

HOW TO POWER UP WITH TORONTO HYDRO DEVELOPER MANUAL



The intent of this manual is to provide an overarching view of the Ontario electricity sector structure and Toronto Hydro's connection procedures for developers and contractors who are planning or initiating connections with Toronto Hydro distribution services.

This manual is not a technical guide to interconnect to the Toronto Hydro system. However, it outlines the requirements of developing a project with Toronto Hydro to help ensure that developers are prepared in advance of and during execution of the formal connection process.

Toronto Hydro strives to operate as a utility of the future with a forward-looking mindset. To that end, we've initiated grid modernization offerings, developed a Climate Action Plan, and are implementing the City of Toronto's Green Standard. These topics are addressed towards the end of this manual to help increase awareness for developers when planning and designing their projects.

For more information on powering up with Toronto Hydro, please refer to our Conditions of Service at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

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ONTARIO ELECTRICITY SECTOR STRUCTURE

Ontario is the second-largest producer of electricity in Canada. In 2021, the grid-connected capacity totalled 38,079 megawatts (MW)¹. The robust electricity system includes generators, transmitters, distributors and numerous governing bodies that work together to provide safe and reliable electricity to residents of Ontario.

¹ 2021 Year in Review, available at ieso.ca/en/corporate-IESO/media/year-end-data.

Generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in Ontario

The process of generating power and supplying it to customers throughout Ontario involves planning and coordination between multiple entities. *Figure 1* illustrates the traditional electricity flow structure, which moves from generation to transmission to distribution.

FIGURE 1: Electricity flow structure



Generation

Electricity is produced by generation companies. Ontario Power Generation (OPG), a provincially owned company, is the largest generator in Ontario, with the bulk of power generation coming from nuclear facilities. However, Ontario's electricity supply mix comes from multiple sources, as shown in *Figure 2*.

FIGURE 2: Ontario's transmission-connected capacity (September 2022)



The total provincial transmission-connected generating capacity is 38,096 MW. This number doesn't include the electricity generated from Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) or the electricity that is traded through energy market interconnections.

Transmission

The generated electricity must travel across Ontario on high-voltage transmission lines to reach local utilities. In Ontario, most of these transmission lines are owned and operated by Hydro One.

Hydro One assets interface with distribution assets across Ontario, and act as the only interface for distribution assets owned and operated by Toronto Hydro. Toronto Hydro works closely with Hydro One to supply power to the city of Toronto.

Hydro One conducts regional infrastructure planning as part of a scheduled process or may develop plans as a result of a substantial service demand requirement from developers or customers on the Toronto Hydro system. This regional and infrastructure planning process drives the transmissionscale investments that could occur within Toronto Hydro's service territory.

Distribution

The vast majority of Ontarians receive electrical supply through Local Distribution Companies (LDCs) such as Toronto Hydro. Also known as utilities, LDCs own and operate distribution assets to deliver electricity to customers under rules and policies set out by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). In addition, LDCs are mandated to report annually to the OEB on a set of performance indicators to ensure safe and efficient operation of the distribution system.

Toronto Hydro is the electricity distributor in the city of Toronto. As such, Toronto Hydro owns and operates a network of distribution assets to supply power to all customers in the city. Toronto Hydro employs a modern asset management system that ensures all assets are maintained or renewed to achieve the optimum return-in-value and deliver a safe and reliable power supply to customers.

Regulators, policymakers and key stakeholders

The following governing bodies regulate and set policies for the entire electricity system in Ontario.

Ontario Energy Board

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) regulates the provincial energy sector in the public interest. The following table outlines some of the entities that operate under the rules and requirements set out by the OEB.

TABLE 1: OEB's role across key entities

ENTITY	OEB ROLE
Generators	Issues licenses to all generation companies.
Transmitters	Licenses transmission companies, reviews and sets the transmission rate, and sets and enforces rules and customer service standards.
Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO)	Licenses IESO and sets fees that IESO can charge.
Local Distribution Companies (LDCs)	Issues distribution licenses to LDCs, sets and enforces rules and customer service standards, and reviews and sets delivery rates.
Energy Retailers	Licenses energy retailers who operate under a set of consumer protection rules. Visit the OEB website for a list of active energy retailers in Ontario: oeb.ca/consumer-information-and-protection/ energy-contracts/licensed-energy-retailers
Customers	Promotes consumer awareness and protection. Visit the OEB website for more information on the OEB's role regarding consumer awareness and protection: oeb.ca/consumer-information-and-protection/oebs-consumer-protection-role

The OEB is responsible for approving the prudent capital and operational investments undertaken by utilities within Ontario. Toronto Hydro is required to submit Distribution System Plans for regularly forecast periods to provide the OEB and interested stakeholders with information around the utility's approach to asset performance, lifecycle asset management planning, capital-related expenditure planning, and planned investments related to all assets and the connection of Renewable Energy Generation (REG). There are four key investment categories as part of a Distribution System Plan:

- System access
- System renewal
- System service
- General plant

For these investment categories, utility rates become the means by which the weighted average cost of capital is paid over time. As some developers and customers engage Toronto Hydro, their requested service connections or expansions may trigger investment requirements that would be captured in a Distribution System Plan. These service connections or expansion requests could impact developer project timelines and costs, as Toronto Hydro may have to coordinate with other investment plans and capital work identified in the Distribution System Plan. For more information on the OEB's distribution system planning requirements, visit **oeb.ca/regulatory-rules-and-documents/rules-codesand-requirements/filing-requirements-transmissiondistribution-applications**.

Distribution System Code

The Distribution System Code (DSC) is set out by the OEB and highlights the requirements that a local utility must meet to distribute electricity within its licensed service area. While the DSC mostly consists of rules and requirements pertaining to utilities, it also includes relevant information for developers looking to connect to Ontario's electricity system.

Visit the OEB website to learn more about the DSC at oeb.ca/regulatory-rules-and-documents/rules-codesand-requirements/distribution-system-code-dsc.

The DSC also requires all utilities to produce a Conditions of Service document highlighting the types and levels of service available to customers within the licensed service territory. The Conditions of Service outlines the rights and obligations of the distributor and the customer, and forms a binding contract between them for the duration of the acceptance of supply of electricity from the distributor.

The Toronto Hydro Conditions of Service are referenced extensively in this developer manual. To access a copy of our Conditions of Service, visit **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

Distribution licence

The OEB supplies licences to utilities such as Toronto Hydro to distribute electricity to customers. The distribution licence defines the service area for a utility company, where it may only operate within its licensed territory. No utility company is allowed to sell electricity in Ontario without a distribution licence, which imposes various rules and requirements that must be followed.

