Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Why is the Inwood Energy Storage Project required?

Ontario's electricity demand is rising due to growth, new industries, and electrification. With nuclear refurbishments and expiring gas contracts, new large-scale resources are needed to maintain reliability. Ontario's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is addressing this through competitive procurements, including the current LT2 RFP, which will add up to 600MW of capacity to keep Ontario's grid reliable and support decarbonization.

How do energy storage batteries work?

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) are designed to store electricity and release it when needed. They play a vital role in balancing the grid, storing power when generation; especially from intermittent sources; exceeds demand, and sending it back during periods of peak demand. BESS is the fastest technology available to respond to sudden changes in the system, such as an unexpected surge in demand or a loss of generation. Advanced control software and computer systems decide when to charge or discharge the batteries, ensuring electricity flows reliably and affordably.

What about fire risk?

Safety is our top priority. RES projects are monitored 24/7, from a dedicated control center with each battery rack individually supervised. Systems include automatic shutdowns and alarms before operational limits are reached. RES will work with local fire departments on emergency planning and response training. The proposed lithium iron phosphate (LFP) technology has a strong safety profile, meeting UL 9540A standards, additional protections equipment spacing, HVAC, fire suppression, secondary access routes, detectors and alarms.

Why was this site chosen?

The site is close to existing substations and transmission lines, reducing the need for new infrastructure and electrical losses. It is outside of sensitive environmental or landscape designations and offers suitable zoning, land use, and access routes. The site provides an opportunity to partner with willing landowners.

How long will the project take to build?

Construction and commissioning typically take 6 to 12 months. Battery enclosures are factory-built and then installed on prepared concrete pads or piers, which keeps construction timelines efficient.

Is there any noise impact from the project? How will it be mitigated?

A Noise Impact Assessment was submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, measuring background sound and the results are compliant with provincial limits at nearby residences. Batteries do not generate noise; only auxiliary equipment like fans and transformers, which meet standards. We will share an analysis of acoustic and vibration impacts as part of our community engagement.

For more information on the project:

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