

Grand Energy Storage (BESS) Project

Community Relations Plan



SAMSUNG RENEWABLE ENERGY INC.



Grand Energy Storage: Community Relations Plan

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Grand Energy Storage Project: Community Relations Plan

Purpose of this Plan

Pattern Energy Group (Pattern) and Samsung Renewable Energy Inc. (Samsung) are currently considering the installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in proximity to the existing Grand Renewable Wind facility located in Haldimand County, Ontario. The Grand Energy Storage Project (the Project) is expected to total up to 300MW.

This Community Relations Plan will serve as a guiding framework to facilitate the delivery of the consultation and reporting requirements for the overall Project in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (MTF Class EA). This Plan is a requirement of the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) Request for Proposals for Long-Term Electricity Reliability Services (LT1 RFP) (Section 2.1(f)). It has been developed based on best practices for consultation/engagement in accordance with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' (MECP) Code of Practice: Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process¹.

This Plan outlines the consultation activities of the Project, including public outreach opportunities, engagement with Indigenous communities, and consultation with agencies and third parties. Earning support for the Project from the community and majority of the local governmental body to build a project that the community, Pattern and Samsung are proud of is the goal. Meeting this goal is important to the reputation of Pattern and Samsung, which can impact future development endeavours.

¹ Ministry of the Environment, 2014. Code of Practice: Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process.

Target Audience

The contact list for the Project is expected to evolve throughout the IESO LT1 RFP and MTF Class EA process, based on the level of interest expressed by individuals or additional guidance received by government agencies during the Project. The target audience that will be consulted on the Project include:

1. Relevant municipalities
2. Elected officials
3. Government Agencies including:
 - Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
 - Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF)
 - Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)
 - Infrastructure Ontario (IO)
 - Ontario Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
 - Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT)
 - Ministry of Energy
 - Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM)
4. Conservation Authorities including:
 - Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA)
 - Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)
5. Relevant utility companies
6. Property owners and occupants within 1,000 m of the Project site
7. Indigenous communities potentially affected by the Project
8. Members of the Public and Community Organizations
9. Media

Strategies

This Plan provides an outline of consultation opportunities so that the Project is well understood, and that issues and concerns can be considered and incorporated into Project planning, to the extent practicable. With that in mind, the following strategies for consultation have been developed:

1. Utilize effective engagement and communication tools for each target audience, evolving as needed based on Project timeline, risks, and stakeholder feedback.
2. Engage local stakeholders to encourage participation in the Project approval process and facilitate feedback that can be incorporated into development, construction, and operations.
3. Establish a brand for the Project to generate pride for local stakeholders in having their community host the Project.

4. Create community benefits that provide positive branding opportunities and meet at least one of the following objectives:
 - Produce local and regional economic benefits
 - Advance community initiatives
 - Enhance ecological preservation, restoration, and education
 - Foster health and wellness
 - Promote the needs of youth
 - Support cultural awareness

Tactics

The target audience will be engaged in several ways throughout the Project, including the following general activities:

1. Create dedicated Project email, website, logo, factsheet, presentations, banners, and giveaways.
2. As outlined in the IESO LT1 RFP, the Project website will include the following information:
 - Legal name and contact information of Pattern and Samsung
 - Name, nameplate capacity and generating or storage technology
 - Scaled map showing the Project boundaries, location of connection points and connection lines
 - Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan (i.e., this Community Relations Plan)
 - Notice² and description of public engagement activities such as public community meeting(s)
 - Copy or summary of minutes of public community meeting(s)
3. Close engagement with municipalities³, conservation authorities and key community leaders.
4. Close engagement with Indigenous communities⁴ potentially affected by the Project.

² To satisfy IESO LT1 RFP requirements, notice of public community meeting(s) will be posted at least 15 days prior to the date of the public community meeting.

³ Key municipal contacts in the respective municipalities will include relevant clerk, operations, EMS, planning, and engineering staff. Where the Project is proposed to be located in whole or in part on lands subjected to the authority of a Local Municipality, Pattern/Samsung will need to obtain a Municipal Support Resolution to satisfy IESO LT1 RFP requirements.

