# Meeting Minutes: Public Meeting for the Proposed Fitzroy BESS Project

Evolugen hosted its second Public Meeting to introduce the proposed Fitzroy BESS Project on Zoom Webinar on Thursday, November 2, 2023, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

## Background & Meeting Purpose

After more than a decade of strong supply, Ontario is entering a period of emerging electricity system capacity needs, driven by:

- Increasing demand
- Retirement of the Pickering nuclear plant
- Refurbishment of other nuclear generating units, as well as
- Expiring contracts for existing facilities

To address these needs, the Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is continuing their competitive procurement process through the Long-Term Request for Proposals for ~2,500 MW of year-round renewable energy (1,600 MW of energy storage and 900 MW of natural gas).

In response to the IESO RFP, Evolugen is proposing the Fitzroy BESS project. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the project to the local community and obtain feedback that can be incorporated or addressed if the project moves forward.

## Agenda

- 6:30 – 7:15pm: Project Presentation
- 7:15 – 8:00 pm: Q&A Session

## Participants

### Internal (Evolugen/Brookfield Renewable)

- Mike Peters, Director, Public Affairs (Presenter)
- Alexandre Pépin-Ross, Vice-President, Asset Development
- Geoff Wright, Senior Vice-President, Head of Development, Canada
- Zachary Benoit, Senior Analyst, Business Development

- Robyn Moffatt, Manager, External Relations

**External**

- 45 community members registered, with 18 attending the virtual meeting.

## Meeting Minutes

| Time | Details |
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| 6:30pm | Welcome attendees and introductions |
| 6:36 – 7:15pm | Formal Project presentation (PowerPoint) shared on-screen, presented by Mike Peters. (*Project presentation is available on our website).*<br><br>• Welcome & Thanks for Attending<br>  ○ Presentation Outline<br>  ▪ Who we are<br>  ▪ IESO LT1 RFP overview<br>  ▪ What is the Project<br>  ▪ Why this location<br>  ▪ Next steps<br>  ▪ Open Q&A<br>• Canadian Presence – asset map<br>  ○ 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.<br>• Ontario Presence – asset map<br>  ○ 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 Fitzroy BESS. In |

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| | addition to various renewable facilities, Evolugen has six Plant Offices (small offices) located across the province.<br>• Our Philosophy<br>  ○ Foundation of our approach to doing business is a collaborative strategy to operating sustainably.<br>  ▪ Operating sustainably - Growing our renewable power portfolio while also having a positive environmental, social and economic impact on the communities where we live and work.<br>  ▪ Partnering locally- Our relationships with the communities where we own and develop assets is key to the success of all and, is predicated upon building trust through open dialogue and shared knowledge.<br>  ▪ Developing collaboratively - Striving to be a trusted partner of choice for governments, organizations and Indigenous Peoples looking to sustainably develop Canada's renewable power resources.<br>• Uniquely Positioned Partner<br>  ○ Evolugen's capabilities include:<br>  ▪ Extensive experience owning and operating renewable assets<br>  ▪ Broad expertise in project development<br>  ▪ across multiple technologies<br>  ▪ Low-risk developer with reputation for delivering on-time and on-budget<br>  ▪ Significant experience partnering with host communities and First Nations<br>  ▪ Committed to long-term and sustainable partnerships<br>  ▪ Execution excellence in complex business environments<br>  ▪ Sophisticated in-house trading, risk management and control centre capabilities<br>  ▪ Robust Health Safety Security & Environment (HSS&E) policy supported by our Environmental, Social & Governance program<br>• Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) LT1 RFP<br>  ○ Ontario recently launched a competitive procurement process, called the long-term request for proposals, LT1 RFP.<br>  ○ After more than a decade of strong supply, Ontario is entering a period of emerging electricity system capacity needs, driven by:<br>  ▪ Increasing demand<br>  ▪ Retirement of the Pickering nuclear plant |