Rate development

Regulated utilities and distribution companies generate revenue through rates — where they charge their customers for the regulated services. The OEB sets requirements for distributors to submit a rate application along with their Distribution System Plan. The rate application outlines the requested rates of service that a distributor will charge its customers. Rates are then annually adjusted by a regulated formula until the next application.

For information on Toronto Hydro's rate development methodology, visit **torontohydro.com/investmentplan**.

LDC capital structure

The OEB provides guidelines through its Report of the Board on Cost of Capital for Ontario's Regulated Utilities and sets values to determine the Return on Equity (ROE), deemed long- and short-term debt rate for cost of service, and financing approaches. Toronto Hydro sets its capital structure in accordance with this guideline for rate-making purposes. To learn more about Toronto Hydro's capital structure, please refer to Schedule 1, Exhibit 5 — Cost of Capital from the 2020 to 2024 Cost of Capital filing, found at **torontohydro.com/2020-cir-application**.

Independent Electricity System Operator

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) directs the flow of electricity across the bulk grid and controls the wholesale electricity market. It also sets the hourly Ontario electricity price and ensures that Ontario's power needs are met in a timely manner. The IESO is regulated by the OEB.

The Regional Planning Process is an important activity led by the IESO. This planning process ensures a reliable supply of electricity to Ontario's 21 electricity planning regions, and considers conservation, generation, transmission and distribution, and innovation as part of the process. Significantly large developments in the Toronto Hydro service area could trigger the IESO planning process and require coordination with Hydro One, and could ultimately lead to a Regional Planning Study.

For new loads that are greater than 10 megavolt-amps (MVA), a System Impact Assessment is required to be conducted by the IESO as per Section 2 of the IESO Market Manual. This may require additional time for IESO and Hydro One review and approval, and may also increase the cost of the assessment. For more information, visit **ieso.ca/en/sector-participants/connection-process/overview**.

Developers with large connection or expansion projects should contact Toronto Hydro during the initial planning phase.

IESO funding programs

In addition to the Regional Planning process, the IESO also offers funding programs to incentivize developers and promote the evolution of the Ontario electricity system. Further information about funding programs led by the IESO can be found at **ieso.ca/en/get-involved/ funding-programs**.

The IESO also initiated Save on Energy, which is an energy efficiency program offered to provide incentives and resources to make energy efficiency projects more affordable. The program also raises awareness on ways to help reduce energy waste. For more information about these programs, visit **saveonenergy.ca/en/about**.

Electrical Safety Authority

The Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) is a not-for-profit organization that regulates and promotes electrical safety in Ontario. The ESA identifies and targets leading causes of electricity-related harm, promotes public safety awareness, and works with utilities and other stakeholders to improve electrical safety in Ontario. Under Part VIII of the Electricity Act, the ESA administers the following four regulations:

- Ontario Electrical Safety Code
- Licensing of Electrical Contractors and Master Electricians
- Electrical Distribution Safety
- Electrical Product Safety

The Ontario Electrical Safety Code (OESC) outlines detailed safety standards for electrical installations, products and equipment in Ontario. Along with regulations under the Canadian Electrical Code (CEC) Part I set by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), the OESC also has Ontariospecific amendments with which all developers must comply. The ESA undertakes inspection of service equipment and related wiring installations, and reviews work at each stage of electric installation. As such, developers must request an inspection with the ESA and receive approval prior to energization of a project by Toronto Hydro. Please contact your designated Toronto Hydro representative for the service layout and visit **esasafe.com** for guidance on developer obligations.

More information on inspections required before connection and associated timelines can be found in Section 2.1.4 of our Conditions of Service.

City of Toronto

The City of Toronto is Toronto Hydro's sole shareholder. Toronto Hydro's Board of Directors is responsible for supervising the management of the business and affairs of the corporation through a City Council-approved Shareholder Direction, which provides the Board with the City's fundamental principles regarding Toronto Hydro's business. This framework sets out the accountability, responsibility and relationship between the Board and the City.

The Toronto Hydro Board consists of 11 members appointed by City Council and comprises of eight public members appointed through the City's public appointments process and three City Council members, one of whom is the Mayor or Council member-designate.

Toronto Hydro's relationship with the City and other affiliates is subject to the OEB's Affiliate Relationships Code.

Government of Ontario

The Ministry of Energy establishes energy policies in accordance with the provincial government's policies and mandate.

TORONTO HYDRO.

Toronto Hydro Corporation owns two subsidiaries — Toronto Hydro Electric System Limited (THESL, but usually referred to as Toronto Hydro) and Toronto Hydro Energy Services Inc. (THESI). THESL owns and operates the electricity distribution system in the city of Toronto, while THESI provides streetlighting and expressway lighting services.

Characteristics

Toronto Hydro is one of the largest municipal electricity distribution companies in Canada. We are responsible for delivering safe and reliable electricity to our customers, operating efficiently and sustainably, and providing high-quality customer service. Toronto Hydro is an amalgamation of former hydro-electric commissions from six different municipalities that came together on January 1, 1998, to form the amalgamated city of Toronto.

Customers

Toronto Hydro distributes electricity to more than 780,000 customers across three customer classes:²

- 703,947 **Residential Service** customers, which include houses
- 82,711 **General Service** customers, which include schools, restaurants and shopping malls
- 46 Large Users, which include hospitals, universities and large manufacturers requiring monthly peak demand greater than or equal to 5,000 kilowatts (kW)

Assets owned

Toronto Hydro owns the following approximate number of assets and infrastructure:²

- 1 control centre
- 15,406 circuit kilometres of overhead wires
- 13,681 circuit kilometres of underground wires
- 141 in-service municipal substations
- 17,160 primary switches
- 61,140 distribution transformers

Service area

Toronto Hydro serves the city of Toronto, bounded by Steeles Avenue to the north, Lake Ontario to the south, Mississauga to the west and Scarborough/Pickering Townline to the east. As shown in *Figure 3*, Toronto Hydro's service territory includes the urban centre in downtown Toronto, referred to as the "Core" and suburban area referred to as the "Horseshoe" area.

Toronto Hydro provides the same high level of service throughout our territory; however, some system operation configuration requirements differ depending on the location or supply district within that service territory. The primary differences in supplies can be seen in *Figure 3*, with Toronto Hydro primarily operating 13.8/8 kilovolt (kV) circuits within the Core and 27.6/16 kV circuits within the Horseshoe area. These differences are explored further in Section 2.3.4 of our Conditions of Service.



FIGURE 3: Areas of the Toronto Hydro distribution system

Peak annual demand

Toronto Hydro has experienced a steady increase in customers over the years. As of 2020, Toronto Hydro's overall system average peak demand was 3,572,695 kW. Certain areas with a high concentration of condominiums and other urban developments have seen an increase in demand.

