



NOVEMBER 22, 2022

COMMUNITY AND INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT PLAN

THE ESSEX BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECT (ESSEX BESS)

PR Development LP
Essex Bess Limited Partnership

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1 Introduction

The Essex Battery Energy Storage Project (“Essex BESS” or the “Project”) is a battery energy storage facility sized to provide up to 350 MW over four hours, (1,400 Megawatt-hours). It occupies approximately 35 acres of land within the parcel located at 2873 Lakeshore Road 245. The Project was previously developed by Essex BESS Limited Partnership (“Essex LP”, previously doing business as “BW Storage 1 Limited Partnership”). PR Development LP (the “PRD”) has since joined Essex LP in developing the Essex BESS. PRD is the Qualified Applicant under the Independent Electricity System Operator (“IESO”) Expedited Long-Term Request for Proposals (“E-LT1 RFP”). In this Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan (“Engagement Plan”), Essex LP and PRD will be collectively referred to as the “Project Team”.

The Engagement Plan has been designed to provide structured and proactive consultation and engagement with stakeholders throughout the Project’s development. Essex LP engaged in early stakeholder consultation since December 2021 and Section 4.1 details the consultation activities conducted January 27, 2022. The Project Team will continue to engage and consult with stakeholders as outlined in this Engagement Plan. We recognize that stakeholder input is an integral component of a successful project, and this Engagement Plan will be carried out with respect for stakeholders’ culture and values.

If the Project is selected by the IESO as a contract recipient of the E-LT1 RFP then this Engagement Plan will be updated to include additional consultation and engagement activities for the Project Team to undertake during the construction, operation, and decommissioning phase of the Project.

2 Engagement Purpose and Goals

The purpose of this Engagement Plan is to identify the plans and methods to engage potentially affected stakeholders, provide them with information about the Project, and facilitate transparent and ongoing communications between stakeholders and the Project Team. Specifically, this Engagement Plan aims to achieve the following goals:

1. Identify and involve stakeholders early in Project planning, including understanding their local knowledge;
2. Understand the stakeholder views, concerns, interests and expectations;
3. Provide relevant, accurate and consistent information about the Project to the stakeholders;
4. Provide opportunities for stakeholders to ask questions, give suggestions, and raise issues and/or concerns related to the Project;
5. Adequately address and follow up on the questions, issues and/or concerns raised about the Project within a reasonable time period;
6. Notify stakeholders of upcoming Project consultation activities, such as open houses or public community meetings;
7. Facilitate transparent dialogue with the stakeholders; and
8. Document the input received, how the Project Team responded, and how the input was considered in the Project.

This Engagement Plan follows the engagement requirements as outlined in Section 2.1 (f) of the IESO E-LT1 RFP, attached as Appendix A.

3 Stakeholder Identification

The Project Team has identified the following stakeholders to be engaged through the Engagement Plan:

- Residents and/or businesses of the local community, located within 1 kilometre (“km”) radius of the Project area as shown in Appendix B (collectively, the “Local Community”);
- Owners of property located adjacent to the boundaries of the Project property identified in Appendix C (collectively, the “Adjacent Landowners”);
- Upper-tier and lower-tier Municipalities within which the Project is located: the County of Essex and the Municipality of Lakeshore (the “Local Municipalities”);
- Agencies that govern the approval process, including applicable federal, provincial and municipal governments (collectively, the “Agencies”);
- Indigenous communities of proximity to the Project and any other interested Indigenous communities; and
- Other individuals or parties, not already identified above, that identify an interest in the Project who/that will be directly impacted by the Project.

Initial consultations completed by Essex LP helped to identify and create this list of stakeholders, which follows the requirements outlined in Section 2.1 (f) of the IESO LT1 RFP (Appendix A). Names and addresses of the Local Community and Adjacent Landowners have been redacted to protect their privacy.