⁴ Where the Project is proposed to be located in whole or in part on Indigenous Lands, Pattern/Samsung will need to obtain an Indigenous Support Confirmation to satisfy IESO LT1 RFP requirements.

5. Host events to create opportunities for the project team and landowners to interact.
6. Engage members of the public and interested organizations through:
 - Identifying community causes to sponsor; attending community events.
 - Joining local business organizations, e.g., Chamber of Commerce.
 - Presenting to civic and business groups.
 - The consideration of a local office and/or hiring a community liaison to have a constant community presence and more effectively engage community members.
 - The consideration of a community liaison committee to obtain input and feedback, and answer any questions.
7. Share project information, communicate the benefits of the Project, and solicit feedback from the community through various communication tools:
 - Factsheet or brochure: Include Project information, timelines, contact info
 - Presentations: Give presentations to civic and business organizations, and councils
 - Advertise: Publish radio and print/online notices and advertisements
 - E-newsletter: Send Project news to landowners, local elected officials, media, people that indicate their interest
 - Website: Include Project information, documents, updates, team contact details and a sign-up form for people to stay informed of project news
 - Host public meetings and open house event(s)⁵
 - Contact information: Create a Project email address, toll-free number, and web URL
8. Distribute informational materials through sponsored community events, potentially a local office, and other means where applicable, i.e., Chamber and government offices.

Indigenous Community Outreach (On going)

The Project has begun engaging with the Six Nations of the Grand River, the Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI) for the Haudenosaunee Confederacy of Chiefs Council (HCCC), and has had an initial discussion with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The Project intends to continue its

⁵ To align with the IESO LT1 RFP submission requirements, an Open House with question-and-answer opportunity will be held to solicit feedback from interested stakeholders on the initial Project details. The Notice of Open House will detail the open house information including date, time, and location.

engagement with any additional communities that may be added as part of the MTF Class EA process.

Development and Permitting Milestones

Open House	November 21, 2023
IESO LT1 RFP Submission	December 12, 2023
IESO LT1 Contract Award	Anticipated Q2 2024
Notice of Commencement for Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facility	Anticipated Q2 2024
Complete Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facility	Anticipated Q1 2025
Obtain Environmental Compliance Approval – Industrial Sewage (Stormwater)	TBD
Start Construction	TBD
Complete Environmental Activity and Sector Registry for Air/Noise	TBD

Key Messages

1. We want to build a successful project for the community. We are here to listen and respond to your questions and will be clear about what happens with your feedback.
 - a. This is the start of the community engagement process. Your input matters and is important to us.
 - b. We can be reached online at www.GrandEnergyStorage.ca or at info@GrandEnergyStorage.ca. We are currently working on establishing a Project phone number to field any project specific inquiries, this will be posted on the website once activated.
 - c. We have the experience and passion to build a project that works for everyone involved.
 - d. We want to hear your ideas on ways we can better engage community members.
2. The project will be designed in a planned and thoughtful way.
 - a. We are committed to answering questions in a clear and transparent way.
 - b. All permitting documents will be available on the website.
 - c. Community and landowner input will affect our decision-making. We will apply to this project what we have learned from other communities where we have built projects, including the Grand Renewable Wind project that was commissioned by Samsung and Pattern in December 2014, located within Haldimand County.
3. This is a community project that will bring local jobs, tax revenue, and benefits lasting generations.
 - a. Over the next 20 years, the project will invest millions of dollars directly into the community through property taxes and other local spending.
 - b. We are committed to sourcing as many of our construction needs as possible from the local region, providing an additional economic boost.
4. We believe in giving back to communities and building long-term local partnerships.
 - a. The project will give back to the community through donations and sponsorships and the creation of a long-term Community Benefits Program.

We want to hear your ideas on ways we can contribute to local causes and needs.