

| Feedback | Webinar transcription |
|--|--|
| What impact will IRP efforts have on Natural Gas Rates | IRP efforts are designed to address capacity constraints in a way that's optimal and cost effective. The OEB, our regulator, has approved a cost effectiveness test that looks at traditional pipeline versus non-facility solutions. To the extent that a non-facility alternative is less expensive than a traditional facility solution, the impacts on rates to meet those demand needs with the IRP alternative would be less than if we had implemented the facility project. The approval for specific cost consequences for an IRP alternative would be based on the details of that project and where required, brought forward for approval to the OEB through the IRP plan approval process on a per project basis. |
| Does the pursuit of IRP mean Enbridge won't be investing in new infrastructure in our communities | Ensuring we can meet the demands of natural gas customers is the core of what we do here at Enbridge Gas, and so we will continue to invest and work with our communities. The IRP efforts are there to help ensure we are taking into consideration a wider mix of alternatives, and then ultimately looking at the most cost-effective alternative to address a system constraint, whether that is traditional facility or IRP alternatives. |
| When will Enbridge reach out to my community? | <p>Community engagement within the IRP process is determined by both system conditions and project specific factors. When system constraints are identified and IRP alternatives have been determined to be viable for implementation, we will be directly engaging with the relevant municipalities at that time.</p> <p>This approach ensures that engagement is targeted and meaningful, and it's been outlined in the slides that we have shared.</p> |
| <p>My understanding is that with the Southern Lake Huron IRP Pilot (Sarnia Saves: For Home) requires customers to permanently disconnect or remove their natural gas furnace in order to get the free heat pump.</p> <p>Is that correct? What has been the customer response so far?</p> | <p>With the installation of a heat pump through Sarnia Saves, there is a requirement to remove the backup gas furnace. If a customer has an existing natural gas furnace, they would need to remove it in order to receive the free heat pump. However, they would not have to disconnect their gas altogether. The customer can still keep their gas water heater, gas stove, and the gas service connection itself.</p> <p>For Sarnia Saves, there is a maximum of 20 air-source heat pumps available. Interest has been quite strong so far, and we have now reached a waitlist.</p> |
| For demand side IRP solutions, are electricity, hybrid gas/electric, or district energy system solutions in scope/allowed? | The current IRP framework from the OEB does not include electrification as an IRP measure. As such, none of the solutions noted here would be in scope for our IRP assessment. However, we are testing electrification measures as part of both of our pilots, which provide a small and isolated environment to explore and gain those specific learnings. More broadly, there is currently a review of the IRP framework, led by the OEB, that's underway. As part of that process, consideration of electrification as an IRP measure is being explored. |
| Is hydrogen a potential IRPA because it's not natural gas, or is it not an IRPA because it is still a "pipeline" solution? | Given that IRP alternatives are focused on non-pipeline alternatives, we do not consider hydrogen as an IRP, as it would still require pipeline infrastructure. IRP is focusing on reducing, deferring, or avoiding the need for new infrastructure, where technical and economically viable. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Do IRPAs ever originate (i.e. proposed) by stakeholders, or do they always originate from Enbridge?</p> <p>Does Enbridge actively solicit IRPA ideas from stakeholders?</p> | <p>IRP identification starts with understanding our system needs and it's identified through the investments in our asset management plan. During the system planning process, our Energy and Policy Team seek feedback from stakeholders, like municipal staff, local distribution companies, the IESO, and large-volume contract customers. At this point in time, stakeholders could potentially bring IRPA ideas forward, but ultimately it is dependent upon the system constraint, as well as project-specific factors. Once a system need is identified, then we initiate the IRP assessment process and engage stakeholders where applicable.</p> |
| <p>What companies are included in a technical working group?</p> <p>Are the IRPA analysis published publicly?</p> | <p>The technical working group is an OEB-led forum. Back in 2021, the OEB sought nominations from stakeholder parties who had the interest in participating in the working group. The membership of this working group was determined by the OEB based on the technical background and expertise provided by these interested individuals.</p> <p>Regarding whether the IRPA analysis is published publicly: we file our asset management plan and within that plan, there is an Appendix B, which captures the results of the IRP assessment for every single projects. The most recent plan was filed in fall 2025, which is the typical timing for that filing.</p> |
| <p>For the pilot projects, fuel switching is a key characteristic.</p> <p>What is incentivizing Enbridge to voluntarily lose customers to electrification?</p> <p>Won't this negatively impact your business?</p> | <p>Our system pruning pilot project is currently at an exploratory stage. But both pilot projects came about as a result of the OEB proposing Enbridge Gas explore these pilots.</p> <p>With regards to electrification, it may seem counterintuitive and there may not appear to be an incentive for Enbridge to voluntarily move customers to electricity. But what we're trying to understand through this pilot is the cost of conversion relative to the cost of replacing infrastructure. We want to gather actual field data, understand the conversion potential, customer perspectives, as well as the financial aspects of it to determine if it's a viable solution going forward. There could be niche areas where this could make sense, where the conversion may be cheaper than the facility alternative. And so, the pilot will provide some real data from the field and implementation to gain a better understanding.</p> |