



Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan

Comber BESS – January 2023



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Background

Brookfield Renewable Power Inc. ("BRPI") is advancing the **Comber BESS (Battery Energy Storage System)** ("Project") through its Canadian operating business, Evolugen, and Comber Batteries LP (the "Proponent"), a person controlled by BRPI. This Community and Indigenous Engagement Plan has been developed for the proposed Project, a 350 MW (BESS) to be co-located with Evolugen's operating Comber Wind Farm in Lakeshore, Ontario.

The Comber BESS directly responds to the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) call for additional capacity to meet Ontario's growing electricity consumption.

Below, you will find the official request from the IESO:

- After more than a decade of strong supply, Ontario is entering a period of emerging electricity system needs, driven by increasing demand, the retirement of the Pickering nuclear plant, the refurbishment of other nuclear generating units, as well as expiring contracts for existing facilities.
- To address these needs, the IESO is competitively securing 1,500 MW and 300 MW of capacity through an expedited procurement process "the Expedited Process" (E-LT1 RFP) and the Same Technology Upgrade Solicitation respectively.
 - The LT1 RFP, together with the Expedited Process, is expected to competitively procure year-round effective capacity from dispatchable new build resources, including new build hybrid electricity generation and storage facilities, registered or able to become registered in the IESO-administered markets, larger than 1 MW and which can deliver a continuous amount of electricity to a connection point on a distribution system or transmission system for at least four consecutive hours.

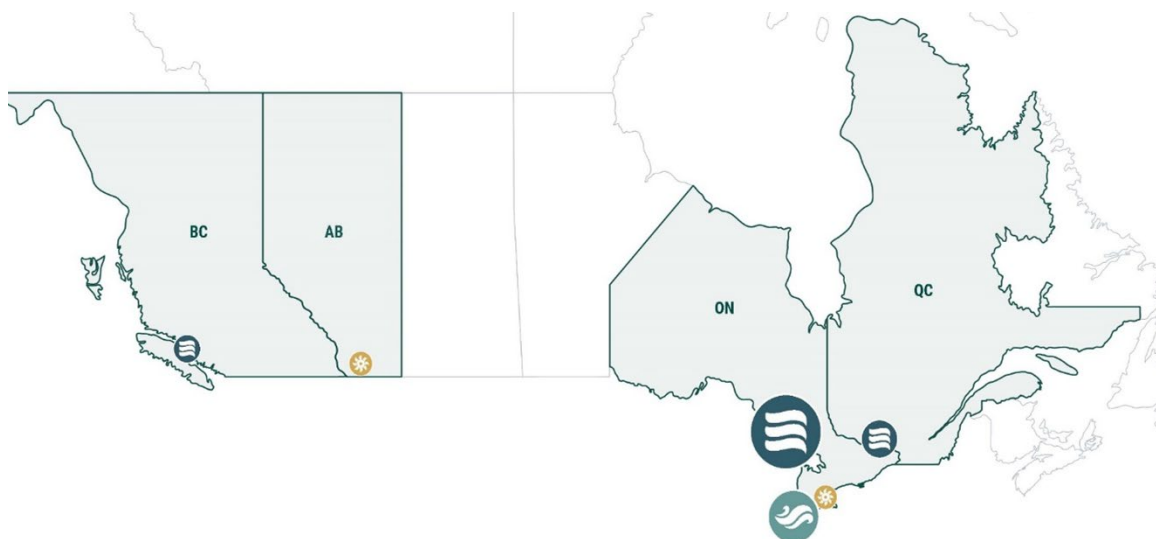
For more information on IESO's request, please visit <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisition-and-Contracts/Long-Term-RFP-and-Expedited-Process>.

Company Overview

Brookfield Renewable Power Inc. ("BRPI") is advancing the **Comber BESS (Battery Energy Storage System)** ("Project") through its Canadian operating business, Evolugen, and Comber Batteries LP (the "Proponent"), a person controlled by BRPI. Brookfield Renewable is one of the world's largest investors in renewable power and climate transition assets with approximately 24,000 MW of generating capacity located across five continents.

Brookfield Renewable has approximately 3,200 operating employees and 120 power marketing experts located across the globe, optimizing the performance, and maximizing the returns of our assets. Our expertise in operating and managing power generation facilities spans over 120 years and includes full operating, development, construction, and power marketing capabilities.