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| | ▪ Refurbishment of other nuclear generating units, as well as<br>▪ Expiring contracts for existing facilities<br>○ To address these needs, the Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) is continuing their competitive procurement process through the Long-Term Request for Proposals for ~2,500 MW of year-round renewable energy (1,600 MW of energy storage and 900 MW of natural gas).<br>• Fitzroy BESS Project Overview – Scale Map<br>○ BRPI or an affiliate will be advancing the Fitzroy BESS Project.<br>○ Project will consist of installing battery modules, some additional power equipment, light civil, safety and security infrastructure.<br>○ Scale map that showed the boundaries of the Project site, the proposed location of battery containers and substation, location of the connection point and location of the connection line/transmission lines.<br>▪ Project is in the feasibility stage<br>▪ Sits on ~14 acres of an ~80-acre site<br>▪ Adds up to 250 MW of capacity and 1,000 MWh of energy storage<br>▪ Interconnects to IESO using the nearby 230 kV circuit<br>▪ LFP chemistry batteries<br>• Fitzroy BESS Project Highlights<br>○ Project adds renewable capacity and storage to meet Ontario's rising energy demands, especially during peak-periods, reducing the chance for power outages.<br>○ Project represents a local innovative low-carbon solution, with a large investment that will create job opportunities during the construction phase in the Fitzroy Harbour region.<br>○ Project supports sustainability efforts by reducing reliance on higher carbon intensive facilities.<br>○ Project is in the feasibility stage; subject to the IESO determining the Project to be best for Ontario ratepayers.<br>○ Project will make direct municipal tax contributions over the course of the Project life, funding services such as roads, parks, and education. We also plan to establish a Community Benefit Fund.<br>• How BESS Projects Work<br>○ Energy storage adds grid capacity, enhances flexible grid operations and avoids greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Ontario by reducing the need for carbon-intensive power plants during times of peak demand |

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| | ○ Diagram showing overview<br>• What BESS Facilities Look Like<br>○ Two examples of BESS projects in Indiana and Texas.<br>• Why This Location<br>○ We're exploring all options to be an economic driver in the community, working with the City of Ottawa, First Nations and partners to explore sustainable solutions<br>○ The Fitzroy BESS Project:<br>▪ Is strategically positioned next to an existing 230 kV transmission line with available capacity to support a 250 MW BESS<br>▪ Is located on Rural Land, avoiding development on agricultural land, to conform with the City of Ottawa's Official Plan<br>▪ Is located ~45 minutes from our Gatineau office<br>▪ Is situated more than 400 meters from the nearest residential home to lower the impact of noise and visual obstructions<br>○ Evolugen is committed to working with the City to ensure alignment with the Official Plan, relevant bylaws, and zoning requirements. We have engaged a local consulting firm to assist in the planning, consultation, and if necessary, application process as it related to land zoning.<br>• Primary Environmental Considerations<br>○ We're committed to working with communities and authorities to ensure safe and thoughtful planning of Fitzroy BESS Project.<br>○ Some of the primary concerns include:<br>▪ Noise<br>▪ Wildlife<br>▪ Fire<br>▪ Wetlands<br>▪ Trees<br>○ IF Evolugen is chosen by the IESO, we will need to obtain all required approvals and permits from the City of Ottawa and provincial authorities.<br>• Safety & Fire Mitigation<br>○ Our safety culture is exemplified by more than two decades of experience and our track record of zero employee or contractor fatalities.<br>○ Core elements of our fire safety approach include: |

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| | ▪ Prevent<br>• Technology Selection<br>• Safety Certification<br>• Installation Codes<br>• Testing for Performance<br>▪ Monitor<br>• Battery Management System (BMS) to monitor temperature, voltage, and more<br>• 24/7 staffed monitoring facility, located in our Gatineau office<br>• Maintenance program to ensure adequate BESS health<br>▪ Respond<br>• Fire response training and coordination<br>• Water is the preferred suppressant for firefighting<br>• Work with local first responders to ensure safe and effective response in case of an emergency<br>• Canadian Systems Control Centre<br>o Our Canadian Systems Control Centre is located in our Gatineau office and is staffed 24/7 to ensure safe operations<br>• Project Timeline & Next Steps<br>o May 2023: RFP Launches<br>o Sept 2023: Deliverability Results Posted<br>o Q4 2023: Project Public Engagement Commences<br>o Dec 12, 2023: IESO bid submission due<br>o Q2 2024: IESO Contract Announcement<br>o Permitting: obtain permits from the City of Ottawa, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and provincial authorities<br>o Q2/Q3 2025: Construction Commences, if awarded a contract and permits<br>o Q2 2028: Facility to be operational<br>o 2048: Contract with the IESO concludes. |
| 7:15 – 8:00pm | Please feel free to unmute yourself and ask questions orally or use the Q&A function of the webinar. We will repeat each question asked in the Q&A section. There is no chat function for the webinar. |