Distribution voltages

Toronto Hydro typically connects new customers at 27.6 kV or 13.8 kV primary voltage levels. Toronto Hydro still maintains the legacy 4.16 kV supply and has an ongoing program to gradually convert these plants to the standard voltages of 27.6 kV in the Horseshoe and 13.8 kV in the Core.

Similarly, Toronto Hydro's nominal secondary voltages are as follows:

- 120/240 volts (V), single phase, three wire
- 120/208 V, three phase, four wire
- 347/600 V, three phase, four wire

To learn more about standard voltage offerings at Toronto Hydro based on customer class, please refer to Section 2.3.4 of our Conditions of Service at

torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice.

Distribution configuration

This section describes the different distribution system configurations that operate within Toronto Hydro's system.

The Horseshoe area system is primarily arranged in a looped configuration. All feeders in the 27.6 kV system are designed in an open-loop configuration with tie points that connect to other feeders. Although underground configurations may either be radial or looped, the Core area's predominant configuration is a dual radial scheme. For the 13.8 kV system in the Core area, there are three types of distribution design system:

- Radial and dual-radial systems
- Looped systems
- Secondary network

Figure 4 shows radial and dual-radial configurations in residential, multi-residential and high-rise developments.



FIGURE 4: Radial and dual-radial configurations — residential, multi-residential, high-rise

Similarly, *Figure 5* shows **looped configuration** in residential, multi-residential and high-rise developments.



Depending on customer needs and existing system infrastructure nearby, there are three key supply scheme offerings available to developers to connect to the Toronto Hydro system:

- Direct supply from Toronto Hydro's transformer
- Supply from Toronto Hydro's equipment on customer's property
- High-voltage supply from Toronto Hydro with customer-owned transformation on private property

The following section provides supporting information on these supply offerings, including customer classification type, primary voltage, supply voltage, maximum service size, and maximum demand load or transformer size.

Toronto Hydro will determine, at our sole discretion, the customer's type of supply based on factors that include, but are not limited to, reliability, capacity, and operational and system design considerations.

Direct supply from Toronto Hydro's transformer

Toronto Hydro can supply electricity from our transformer using public road allowances when the electrical demand falls within the thresholds summarized in Table 2. (Table 3 in Section 5 of our Conditions of Service provides more details on this topic: torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice.)

TABLE 2: Toronto Hydro transformer direct supply offerings from public road allowance

CUSTOMER TYPE	PRIMARY VOLTAGE	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	MAX. SERVICE SIZE	MAX. DEMAND LOAD
Residential	All	120/240 V, 1ph, 3w	200 A	38 kVA
			400 A ³	76 kVA
Commercial/ Industrial/ Multi-Residential	All	120/240 V, 1ph, 3w	400 A ⁴	76 kVA
		120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	400 A ⁵	115 kVA
		347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	100 A	83 kVA
		120/240 V, 1ph, 3w + 347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	N/A	100 kVA
nh = nhase w = wire kVA = kilovolt-amps				

Notes:

³400 A residential services are supplied via underground supply arrangement only. Where the service is located in an area with an overhead secondary distribution system, the service must be connected directly to the transformer via an underground supply arrangement.

⁴ 400 A commercial/industrial/multi-residential customers are supplied directly from the transformer secondary bushings and not from the secondary bus.

⁵ Depending on system availability, customers located in the downtown core seeking a demand load greater than 400 A at 120/208 V may have the option of being supplied from the secondary network distribution system.

The supply configuration may depend on the service area and which system is available for the proposed connection to the Toronto Hydro system. Please refer to Figure 6 to understand customer responsibilities for overhead electrical service and Figure 7 for underground electrical service.

FIGURE 6: Overhead electrical service for direct supply from Toronto Hydro's transformer

Customer's responsibility Toronto Hydro's responsibility



Indoor metering

Indoor metering



For reference only. Drawing is not to scale.

FIGURE 7: Underground electrical service for direct supply from Toronto Hydro's transformer

Customer's responsibility

Outdoor metering

Toronto Hydro's responsibility



For reference only. Drawing is not to scale.

Supply from Toronto Hydro's equipment on customer's property

Toronto Hydro requires customers to install and pay for a Toronto Hydro-owned transformer on their property should their demand exceed the threshold as described in the previous section. Customers have the option to choose between a pad-mounted or a building vault transformer. *Table 3* provides more details on Toronto Hydro's transformer offerings and maximum load size.

For more information, please refer to Table 4 in Section 5 of our Conditions of Service.

TABLE 3: Toronto Hyd	ro transformer supp	y offerings on	customer's property
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EQUIPMENT TYPE	PRIMARY VOLTAGE	SUPPLY VOLTAGE	MAX. TRANSFORMER SIZE	SUPPLY CONFIGURATION	SERVICE AREA
	All	120/240 V, 1ph, 3w	167 kVA	 Radial Looped	Core/ Horseshoe
Pad-Mounted	17.0/0 40/	120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	500 kVA ⁶	• Radial	Core/
Transformer	15.8/8 KV —	347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	500 kVA ⁶	 Looped 	Horseshoe
		120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	750 kVA ⁷	• Radial	Horseshoe
27.6/16 4	27.0/10 KV	347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	3,000 kVA	• Looped	
	All	120/240 V, 1ph, 3w	167 kVA	 Radial Looped Dual Radial Looped 	Core/ Horseshoe
Vault	17.8/9.4/	120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	1,500 kVA		Core/
Transformer 27.6/16 kV	13.0/ 0 KV	347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	.00 V, 3ph, 4w 2,500 kVA		Horseshoe
		120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	1,500 kVA	• Radial	Horseshoe
	27.6/16 kV —	347/600 V, 3ph, 4w	2,500 kVA	Looped	
Network Transformer ⁸	13.8/8 kV	120/208 V, 3ph, 4w	1,000 kVA (2-unit) 2,000 kVA (3-unit)	 Grid Network Spot Network 600 V Network⁹ 	Core

ph = phase w = wire kVA = kilovolt-amps

For all service sizes and types, the customer is required to install appropriate fusing to ensure that demand load does not exceed the transformer capacity.

Notes:

- ⁶ 750 kVA-sized pad-mounted transformers may be available in some areas of the pre-amalgamation Metro Toronto area with 13.8/8 kV primary voltage, and are subject to Toronto Hydro's review and approval.
- ⁷ 1,500 kVA-sized pad-mounted transformers may be available in some areas of Etobicoke, York, North York, East York and Scarborough with 27.6/16 kV primary voltage, and are subject to Toronto Hydro's review and approval.
- ⁸ Customers seeking demand loads greater than the two-unit and three-unit transformer vault thresholds noted in *Table 3* may be supplied from additional transformers. These transformers may be situated within the same vault or additional vaults. The availability of supply options can vary by area. Selections are subject to Toronto Hydro's review and approval.
- ⁹ The 600 V Network is currently a pilot project available to select customers. Selections are subject to Toronto Hydro's review and approval.