In Canada, Evolugen owns and operates 61 renewable energy facilities, including 33 hydroelectric facilities, 4 wind farms, and 24 solar sites, with a total installed capacity of 1,912 MW, located across British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec. Recently, Evolugen announced a new to-be-built ~40MW solar facility in Alberta. As a renewable energy industry leader, Evolugen provides sustainable solutions designed to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future in Canada.



Evolugen's Canadian Presence

Evolugen's Canadian heritage dates from the 1970's when its parent company owned and operated 12 hydropower facilities in Ontario. Headquartered in Gatineau, Quebec (in the National Capital Region), it was in 1999 that Evolugen widely grew by establishing a publicly traded entity in the renewable energy industry with three hydropower facilities along the Lièvre River in Quebec. Following two decades of growth and the launch of our new identity in 2019, we have strengthened and honed Evolugen's focus on developing and operating our renewable energy portfolio in Canada.

Ontario Presence

Currently, in Ontario, Evolugen owns and operates 49 renewable facilities, including 21 hydroelectric facilities, 4 wind farms, and 24 solar sites (4 utility and 20 distributed generation installations), totaling an installed capacity of 1,448 MW. Evolugen continues to advance development projects across Ontario, including but not limited to the Comber BESS. In addition to various renewable facilities, Evolugen has six Plant Offices (small offices) located across the province.

Our portfolio of facilities and our development expertise in hydro, wind, solar and storage enables us to accelerate Canada towards a low-carbon future by powering both its vibrant metropolitan areas and remote, close-knit communities.



Evolugen's Ontario Presence

Our Sustainability Culture

Evolugen recognizes the significant societal interest in sustainability issues. Our ability to convey business-relevant information in a timely manner and track our progress on key environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues is an important focus that informs our strategic decisions.

Evolugen works to build trust as good stewards by engaging proactively with communities to ensure that their interests are appropriately considered in our decision-making. In addition to working cooperatively on environment, health, safety and emergency response, we assist with local projects, provide recreational opportunities, and work closely with regional partners to

make a positive impact that is aligned with both the needs of the local stakeholders and our business values.

Evolugen ensures we are the partner of choice for Indigenous peoples by structuring our projects and managing our operations in a manner that respects their distinctive cultures, traditions, values and aspirations, as outlined in our guiding [Indigenous Principles](#).