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| | **Questions** | **Answers** |
| | If something goes wrong, the fastest someone could see it from Gatineau will be 1.25 hrs on a good day? | As part of our fire safety approach, we have three core elements:<br>1. Prevent<br>• Technology Selection<br>• Safety Certification<br>• Installation Codes<br>• Testing for Performance<br>2. Monitor<br>• Battery Management System (BMS) to monitor temperature, voltage, and more<br>• 24/7 staffed monitoring facility, located in our Gatineau office<br>• Periodic visits from our maintenance team to ensure adequate BESS health<br>3. Respond<br>• Fire response training and coordination<br>• Water is the preferred suppressant for firefighting<br>• Work with local first responders to ensure safe and effective response in case of an emergency<br><br>Although the Fitzroy BESS will be monitored from our Canadian Control System Centre in Gatineau, we are coordinating with local emergency responders to implement an Emergency Response Plan. |
| | The proposal is set at 250MW, using a fraction of the land. Would expansion be a logical next step and what is the | There is no intention to increase the footprint of the Project over time:<br>• If we are successful, our contract would be for a fixed capacity;<br>• The 230 kV transmission line is only capable of taking the 250 MW; |

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| | site's maximum planned design? | The 14-acre footprint on the 80-acre property will not expand and we will work with neighbours and the local community to explore visual and noise mitigation ideas. |
| | This area has experienced severe wind events and the occasional earthquake. Have those possibilities been taken into consideration? | When designing a facility, we work with various engineers and consultants to ensure the facility is designed to withstand local weather conditions, like severe wind events as prescribed in the National Building Code of Canada (2020).<br><br>To prepare for natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and blizzards, we will include a specific section in our Emergency Preparedness & Prevention section of our Emergency Response Plan. |
| | What would the Community Benefit Fund entail? Can you say more about that? | We plan to establish a Community Benefit Fund which will be used to support various local programs, initiatives and organizations that focus on:<br>• Environmental initiatives;<br>• Health and safety;<br>• Education and research;<br>• Community services; and<br>• Indigenous communities.<br><br>The Project will make direct municipal tax contributions over the course of its life, funding services like roads, parks, and education.<br><br>We believe in supporting the communities where we live and work. With more than half of our Gatineau office employees living in the Ottawa region, we currently support various programs, initiatives and organizations. For example, over the past five years we've supported: the CHEO Foundation, the Ottawa Food Bank, Dress for Success Ottawa, Ottawa Riverkeeper, the Ottawa Hospital Foundation, United Way Ottawa and more. |
| | What is the lifecycle of the batteries? How will the | If awarded a contract from the IESO, it would start in May 2028 and last 20 years. At the end of the 20-year |

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| | used batteries be disposed of? | contract, if there is still a need for the battery to ensure the resilience of the electrical system and we are able to obtain another contract from the IESO, we would extend the life of the facilities including battery replacement if necessary. If, however, there was no longer a need for the system, we would remove the batteries and remediate the site.<br><br>Battery modules would be removed from the containers and transported to recycling facilities. At the facilities, the batteries would be recycled to recover valuable materials such as lithium carbonate, copper and aluminum. Recycling processes are being developed which recycle lithium-iron phosphate batteries, as well as other lithium-ion chemistries used more commonly in electric vehicles. |
| | Are these projects sprouting up around the world and in North America? | BESS facilities are becoming more common around the world, and in North America due to their unique ability to provide grid reliability and stability.<br><br>In the US alone, there is a total of 14,000 MW of battery storage system operation today, which is the equivalent of 56 Fitzroy projects, and this number is expected to double over the course of 2024. |
| | How does the transmission line get connected to the BESS? | For the Fitzroy BESS Project, we are planning to connect to the nearby 230 kV circuit (yellow line on the map which is the existing transmission lines). We would install power lines to connect our substation to the transmission lines (red line on the map). The BESS modules would be connected to the substation then energy would travel through the interconnection line to the transmission lines. |
| | Can you expand on the business side of the project. Is there a dollar figure you could share | Given the competitive nature of the IESO's project procurement process (LT1 RFP), we can not share exact |