Pad-mounted transformers

Pad-mounted transformers are housed at ground level and connected through an underground connection. *Figure 8* shows how a pad-mounted transformer would be used to supply electricity to the customer. To learn more about the requirements for pad-mounted transformers, please refer to Reference #5a — "Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned Structures" in our Conditions of Service.



For reference only. Drawing is not to scale. Actual configuration/layout may vary.

Vault transformer

Toronto Hydro-owned transformers should be stored in a customer-owned building vault on private property, as seen in *Figure 9*. Please refer to Reference #5a — "Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned Structures" in our Conditions of Service to learn more about the requirements for transformer vaults.



Network transformation

Network transformation at demand loads highlighted in *Table 3* is available for some customers in the Core area. Please refer to Section 2 of our Conditions of Service to learn more about network transformation and options available when the demand is within the threshold mentioned in *Table 3*.

The network system provides high reliability and resiliency, as multiple network transformers are interconnected on the secondary side to collectively supply one or multiple customers. As additional feeders, network vaults and transformers are introduced to a network system, the resiliency and capacity of the overall system increases, as the network can potentially withstand multiple contingency events and assets can be loaded to a higher degree. There are two main configurations of the network system:

- **Spot Network:** Single network vault that supplies one or more customers as illustrated in *Figure 10*. Typically supplies one large customer at 120/208 V or 347/600 V (see page 28 of this manual to learn more)
- **Grid Network:** Multiple network vaults that are tied together on the secondary side and supply multiple customers as illustrated in *Figure 11*. Typically supplies multiple customers in high load-density areas at 120/208 V

High-voltage supply from Toronto Hydro with customer-owned transformation on private property

When the requested peak demand exceeds Toronto Hydro's transformation offerings outlined in *Table 3*, customers will need to install a high-voltage substation on their property to receive primary voltage supply from Toronto Hydro. In this supply method, the customer will be responsible to install step-down transformers on the property where needed to transform the voltage for use.

In some instances, large customers will be required to install multiple feeder supplies as connection assets to satisfy Toronto Hydro's thermal requirements. In the Core area, when two or more feeders are designed to operate in parallel, circuit breakers and line differential (pilot wire) relay protection, and remote trip receiving relay(s) are required. This may result in additional costs.

Please refer to Reference #4 — "Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned High-Voltage Substations" in our Conditions of Service to learn more.



FIGURE 10: Typical spot network

Customer classifications

Toronto Hydro has a broad spectrum of developers that require service, ranging from mixed and multi-residential high-rise towers to industrial and commercial single-feed supply connections. Toronto Hydro will facilitate the connection requirements of a developer based on their unique technical requirements and project considerations.

Table 4 outlines categories of connection based on demand size. This information is also available in our Conditions of Service (Section 5, *Table 1*).

TABLE 4: Connection categories

CLASS	DEMAND SIZE	CUSTOMER CLASS
1	Single Service	Residential
2	< 50 kW	General Service/Single Service
3a	50 – 999 kW	Single building/bulk-metered/suite metering
3b	50 – 999 kW	Multi-unit/townhouse complex/transformation facilities on private property
3c	50 – 999 kW	Residential subdivision
4 & 5	> 1,000 kW	Single or multiple building/transformation facilities on private property

Key documents and references

The following documents, guidelines and references provide detailed information on Toronto Hydro's supply offerings and connection process.

Conditions of Service

Toronto Hydro's Conditions of Service and its reference documents provide information on Toronto Hydro's service offerings, connection rules as prescribed in the DSC, requirements from customers and Toronto Hydro's obligations to our customers. The Conditions of Service is a requirement by the DSC to be produced and maintained by LDCs operating in Ontario.

Developers should thoroughly review the appropriate sections of our Conditions of Service to verify their rights and obligations, and applicable distribution configuration and supply scheme requirements for a connection to the Toronto Hydro system.

The following reference documents associated with our Conditions of Service provide more detailed information about Toronto Hydro's service offerings and obligations to our customers:

Reference #1 — "Economic Evaluation Model for Distribution System Expansion"

- Outlines the methodologies and assumptions used in the economic evaluation model. This section provides developers with guidance on how Toronto Hydro calculates the cost associated with system expansions
- Describes which costs would be covered by the utility and which costs may require funding from the developer

Reference #2 — "Standard Connection Agreements — Terms of Conditions"

- Highlights the terms and conditions of a Standard Connection Agreement between Toronto Hydro and our customers
- Outlines the binding commitment that Toronto Hydro has with the developer to provide a connection to the distribution system and includes, but is not limited to, reliability, maintenance, testing and dispute arbitration

Reference #3 — "Distributed Generation Requirements"

- Provides information on various types of generating facilities interconnections available to customers and how the interconnection will be implemented for developers
- Outlines detailed information on governing laws, technical requirements, timelines and connection costs for generation facilities intending to connect to Toronto Hydro's distribution system

Reference #4 — "Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned High-Voltage Substations"

• Outlines the requirements for Toronto Hydro customers when designing and constructing 13.8 kV or 27.6 kV customer-owned substations with the purpose of (a) assuring safe conditions for the customer and Toronto Hydro personnel in operating and maintaining customer-owned substations and (b) assuring a continuity of supply to all customers by using adequate specifications and proper design factors

Reference #5a — "Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned Structures"¹⁰

 Provides guidance to Toronto Hydro customers and their agents in the preparation of plans and proposals for the construction of new or rebuilding of existing customer-owned structures (e.g., poles, cables chambers, cable pull rooms, duct banks, etc.)

Reference #5b — "Construction Standards Referenced in Requirements for the Design and Construction of Customer-Owned Structures"¹⁰

• Provides design drawings and diagrams supporting the construction standards for the design and construction of customer-owned structures

Reference #6 — "Metering Requirements 750 V or Less"

- Provides guidance to Toronto Hydro customers and their agents in the design, preparation of plans and proposed service installation for 750 V or less
- The requirements apply to all new, rearranged or upgraded services (both permanent and temporary) and are intended to provide an efficient and safe supply with respect to revenue metering

Reference #7 — "Metering Requirements for 13.8 kV and 27.6 kV Customer-Owned Substations"¹⁰

- Provides guidance to Toronto Hydro customers and their agents in the design, preparation of plans and proposed service installation for 13.8 kV and 27.6 kV customer-owned substations
- The requirements apply to all new, rearranged or upgraded services (both permanent and temporary) and are intended to provide an efficient and safe supply with respect to revenue metering

Reference #8 — "Contractor Pre-Qualification Application"

- Application for contractors to be designated as a qualified contractor and included on Toronto Hydro's Qualified Contractors list
- Qualification signifies that that an applicant has met the minimum technical requirements established by Toronto Hydro necessary to perform work

Reference #9 — "Metering Services and Charges"

 Provides information on customers' type of service connection and metering configuration based on factors that include, but are not limited to, reliability, capacity, and operational and system design considerations

Connection Agreement and Operating Agreement

Once the developer and Toronto Hydro come to an understanding upon the conditions of connection and delivery of electricity through that connection, the two parties may enter into a contract through a Connection Agreement.