4 Consultation Activity Plan

This Engagement Plan includes several methods of communication for actively engaging and consulting with stakeholders, disseminating Project information, and collecting comments, concerns, and questions from interested parties. This Engagement Plan is for the development stage, and the Project Team will adjust the approach and activities appropriately when the Project moves into the construction, operation, and decommissioning stages.

4.1 Consultation to Date

Essex LP, the original developer of the Project, has been conducting consultation for the Project since December 2021. The following consultation activities took place after January 27, 2022:

- Distributed a notice for the open house on July 12, 2022 to residents within a 1km radius of the Project site, two Indigenous communities, Local Municipalities and relevant Agencies, which provided information on the Project name, location, proposed technology specifications, development timeline, a tentative project schedule, and a preliminary plan for community consultation and engagement;
- Posted a notice in the local newspaper, The Harrow News, for the July open house;
- Posted preliminary Project information and contact information on the Essex LP website (<https://bw-group.com/our-businesses/bw-solar/projects/projects/essex-bess/>);
- Hosted an Open House for the Project on July 12, 2022;
- Consulted with two Indigenous communities regarding the Project; and,
- Provided general Project information to the public and answered questions regarding noise monitoring locations.

4.2 Project Notifications

Prior to the Project's second public community meeting on December 8, 2022, the Project Team will send a notice via physical mail drops and electronic mail (email) to inform stakeholders of the date, time, location, and purpose of the upcoming community meeting. The mail drop will be sent to Local Community and Adjacent Landowners, and the Local Municipalities, relevant Agencies and Indigenous communities will receive electronic notification (email) of the upcoming community meeting.

As per Section 2.1 (f) of the IESO E-LT1 RFP, a copy of these notices will also be posted on the Project website at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the community meeting. A screenshot of all the notices of the public community meeting posted on the website will be submitted to the IESO as part of the E-LT1 RFP submission. A notice of the upcoming community meeting will be posted in two local newspapers, The Harrow News and the Essex Free Press, prior to the date of the meeting to inform any interested parties who are not already included in the stakeholder list.

4.3 Public Community Meeting

A second public community meeting will be held for the Project on December 8, 2022, at a local venue, the Maedel Community Centre, to present an update on the Project since the last open house held in July 2022. The community meeting will offer a direct opportunity for stakeholders and any other interested

parties to meet the new Project Team in person, ask questions and provide feedback. Display boards will provide the following key information:

- Project identity and contact information, including information on the Qualified Applicant as the new Project developer;
- The Project name, nameplate capacity and storage technology;
- A scale map showing the boundaries of the Project site and interconnection, such as the location of the Connection Point and Connection Line;
- Community benefits; and,
- Development timeline and Project schedule.

Our team will be available at the meeting to listen to your feedback and answer questions. The questions, answers and feedback gathered at the meeting will be documented in the summary of meeting minutes, which will be posted on the Project website within seven (7) days of the meeting. Public comment forms will be available for stakeholders to fill out at or after the meeting and returned to the Project Team by mail or collected at the meeting.

Questions and answers received throughout the Project's development will be recorded and tracked in a consultation log, which will be made available on the Project website. Development of the Project will take into consideration the comments and feedback received from the stakeholders and interested parties.

4.4 Project Website

A Project website has been created to share information and updates with stakeholders and any interested parties: <https://essexbess.ca>. The notices for the December 8, 2022, Project community meeting and the presentation and minutes from the community meeting will be posted on this website, along with the contact information for the Project. Records and material of the consultation and engagement activities undertaken by the previous Project developer, Essex LP, will also be available for access on the website.

The Project 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 Section 2.1 (f) of the IESO E-LT1 RFP (Appendix C) until the IESO has announced the contract winner.