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| | that IESO will pay per kwh for this stored, peak shaving energy? | figures. For the full results of the recent E-LT1 procurement round, please see here. |
| | How cost competitive is BESS compared to fossil fuel alternatives like gas peaker plants? Will I see savings on my electricity bills? | The IESO is procuring projects that are deemed best to Ontario ratepayers.<br>The answer to these questions depends on a number of factors including the use case, commodity prices and policy. For the full results of the recent E-LT1 procurement round, please see here. |
| | Is Evolugen considering another plot of land in the Ottawa area or is it set on Homesteaders Road? | For this project, we are focused on this particular location at the corner of Galetta Side Rd and Homesteaders Rd. |
| | Will you be constructing a pond? Just in case that improbable fire happens? | We are exploring various water options with our engineers and consultants. We note the absence of hydrants at the site and will determine whether upgrades are required or whether tanker trucks can shuttle water from nearby hydrants. |
| | Will the BESS provide other services to the grid besides peak shaving? | The Fitzroy BESS Project will add capacity by storing energy during non-peak hours, 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.<br>The BESS system is also enhancing the grid resiliency and stability by providing ancillary services like operating reserve and frequency regulation. |
| | Will you be using Tesla megapack batteries? If not, why did you pick another supplier over the well-established product of Tesla? | Given the Fitzroy BESS Project is in the feasibility stage, we have not selected an equipment vendor. However, equipment decisions will be based on the quality and safety of the components and will adhere to all applicable standards and certifications. |

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| | Will the IESO have command and control of the Fitzroy battery? | Evolugen, would be the operator of the Fitzroy BESS Project, meaning we have command and control over the entire facility. If the project is awarded a contract and joins the IESO market, the IESO would have the ability to 'dispatch' the facility by sending automated signals calling for a specific amount of power dispatch (generation or load) from the facility. As the operator of the facility, Evolugen will be required to accept the dispatches and in turn command the battery to deliver the dispatched quantity, as required. |
| | Is it likely/ possible that the BESS will be used to facilitate wind or increased solar in the area in the future? | We are only exploring the proposed Fitzroy BESS Project, as the nearby 230 kV only has capacity for 250 MW, which would be used for the Fitzroy BESS Project. Energy storage systems play an important role in balancing generation and demand, as well as providing other grid support services. |
| | What is the BESS position with respect to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) directives? | The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) and the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) work in tandem to ensure efficiency and reliability of Ontario's electricity grid. The OEB sets the regulatory framework and establishes policies, rules, and guidelines that govern the energy sector in Ontario. This includes setting electricity rates, approving infrastructure investments, and overseeing market rules. The IESO operates within this regulatory framework and implements the policies and rules established by the OEB. |
| | BESS systems are improving rapidly, and regulations are always paying catch up. Which bodies are we subject to here? UL, IEC? | There are various standards and certifications that are required to build this type of project. These standards and certifications ensure that the facility is designed and managed safely. The Fitzroy BESS Project will obtain and comply with all standards and certifications.<br><br>The main standard bodies we will comply with are Underwriters Laboratory (UL) Canada and the Canadian Standards Association. |

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| | Is Brookfield entertaining Pumped Hydro? | Evolugen is active in the development of many renewables energy technologies, inclusive of pumped hydro.<br><br>Brookfield Renewable (our parent company) owns and operates a 633 MW pumped hydro storage facility, named Bear Swamp in Massachusetts, US. |
| | I was unable to attend the in-person session yesterday. Was this webinar/slide show presented? If yes, can you comment on the reaction of participants? | The same PowerPoint Presentation was shared during both last night's in-person meeting and tonight's virtual meeting, which can be found on our website.<br><br>To date, we've seen a high level of community engagement, and concerns being expressed. The main themes reiterated during the in-person meeting on November 1, 2023, were the risk of fire and the benefits to the local community. We are committed to working with the community to try and address those concerns to the extent possible. |
| | Evolugen seems to be a Quebec company from the address listed on your website, do you have any projects with Hydro Quebec? | In 2021, we entered into a long-term renewable energy Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Hydro-Quebec to utilize output from our Lievre hydro portfolio in Quebec (263 MW). |
| | Will you be developing more battery projects in the Ottawa area? | We continue to explore other projects in Ottawa and around Ontario. But our focus during this meeting is on the Fitzroy BESS Project and gathering feedback on the proposal. |