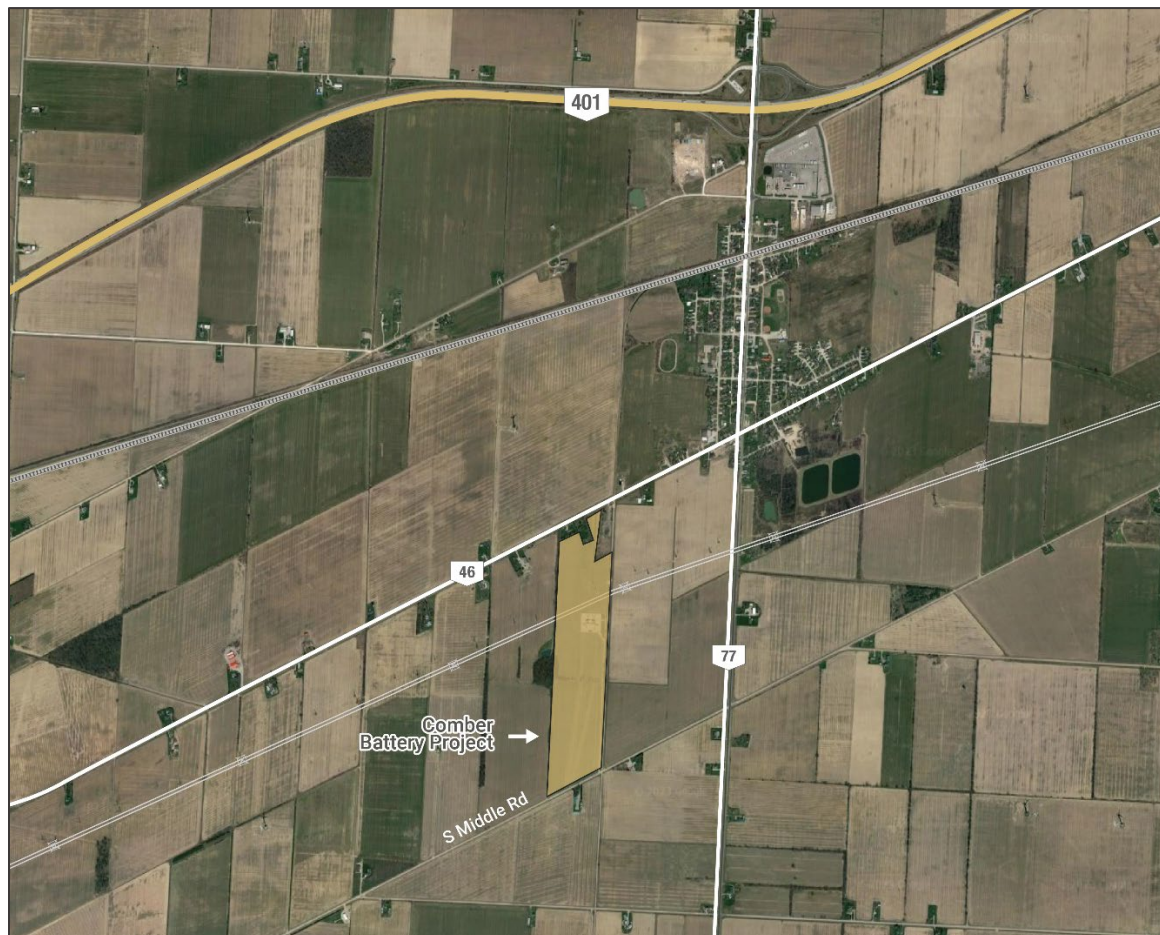
Project Overview

The Comber BESS directly responds to the IESO's call for additional capacity to meet Ontario's growing electricity consumption.

The Project will be co-located with Evolgen's operating Comber Wind Farm on up to ~20 acres of private land in Lakeshore (map on p.6) and represents a cost-effective solution to add capacity, enhance flexible grid operations, and save greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Ontario by reducing the need for carbon-intensive power plants during times of peak demand. The Project:

- Adds 350 MW of capacity and ~1,400 MWh of energy storage;
- Represents an initial capital investment of ~\$800 million;
- Interconnects to IESO using the Comber Wind Farm's existing 356 MW interconnection;
- Creates job opportunities; and
- Reduces chance of outages in the network.

The Project would consist of installing battery modules (containers) near the operating Comber Wind Farm, minimal additional power equipment, light civil, safety and security infrastructure. There will be no new overhead wires or infrastructure added.



Map of Comber BESS

Project Timeline

The Project is in the feasibility stage and is subject to the IESO determining the Project to be best for Ontario ratepayers. The IESO Project submission deadline is February 16, 2023, with a targeted contract offer date of May 1, 2023, for a baseline 20-year commitment. If the Comber BESS is awarded a contract from the IESO, construction will start between Q3-2023 and Q2-2024 and is expected to last ~12 months and to be operational by 2025-2026.

Project Community and Indigenous Engagement Approach

When we constructed the Comber and Gosfield Wind Farms in Lakeshore and Kingsville, we sought to maximize procurement opportunities for local businesses with many project materials purchased from local suppliers, and construction workforces coming from local communities. In addition, the projects created 300 temporary jobs, and 15 permanent local jobs for ongoing operations and maintenance. We also created opportunities to engage the public in the planning and development stages, which included opening an office in Cottam, ON. To keep the community up to date on the project's progress, we periodically mailed informational sheets to residents.

After the development of the projects, we sought to positively contribute to the local community by supporting a variety of organizations, including the Essex Region Conservation Authority, the Essex County Library and the Comber Agricultural Society. Since then, we continue to support multiple community initiatives and projects.

We plan to follow a similar approach throughout the lifetime of the Comber BESS. Early and meaningful engagement with all interested persons who may be affected by or have an interest in the Project is an integral component of the Project development process. Evolgen has generated a preliminary list of Indigenous Communities and potentially interested stakeholders for engagement. Indigenous Communities were initially identified based on an analysis of Indigenous territories and treaties in geographic proximity to the Project.

Evolugen will engage with Indigenous Communities and other stakeholders in a manner that is respectful of their needs and expressed levels of interest.

Engagement Plan Objectives

This Engagement Plan has been developed for Evolgen's proposed Project, a 350 MW BESS facility to be co-located with Evolgen's operating Comber Wind Farm in Lakeshore, Ontario.