4.5 Consultation with Agencies and Local Municipalities

Essex LP has undertaken some consultation with applicable Agencies, Local Municipalities, and elected officials and the Project Team will continue to do so throughout and beyond Project development to ensure regulatory compliance and provide updates on the applicable permitting process(es). Thus far, the following Agencies and Local Municipalities have been consulted regarding the Project:

- County of Essex
- Town of Lakeshore
- Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (NDMNRF)

- NDMNRF, Natural Resources and Forestry Aylmer District Office
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Western Municipal Services Office
- Essex Region Conservation Authority
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)
- OMAFRA Greater-Toronto Area and Central Southwest Ontario, Land Use Policy & Stewardship - Food Safety and Environmental Policy Branch
- Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
- MECP, Drinking Water and Environmental Compliance Division

The Project Team will continue to engage and consult with the Local Municipalities and other relevant Agencies as the Project initiates a Class Environmental Assessment for Minor Transmission Facilities (“Class EA”). Through consultation, Agencies and Local Municipalities will have a chance to ask questions about the Project and propose changes. The Project Team will consider all requests and suggestions in project planning and will abide by all municipal by-laws and regulatory requirements.

4.6 Indigenous Community Consultation

The Project is located on and surrounded by private land and within the traditional lands of two Indigenous communities: the Walpole Island First Nation and the Caldwell First Nation. Essex LP began engaging and consulting with the two Indigenous communities regarding the Project in general and archeological and environmental works within the Project site in June 2022. The Project Team will continue to carry out the consultation and engagement activities with the identified Indigenous communities and provide updates throughout Project development.

A notice for the upcoming community meeting will be sent to the two identified Indigenous communities via electronic mail, attached with a public comment form should the two communities want to provide any questions, comments or feedback. The Project Team will also communicate the Project website in the electronic mail notification to the Indigenous communities.

Lastly, the Project Team may engage in additional consultation with Indigenous communities, including but not limited to the Walpole Island First Nation and the Caldwell First Nation, through the Class EA process by working with the Ministry of Energy. The Project Team recognizes the importance of engaging relevant Indigenous communities early in the development process and we strive to always communicate and consult in a clear, timely and respectful manner.

6. Communications Tracker, Issues and Grievance Management

The Project Team encourages and welcomes communication early in the Project's planning process and throughout its life. We believe that any issues and concerns should be addressed with diligence and that maintaining a strong relationship with the stakeholders is essential to the success of any Project.

