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## IESO SENIOR MANAGEMENT UPDATE

To: Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
Date: October 28, 2009  
Subject: **Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC) Proposal**

Information Item

### **EIPC Initiative**

In late August the IESO signed on as a party to the Eastern Interconnection Planning Collaborative (EIPC) Agreement. The EIPC is a multi-party consortium formed by a coalition of 23 NERC planning authorities covering 95% of the eastern interconnection. The EIPC is unique in that it represents a first-of-its-kind effort by NERC planning authorities to formally review existing transmission expansion plans and future scenarios on an interconnection-wide basis.

The basis of this proposed work is in response to a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) effort which would facilitate transmission studies on an interconnected basis to address issues such as the integration of large amounts of renewable resources and see the development of interconnected wide transmission system models and analysis capability.

The IESO has chosen to participate in this effort in concert with its responsibilities within the NERC community. The IESO is and will continue to work closely with the OPA and other Ontario entities as needed in support of this work.

The IESO expects its contribution to this work will be relatively modest, but will give Ontario an opportunity to influence the studies and analysis work and complete access to study results. It may also assist in meeting our NERC planning standard obligations. The IESO is presently the only Canadian entity who has signed on to participate within the collaborative. Given that the Ontario and U.S. power grids are strongly interconnected, our participation is seen as a unique advantage for the EIPC proposal. As past operating events have shown, such as the variable nature of parallel flows surrounding the Great Lakes, the IESO believes this is a prudent and necessary expenditure of its time and resources and will ensure the interests of Ontarians is included and considered in this US based undertaking.



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DOE selection of the preferred entity is expected in mid November. If chosen the EIPC initiative is expected to last the better part of four years. The IESO will publish relevant findings through its normal reliability based reporting venues such as the Ontario Reliability Outlook reports.