In addition to outlining the terms of the connection, the agreement also identifies a customer's initially requested capacity.

Underused feeder capacity may be reallocated to other customers after a specified time period if not materialized. Consequently, customers contemplating projects that may lead to load changes should advise Toronto Hydro, even when these changes appear to fall within the limits of an earlier Connection Agreement.

In addition to the Connection Agreement, some customers may be required to enter into an Operating Agreement with Toronto Hydro depending on their supply configuration. Please refer to Schedule A of Reference #2 — "Standard Connection Agreements — Terms of Conditions" in our Conditions of Service to learn more about Toronto Hydro's standard Terms of Conditions.

Similarly, in accordance with Section 2.1.7.5 of our Conditions of Service, developers who fall under Customer Classes 3, 4 and 5 may be required to enter into an Operating Agreement. Please contact your designated Toronto Hydro representative to learn more about this.

¹⁰These Conditions of Service reference documents also provide detailed information on design and construction requirements, construction standards and metering requirements for customer-owned structures.

GRID CONNECTIONS

In accordance with the DSC and the Electricity Act, Toronto Hydro has an obligation to connect customers within our service territory to our distribution system. Depending on the type of connection and service request, the connection process and timeline may differ.

Toronto Hydro strives to streamline customer needs through a one-window engagement model through the Large Customer and Key Accounts team. This team works closely with the Development Planning team to provide technical support to developers.

Please contact Development Planning through your existing Key Accounts representative for any additional support you need. If you don't have a Key Accounts representative and are looking for one, you can submit this request at **keyaccounts@torontohydro.com**.

Load connections

Load connections require power supply from Toronto Hydro and may include expansions or modifications to the existing distribution system (excluding generation connections). Please refer to Section 2 of our Conditions of Service at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice** to learn more about load connections.

Generation connections

Developers can request a generation connection which may include conventional generation plants such as Combined Heat and Power (CHP) units, reciprocating engines units (synchronous and induction) or renewable energy sources such as Wind Turbines, Solar Photovoltaic (PV) and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Please refer to Reference #3 — "Distributed Generation Requirements" in our Conditions of Service to learn more about generation connections and Section 4.4.1 to review the terms, conditions and requirements for generation facilities at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

DER connection is a form of generation connection that can be facilitated by Toronto Hydro. Refer to *Figure 12* for types of Toronto Hydro DER connections. A DER or Distributed Generation (DG) asset refers to a generation unit that is connected directly to Toronto Hydro's distribution network. Depending on the purpose of generation, Toronto Hydro offers the following DER connections to our distribution system:

- Micro-Embedded Generation (< 10 kW)
- Small and Mid-Sized Embedded Generation (10 kW 10 MW)
- Large Embedded Generation (> 10 MW)
- Wholesale Market Participants

FIGURE 12: Overview of DER connections



For DER connections operated in parallel with the grid, please refer to Reference #3 — "Distributed Generation Requirements" in our Conditions of Service, which provides detailed information on the connection process and requirements for DER facilities.

Sections 2.1.7.4 and 3.5 of our Conditions of Service provide insight into DER system connection requirements. For renewable types of DERs, customers may be eligible for Toronto Hydro's Net Metering program. The Net Metering program allows customers to accumulate bill credits that can be used against their bill for one year. For more information, customers can visit **torontohydro.com/ grid-connections/net-metering**

grid-connections/net-metering.

Depending on the size of the DER, there could be additional requirements. For example, installations greater than 10 kW will require a Connection Impact Assessment (CIA) to be completed either by Toronto Hydro or by both Toronto Hydro and Hydro One. Connections greater than 10 MW require a System Impact Assessment (SIA) through the IESO and may result in added costs. Toronto Hydro will initiate these assessments on behalf of the customer.

Since DERs are an evolving technology, Toronto Hydro can work with developers to help facilitate their other DER needs. Please contact the Development Planning team through your Key Accounts representative if your development is considering inclusion of DER facilities.

Temporary service connections

A temporary service connection is one that requires electrical supply from Toronto Hydro for a limited duration, after which point the service is disconnected and removed. The connection could be from either the overhead or underground system and would be metered as determined by Toronto Hydro. There are multiple temporary service offerings from Toronto Hydro, including residential, high-rise, transit and special event services.

Temporary service connections follow a similar connection process to other Toronto Hydro services. Temporary service connections are scoped, designed and estimated in a similar manner, and developers or customers requiring temporary service are responsible for 100 per cent of the cost associated with supporting the temporary connection. Similar to other connections, temporary service connections are also subject to inspections and regulatory approvals. To learn more about technical requirements for temporary service connections, please review Section 2.6 of our Conditions of Service at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

Connection process

On the following page, our "10 steps to get you connected" outlines a step-by-step guide to Toronto Hydro's standard load connection process. For DER connection guidelines, visit **torontohydro.com/grid-connections/connection-process**.

For more detailed information on the overall connection process and timing, Toronto Hydro's supply offerings, and billing and payment requirements, please refer to Section 2 of our Conditions of Service at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

10 steps to get you connected

To help ensure a smooth process, the following steps¹¹ must occur in sequential order:

CUSTOMER STEPS

- **Submit Service Request** -
- Complete and submit an online Service Request at **torontohydro.com/servicerequest**
- You'll need to include all required project information, including the site plan, proposed electrical drawing, building permits, zoning certifications and load calculations, in order to proceed

| Sign agreement and return it [|] with payment

 Sign and return the job quote or Offer to Connect, along with required payments as instructed on the documents

Prepare site for connection -

- You or your general contractor will need to complete all applicable civil and electrical construction on your property, and make sure the site is safe for us to begin work
- It's important that you provide clear access to the property, especially leading to and in front of the meter location

Schedule Electrical Safety Authority (ESA) inspection¹²

- After the electrical and civil installation is done, you're required to schedule and complete a safety inspection with the ESA
- You or your contractor can contact the ESA and submit a request on their website at esasafe.com

TORONTO HYDRO STEPS

Review project details

- One of our representatives will contact you to review the details within five to ten business days, depending on the type of project
- We may require a design pre-payment that must be paid prior to commencing design work. This design pre-payment will be credited towards your financial obligations for the project

Provide a job quote or Offer to Connect

- We'll complete the design and estimate to determine the course of action once we receive all the required project information
- Our representative will provide a job quote or Offer to Connect. This will specify the project details, timelines and financial requirements to proceed with the application request

Complete design, arrange for permits and order material (if applicable)

• We'll complete the detailed design, apply for the required permits, order materials and issue the project for construction

Begin construction (if applicable)

• We'll begin civil and electrical construction work where the responsibility resides with Toronto Hydro (e.g., civil construction work on road allowance)

Complete final inspection¹²

 Once we receive ESA connection authorization, we'll conduct a final site inspection to ensure it meets our standards and conditions as set out in the agreement

Connect you to the grid

 Upon successful completion of the site inspection and receipt of any outstanding project information, we'll schedule and complete the service connection within five business days for services 750 V or less, or ten business days for services greater than 750 V

For additional details, visit torontohydro.com/serviceconnections.