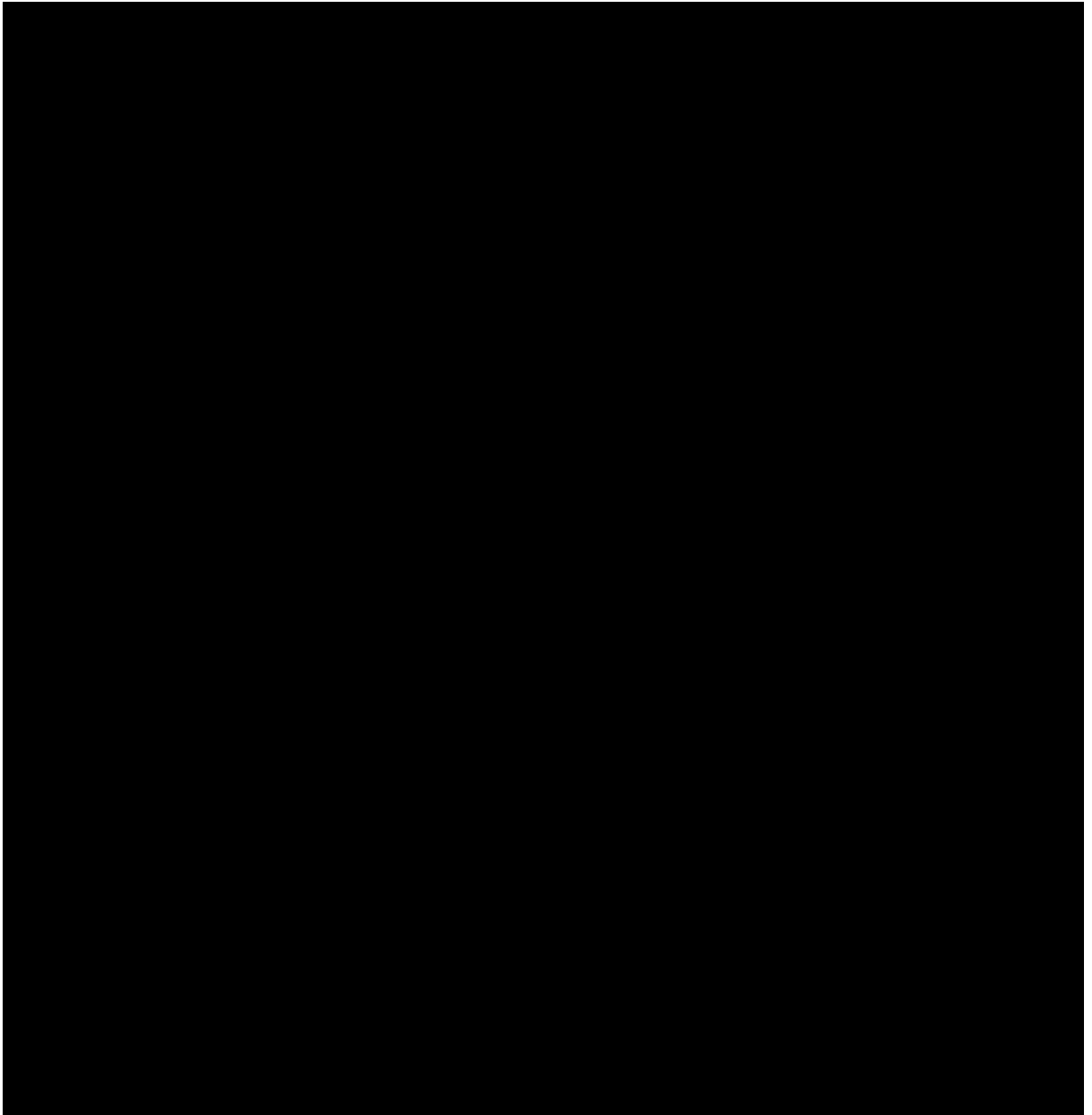
As detailed in Section 4 above, the Project Team has been and will continue to track communications with stakeholders and any interested parties in a consultation log. For each inquiry, issue, concern, request, complaint, comment, or other type of communication, the information documented will include:

- Times and dates
- 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, where provided;
- The inquiry, issue, concern, request, complaint or comment;
- The Project Team'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 Project Team at any point in the Project's development. The Project Team is committed to addressing any inquiries, issues, concerns, requests, complaints or comments and the consultation log will demonstrate how these have been considered in project planning and operations.

To respect the privacy of those providing comments and inquiries, consultation logs will be redacted to remove personal information.

Appendix A: Section 2.1 (f) of the Independent Electricity System
Operator (“IESO”) 2022 Long-Term Request for Proposals (“LT1 RFP”)



- (f) *Community and Indigenous Engagement*
 - (i) The Proponent must have a Project Website that describes a community and Indigenous engagement plan in respect of the Long-Term Reliability Project.
 - (ii) A copy of the community and Indigenous engagement plan must be continuously posted on the Project Website from the date that is at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the public community meeting identified in Section 2.1(f)(iii), and continuing until the IESO announces the Selected Proponents, if any.

- (iii) The community and Indigenous engagement plan must incorporate at least one (1) public community meeting to discuss the Long-Term Reliability Project with members of the public at large, which must be held, in person or virtually, prior to the Proposal Submission Deadline, but no earlier than January 27, 2022.
- (iv) *Notice of Public Community Meeting*
 - (A) The notice of public community meeting must be posted on the Project Website at least (15) days prior to the date of the public community meeting identified in Section 2.1(f)(iii).
 - (B) The Proponent must deliver a notice of such public community meeting identified in Section 2.1(f)(iii) to each owner of Property located adjacent to the boundaries of the Properties that, in whole or in part, constitute the Project Site. If the Project Site is located in whole or in part on lands subject to the authority of one or more Local Municipalities, the Proponent must deliver a notice of such public community meeting identified in Section 2.1(f)(iii) to each Local Municipality. If the Project Site is located in whole or in part on Indigenous Lands, the Proponent must deliver a notice of such public community meeting identified in Section 2.1(f)(iii) to each local Indigenous Community corresponding to the Indigenous Lands on which the Project Site is located in whole or in part.
- (v) *Public Community Meeting:*
 - (A) The public community meeting must, at a minimum, describe and display: (1) the identity and contact information of the Proponent; (2) the name, nameplate capacity and generating or storage technology of the Long-Term Reliability Project; and (3) a scale map showing the boundaries of the Project Site, location of the Connection Point and the Connection Line.
 - (B) The public community meeting must include a question and answer portion where members of the public have an opportunity to ask questions to the Proponent.
 - (C) A copy or summary of the minutes of each public community meeting must be posted on the Project Website.