This Plan is updated on an as-needed basis and aims to:

- Determine and inform stakeholders of the IESO's E-LT1 RFP process, goals and requirements;
- Provide project information, details, and updates;
- Highlight, document, and track actions taken to date and outline the planned next steps;

- Facilitate opportunities for community members to submit feedback; and
- Appropriately consider and respond to community feedback.

Community Engagement

Evolugen's overall objective for engagement is to establish and maintain positive relationships through a strong, transparent, and responsive engagement process with local communities and interest groups throughout the Project. Evolugen's other objectives are to:

- Facilitate timely access to Project information;
- Work with appropriate public representatives to identify and address interests and concerns;
- Identify opportunities for the community and work collaboratively for mutual benefit in relation to the Project;
- Incorporate interests and concerns earlier in the application process and prior to the development Project ; and
- Understand and incorporate local knowledge, where applicable, into the Project.

Evolugen has identified the following relevant list of stakeholders and may add others of interest as they are identified:

- Local government, including municipal and district councils, agencies and staff;
- Landowners, residents, and businesses in the vicinity of the Project;
- Interested members of the public;
- Environmental groups; and
- Community-based organizations.

Ongoing Community Engagement

Below are the activities we have completed to date and plan to take in the near future:

- We provided information on the IESO RFP and the Project to stakeholders and the individuals from the Municipality of Lakeshore;
- We provided information on the IESO RFP and the Project to Indigenous groups and communities in proximity to the Project;
- We shared information on the Project and details of public meetings through dedicated webpage;

- We publicized information related to public meetings through website, local community newspaper ads and Facebook ads;
- We mailed notices of public meetings to stakeholders and sent meeting invitations to the Municipality of Lakeshore via email;
- We hosted four Public Meetings to socialize the Project by utilizing poster boards and maps. Our team of experts were present at the meetings to answer questions from the public:
 - Wednesday, August 10 from 3:00 – 7:00pm at the Libro Community Centre;
 - Thursday, August 11 from 7:00 – 8:30pm on Zoom Webinar;
 - Monday, August 15 from 7:30 – 9:00pm on Zoom Webinar;
 - Thursday, October 27 from 5:00 – 7:00pm at the Comber Community Centre; and
- We collected feedback from stakeholders during public meetings.
- We will host a fifth Public Meeting to socialize the Project by utilizing poster boards and maps on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, from 4:00 – 6:00pm on Zoom Webinar.

Further to the actions above, Evolugen proposes to continue undertaking the activities below during the engagement phase:

- Maintaining open communication with the public to identify and/or address information needs or requests;
- Sharing Project updates and information with all stakeholders on the webpage;
- Facilitating public comment and open houses if required; and
- Scheduling meetings with local municipalities and tenure holders to review the Project.

Indigenous Engagement

We recognize that Indigenous peoples were the original inhabitants of the land that became Canada and respect that each Indigenous community has its own distinctive culture, traditions, values, and aspirations. As such, Evolugen values strong communication with Indigenous peoples particularly as it relates to the development of our projects and our on-going operations. Publishing our Indigenous Principles publicly affirms our values and our commitment to Indigenous peoples and is reflected in the strong partnerships we have been fortunate to foster including co-ownership of facilities.

Our existing Indigenous partnerships demonstrate our commitment to incorporating traditional knowledge in new projects and structuring them in ways that provide social, cultural, and economic benefits.

The primary Indigenous rights holder in the vicinity of this Project is the Caldwell First Nation. The Caldwell First Nation is a First Nations band government whose land base is located in Leamington, Ontario.

Evolugen's objective for engagement with Indigenous Communities is to provide opportunities for representatives to inform Evolgen of their interests in the Project. Evolgen's other objectives are to:

- Provide reasonable opportunities for the Indigenous Communities to identify how they wish to engage and understand how Evolgen can assist in promoting that engagement/participation;
- Facilitate timely access to Project information in a culturally sensitive manner;
- Identify opportunities for Indigenous Communities and Evolgen to work collaboratively and to mutually benefit in relation to the Project; and
- Support the goals of the Government of Ontario with respect to Indigenous rights, knowledge and reconciliation.

Indigenous Engagement to Date

We informed the Caldwell First Nation of the Project and will continue to engage as necessary. In addition, we met with the Three Fires Group to introduce our company, our project and to maintain ongoing discussions.

Conclusion

This Engagement Plan has been developed for Evolgen's proposed Comber BESS and is updated on an as needed basis.

For any questions regarding the Project or this Plan, please contact info@evolugen.com.