- ¹¹ Costs and durations may vary greatly depending on location, type of request, amount of construction involved, etc. For a list of standard service charges, visit **torontohydro.com/servicecharges**.
- ¹² This step is not applicable for relocations or demolitions.

Offer to Connect

Once developers have submitted a service request for load connections at **torontohydro.com/serviceconnections**, Toronto Hydro will respond to the written request. After pre-payment is received, Toronto Hydro's Design and Planning groups will then conduct analysis and confirm work required to supply demand based on the information provided by the developers. After this, Toronto Hydro will make an Offer to Connect (OTC) to the developer in the form as determined by Toronto Hydro (e.g., job quote, short-form OTC, long-form OTC). Toronto Hydro will strive to provide an OTC within 60 calendar days of receiving the written request and the design deposit payment, but the timeline may change based on the project's complexity or requirements to interface with other entities. The OTC is a binding agreement between Toronto Hydro and developers that details the process and work required to connect developers to Toronto Hydro's system. The OTC includes information on project costs, work breakdown, economic evaluation, cost allocation and other financial obligations. To prepare the OTC, Toronto Hydro requires relevant information from developers, which will be communicated by Toronto Hydro once the connection request is made. After the OTC is delivered, developers are required to execute on the OTC within a certain timeframe as indicated in the OTC. To learn more about the process, timing and terms of OTC, please review Section 2.1 of our Conditions of Service at **torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice**.

Economic evaluation methodology

Toronto Hydro follows the DSC's economic evaluation methodology to establish capital contribution requirements for expansion work in the OTC.

This evaluation is required to determine cost obligations between the developer and Toronto Hydro where network expansions are required on the main distribution system and not categorized as connection assets. Expansions can include any system upgrade required to meet the requested load demand. This methodology is established by the OEB for all LDCs in Ontario and is a standard process for the calculation of sharing expansion costs.

As seen in *Figure 13*, the economic evaluation model uses a Discounted Cash-Flow (DCF) method to calculate the Net Present Value (NPV) of a project. Revenues are estimated based on forecasted connections, operating rates, demand load, etc., whereas costs are estimated based on capital costs, and fixed and variable ongoing maintenance and administration costs.

Once the present value of the project is calculated, developers are required to pay the difference between revenues and costs as a capital contribution. However, if the NPV is positive, no capital contribution is required. In addition, Toronto Hydro collects an

FIGURE 13: Toronto Hydro's economic evaluation methodology



Expansion Deposit from developers to ensure customers reach the requested peak demand.

For instances where the requested load doesn't fully materialize within the time frame set by the DSC (typically five years), the expansion deposit is not refunded in full. The amount refunded is proportional to the peak demand achieved and the peak demand requested. This ensures that expansion work initiated by a customer is paid for in part by the customer for the portion which actually materialized rather than using rates to subsidize customer expansion work.

Following the five-year period, the established load for the customer will be based on actual demand from the customer, and not the original demand requested. If the customer wants to add load in addition to the established demand in the future, then a new request needs to be submitted.

Please refer to Appendix B of the Distribution System Code to learn about the methodologies and assumptions used to evaluate economics for expansion work in an OTC. Sections 3.2.1 to 3.2.30 of the Distribution System Code provide detailed information about generation connections. Learn more at **oeb.ca/regulatory-rules-and-documents/rulescodes-and-requirements/distribution-system-code-dsc**.



Capacity allocation

Capacity is allocated based on the developer's peak demand in the OTC. This process requires Toronto Hydro to evaluate our distribution system and other customer connections. Toronto Hydro will only confirm capacity allocation upon execution of the OTC between the developer and Toronto Hydro on a first-come, first-served basis. The customer must meet the requested capacity peak within a five-year period upon execution of the OTC and capacity being allocated.

Please refer to Section 4.4.1.2 of Reference #3 — "Distributed Generation Requirements" in our Conditions of Service to learn about terms and conditions on capacity allocation.

Common challenges and solutions

During the connection process, developers should keep the following challenges and solutions in mind:

- Determining the location of customer's service entrance equipment — this is subject to approval by Toronto Hydro and the ESA
- Understanding connection costs and fees

 refer to Section 5, *Table 1* of our Conditions of Service at torontohydro.com/conditionsofservice for more information on connection and disconnection fees.
 Once connected, developers and business connections can find information on rates and charges information at torontohydro.com/rates
- Lack of accurate loading requirements or project timelines — when developers bring connection requests to Toronto Hydro without clearly defining their timelines or load requirements, it can impact connection process timelines and OTC delivery. When submitting a Feeder Request to Toronto Hydro, developers should have this information available to help avoid delays. Further, not manifesting the requested load requirements could impact the expansion deposit recovery as explained in *Figure 13*

Toronto Hydro can only connect the customers to our distribution system once all required approvals and inspections are completed through the relevant regulatory bodies. Please be aware of the approval timelines and plan accordingly. Additionally, developers seeking to connect their generation facilities to Toronto Hydro's distribution system require additional approvals from the IESO, OEB, ESA and other parties. Please review Appendix 1 (ii) of Reference #3 — "Distribution Generation Requirements" in our Conditions of Service for an embedded generation overview.

GRID MODERNIZATION

Grid modernization refers to changes being implemented using the most recent technologies in automation and power electronics to optimize the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. Toronto Hydro's strategic objective is to become a utility of the future through grid modernization activities and intelligent grid pilot programs, with the goal of meeting climate action targets and municipal energy requirements. In order to transition the current grid infrastructure into something even more robust and resilient — that will meet the needs of the future — collaboration is required between all levels of the energy sector. For example, Toronto Hydro is currently working with the IESO to create a demand management program known as Local Demand Response, which will help alleviate distribution system constraints during peak demand periods.