Draft

Appendix B: Contact List for Local Community

Local Community Contact List

Essex Battery Energy Storage Project ("Essex BESS")

Property Owner Name	Company	Address	City_Town	Postal_Code	Telephone	Cell	E-mail	Notes
			STAPLES	NOP 2J0				
			BELLE RIVER	NOR 1R0				
			LAKESHORE	NOR 1R0				
			LAKESHORE	NOR 1R0				
			ESSEX	NOR 1R0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			BELLE RIVER	NOR 1R0				
			WOODSLEE	NOR 1V0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1N0				
			LEAMINGTON	NOR 1V0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			MAIDSTONE	NOR 1K0				
			WOODSLEE	NOR 1V0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			COMBER	NOP 1J0				
			COTTAM	NOR 1B0				
			WHEATLEY	NOR 2P0				
			WHEATLEY	NOP 2P0				
			COMBER	NOP 1J0				
			MAIDSTONE	NOR 1K0				
			ESSEX	NOP 2J0				
			COMBER	NOP 1J0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			COMBER	NOP 1J0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				

██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
	██████████							Vacant lot for a natural gas transmission facility (Enbridge Gas Inc.) on the south side of County Road 8, Leamington
	██████████							Vacant lot directly adjacent (western side) to ██████████ above
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	LEAMINGTON	NOP 2J0				
██████████		██████████	COMBER	NOP 1J0				
██████████		██████████	TILBURY	N8H 1J0				
██████████		██████████	LEAMINGTON	NOP 2J0				
██████████		██████████	LAKESHORE	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	BELLE RIVER	NOR 1A0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	LEAMINGTON	NOP 2J0				
██████████		██████████	COMBER	NOP 1J0				
██████████		██████████	STAPLES	NOP 2J0				
██████████		██████████	RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1R0				
██████████		██████████	STAPLES	NOP 2J0				

			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			LEAMINGTON	NOP 2JO				
			STONEY POINT	NOR 1NO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			LEAMINGTON	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STONEY POINT	NOR 1NO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			LEAMINGTON	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			LAKESHORE	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STONEY POINT	NOR 1NO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 1JO				
			COMBER	NOP 1JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			STAPLES	NOP 2JO				
			RUSCOM STATION	NOR 1RO				

			LEAMINGTON	N0P 2J0				
			STAPLES	N0P 2J0				
			LONDON	N6G 3K1				

Appendix C: Contact List for Adjacent Landowners

Adjacent Landowner Contact List

Essex Battery Energy Storage Project ("Essex BESS")

Name	Mailing Address	PIN Address	PIN	Notes
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] MAIDSTONE, NOR 1K0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	north parcel - large
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] MAIDSTONE, NOR 1K0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	west parcel
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] RUSCOM STATION, NOR 1R0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	north parcel - small #1
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] RUSCOM STATION, NOR 1R0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	north parcel - small #2
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] WOODSLEE, NOR 1V0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	northwest parcel
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] RUSCOM STATION, NOR 1R0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	southwest parcel
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] WHEATLEY, NOP 2P0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	south parcel
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] NOR 2P0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	further south parcel
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] COMBER, NOP 1J0	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	east parcel