>Waterpower</i>	75	15.5	175.92
<i>Bioenergy</i>	50	0	N/A

CanSIA is greatly encouraged by today's announcement as the projects represent the lowest cost solar projects that have been contracted in Canada to date. It is also the first time that a utility scale solar project has been contracted at a price that is lower than the retail rate of electricity in Ontario. These projects demonstrate that the cost of utility scale solar development in Canada is continuing to decrease and is tracking well against similar international projects. Maintaining this downward progression of project costs is important to keep solar as a preferred tool available to Canada and the provinces as they move forward with efforts to decarbonize electricity production and mitigate emissions increases.

A link to the IESO's announcement is available [here](#).

With the conclusion of the LRP I RFP, the work now begins on making changes to and running the LRP II process. CanSIA has set up a Forum to work with members to provide feedback to the IESO. We encourage members with an interest in the LRP II to join this Forum and participate in the process. [Sign up for CanSIA Member Networks](#) today to ensure you have the opportunity to participate in the LRP II Forum (*please note that CanSIA member login is required*).

If members have questions regarding these results or the LRP I RFP, please contact Ben Weir, Director of Policy and Regulatory Affairs at bweir@cansia.ca.