Another example of how Toronto Hydro is pushing grid modernization forward is through energy storage procurement projects. As the City of Toronto moves towards its greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets, many new developers and development retrofits are aiming to incorporate transportation electrification, heating electrification and DERs. While these are all necessary improvements, they will produce stress on the distribution network unless properly managed. These grid modernization systems can be used to enable renewable generation, provide a backup source of power for customers who require a high level of resiliency, as well as enable quick fault detection and automatic restoration for enhanced reliability. As Toronto Hydro pursues its goal of developing into a utility of the future, exploration into future use-cases to assess the viability of these technologies is vital. Some of these use-cases are being explored through projects illustrated in *Figure 14* as part of the intelligent grid portfolio.

Specific programs and solutions are presented that showcase to developers how Toronto Hydro is integrating grid modernization innovations into our system. For more information about the feasibility of innovative and intelligent grid solutions, please reach out to the Toronto Hydro Development Planning team through your Key Accounts consultant or **keyaccounts@torontohydro.com**.



FIGURE 14: Intelligent grid components

ADVANCED GRID

Drivers

There are a number of drivers stemming from both global and national levels that are pushing the utility industry to invest in becoming the utility of the future and aid our collective environmental commitments through grid modernization technologies. Read on to learn about some of these drivers.

Climate Action Plan

Toronto Hydro has developed a Climate Action Plan under the mandate of the City of Toronto and Toronto City Council. This plan identifies areas of focus for Toronto Hydro to support climate action, including:



- EV charging infrastructure
- Modernization of outdoor lighting/streetlighting
- Building electrification and energy storage
- Energy efficiency

Implementation of this plan will enable Toronto to continue to be a sustainable, environmentally responsible and attractive city in which to live, work and play.

To meet the City's ambitious vision of net-zero GHG emissions by 2040, our innovative Climate Action Plan is focused on achieving the following goals:

- Delivering nationally significant GHG reductions
- Stimulating and facilitating the local cleantech economy
- Advancing social equity in Toronto

On July 19, 2022, Toronto City Council received our Climate Action Plan, which included several options for how Toronto Hydro can help support a net-zero future:

- Investing funds to build a grid that's capable of supporting the City's net-zero vision. This significant investment in our grid would enable increased electrification of major sectors of our economy, such as transportation and buildings, which is an essential step for getting Toronto to net zero
- Creating a new Climate Advisory Services business that would help facilitate and stimulate the growth of emerging local cleantech markets. Under this model, Toronto Hydro would act as a trusted partner with its customers, local cleantech companies, governments and other stakeholders to help remove barriers and enable projects in Toronto that electrify transportation, electrify and enhance the energy efficiency of buildings, and build renewable generators and energy storage systems
- Implementing a city-wide LED conversion project for outdoor streetlighting

Climate Advisory Services — next steps

With the mandate from Toronto City Council to implement our Climate Action Plan, Toronto Hydro has begun to assemble a Climate Advisory Services team, and we expect to launch initial offerings to customers and the cleantech community by 2023.

For detailed information on Toronto Hydro's Climate Action Plan, visit **torontohydro.com/climateaction**.

Toronto Green Standard

The City of Toronto and City Council adopted the Net Zero by 2040 Climate Strategy to accelerate the Toronto Green Standard implementation. The latest iteration of this standard is Version 4, which came into effect May 1, 2022, and is the current reference for new planning applications.

The Green Standard sets sustainable design requirements for new private and City-owned developments, and consists of performance measure tiers with supporting guidelines that promote this sustainable site and building design requirement. There are four key sub-components to the Green Standard, which include development requirements for low-rise residential, mid- to high-rise residential, City agency corporation- and division-owned facilities, and energy modelling.

Depending on the developer's classification, they will be required to ensure performance measures are established that meet the Green Standard's requirements for the following criteria:

- Air quality
- Building energy
- Emissions and resilience
- Water quality and efficiency
- · Ecology and biodiversity
- Waste and the circular economy

Performance measures vary slightly for each facility type. This means new developments must meet the performance requirements and quantify their compliance with the City of Toronto Green Standard.

One of the Green Standard priorities is to reduce energy use and GHG emissions from new buildings while making buildings more resilient to power disruptions. Another is to encourage the use of renewable and district energy systems. Toronto Hydro has a role to play in assisting developers with these connections. Further, the City of Toronto New Energy Strategy Terms of Reference specifically directs developers to engage Toronto Hydro to discuss electrical distribution system design options to support decarbonization and resilience.

Developers should ensure that the new connection to the Toronto Hydro system complies with the latest version of the City of Toronto Green Standard by referencing it at toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/ official-plan-guidelines/toronto-green-standard/.

Intelligent grid

Toronto Hydro continues to pursue opportunities to modernize the existing distribution system and promote the development of a self-healing system. To do this, Toronto Hydro is installing enhanced communication infrastructure, introducing advanced grid configurations, and enabling enhanced monitoring, automation and remote control. Some approved grid automation initiatives that Toronto Hydro has underway include installing fibre optic cables through the Core, installing and testing pilot equipment, installing sensors for monitoring points, and commissioning and operationalizing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) at automated and remote-controlled sites. These initiatives are modernizing Toronto Hydro's supply schemes to better service customers.

Dual radial modernization and automation

Toronto Hydro is installing switchgear and automation/ remote controllable equipment in customer-owned dual radial vaults. This equipment is standardized as of 2021.

Benefits of adding dual radial automation to the Toronto Hydro system include the following:

- Provides a more reliable option compared to the existing dual radial system
- Allows for faster restoration after an outage which reduces outage frequency and duration
- Enables pre-emptive response to potential failures like low gas pressure or faults
- Creates operational flexibility and improved safety with remote switching capabilities
- Can be installed with new connections or retrofitted with existing connections (if space allows)

This system is the latest standard for dual radial systems and is available to customers who fall into this category based on *Table 2* of this manual.

Network modernization — Network Condition Monitoring & Control

Toronto Hydro is enhancing the general network system by enabling real-time, two-way communication between our network system and our control room. This will allow Toronto Hydro to monitor and identify trends in asset condition over the life of the asset to anticipate problems that otherwise may not be apparent, as well as improve contingency management by obtaining real-time loading information. In order to enable Network Condition Monitoring & Control (NCMC), Toronto Hydro is investing in communication infrastructure throughout the system by enhancing equipment at network vault locations and installing sensors.

As NCMC is commissioned at network vaults throughout the distribution system, customers supplied by the network system will benefit from this enhanced monitoring and control of network assets.

Network modernization — 600 V network

Toronto Hydro is offering a 347/600 V network solution for customers that require high reliability. The supply offerings for the 600 V network are shown in *Table 2*. The 600 V network will provide a secondary network solution for high-rise buildings (25+ storeys) and is currently being offered to customers on a pilot project basis. The 600 V network can be installed for any customer size depending on available space in the vault, and capacity of each unit is 1 or 2 MVA. Benefits of the 600 V system include the following:

- A highly reliable solution to meet the customer's needs for higher secondary voltage supply
- Modernization of operations, monitoring and control via SCADA
- New load break primary switches with fault interruption and remote switching capabilities

Distribution automation

Toronto Hydro is aiming to improve system operational efficiency for our feeders by employing a self-healing, smart grid technology that will reduce the duration of feeder outages. This is being accomplished by the implementation of an automated Fault Location, Isolation and Service Restoration (FLISR) system. During a fault on the overhead system, the faulted section is automatically detected and assessed based on current conditions. After this, the system performs switching operations to isolate the faulted section and restore power to undamaged segments of the feeder. This way, customers who can be restored will be done so quickly and efficiently.

As the automated FLISR solution is implemented in the distribution system, customers supplied by the overhead system will benefit from this increased service reliability.

Non-Wires Alternatives

Non-Wires Alternatives (NWAs) refer to operating practices, activities or technologies that can enable the utility to defer the need for specific distribution projects, at lower total resource cost, by reliably reducing distribution system constraints at times of maximum demand in specific areas of the grid. Typically, these NWAs leverage the use of DERs, often in partnership with utility customers or with other enabling third parties.

Toronto Hydro currently uses targeted demand response programs and front-of-the-meter BESS to support NWA initiatives. Developers interested in participating in demand response programs may reach out to the Toronto Hydro Development Planning team through your Key Accounts consultant or **keyaccounts@torontohydro.com** to confirm eligibility.

Energy storage

Energy storage is defined as the capture of energy produced at one time for use at a later time to reduce imbalances between energy demand and energy supply. *Figure 15* shows a typical energy storage system as an example. Developers seeking to install a BESS will require a Generation Connection Agreement even though they may be a net-metered customer. Some of the benefits of installing BESS for developers are as follows:

- Saves money on electricity bills by storing energy when the price is low (off-peak) and dispatching it when the price is high (on-peak)
- Requires minimal changes within developments to add BESS to the electrical system
- Provides resiliency through fast-acting performance during grid events
- Maximizes the financial benefits of intermittent energy sources such as solar and wind by facilitating the integration of renewable sources

FIGURE 15: Typical energy storage system



Toronto Hydro investments in front-of-the-meter BESS projects that support traditional distribution system activities include grid performance systems for peak-shaving and power quality, as well as renewable enabling systems, which address generation-to-load imbalances resulting from high volumes of solar generation. *Figure 16* highlights some of the benefits of deploying NWAs.

Currently, Toronto Hydro does not have an incentivizing program for developers who are planning to install a BESS. However, we are willing to explore future applications. As such, developers considering energy storage and adding BESS components to new Toronto Hydro connections can reach out to the Toronto Hydro Development Planning team through your Key Accounts consultant or **keyaccounts@torontohydro.com**.

keyaccounts@torontonyaro.com

FIGURE 16: Value proposition of NWAs



Local Demand Response

The Local Demand Response (LDR) program is Toronto Hydro's flagship NWA initiative, which has been deployed successfully since the 2015-2019 rate period. The LDR program is a big step forward in evolving conventional utility station planning to include the consideration of NWAs alongside traditional poles and wires investments. This program is designed to help address short- to medium-term capacity constraints at targeted transformer stations by identifying opportunities where DR, including behind-the-meter and customer-owned DERs, can be leveraged to support the broader distribution system in a way that is cost-effective.

The LDR program relies on contractual capacity commitments made by third parties to Toronto Hydro. Meaning, Toronto Hydro will not be directly controlling or dispatching the LDR capacity.

Proponents will provide Toronto Hydro with a capacity offer via the procurement process, outlining the magnitude of capacity available (MW), the duration of this capacity (minimum of four hours of LDR), and the time period of availability (e.g., every summer business day between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m.).

Successful proponents will enter into a contractual agreement with Toronto Hydro, outlining the committed capacity and its attributes, the maximum number of LDR events, measurement and verification expectations, and all other program requirements.

During the obligation period, successful proponents will be considered "on-call" for Toronto Hydro to deploy as necessary to manage peak demand at the identified stations, as noted in *Figure 17*. In exchange for their participation in the program, proponents will earn capacity payments relative to the capacity that they offer to be on standby for dispatch. LDR can provide an additional revenue stream for participants that are able to provide peak-shaving capability.

For more information on non-wires pilot projects and alternatives supported by Toronto Hydro within our system, speak to the Development Planning team during your project engagements.



Transportation electrification and electric vehicle chargers

The mass adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) has been one of the significant factors influencing the grid structure and loading requirements on Toronto Hydro's distribution system. Due to the high electricity demand for EVs, network and infrastructure upgrades may be required to connect EV chargers to the grid.

Toronto Hydro continually monitors the needs of the city to manage capacity, and ensures that strategic capital investments are made to enable sufficient growth of the grid. Adequate development planning will enable Toronto Hydro to assess the required capacity and ensure that it's available to all developers in a timely manner such that developers can be confident that their projects can be accommodated on the Toronto Hydro distribution system.

If developers are interested in installing EV charging stations, they should consult with an electrical contractor to assess and determine whether the facility needs an upgrade in electrical service. Choosing the correct EV charger level is crucial in determining the type of connection required. Currently, there are three EV charger levels available. This information is available at torontohydro.com/electricvehicles.

Prior to proceeding with an EV charger installation project, the contractor must obtain Toronto Hydro's confirmation that the existing service is adequate for the intended EV charger duty. If a service upgrade is required, please follow the standard process of submitting a connection request to Toronto Hydro.

The City of Toronto implemented its Green Standard which outlines the zero-emissions building framework, which may require new developments to supply EV chargers and outlines emissions reduction requirements for developers. For more information on the Green Standard, please visit toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/ official-plan-guidelines/toronto-green-standard/

Also, the evolving technology of EV batteries and chargers is expected to make it possible in the future for EVs to operate as Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G). This feature will add multiple benefits in addition to those already mentioned, for example:

- EVs will act as a BESS and Time-of-Use rates will make it possible for developments to save on their electricity bills by taking advantage of peak-shaving or energy arbitrage
- Participating in demand response programs can add to the savings on electricity bills and potentially add additional revenue streams
- Possibility of using more advanced control and management charging schemes to lower electricity bills
- EV batteries that have the capability to be deployed as BESS when not in transit can additionally form a microgrid connection with the use of grid automation technologies. This will enable the customer to enhance service resilience for their site

Toronto Hydro continues to expand our grid modernization and technologies to support our pursuit of being a forward-looking utility that works with developers to build for tomorrow. Any grid modernization or new technological considerations should be shared with the Development Planning team at Toronto Hydro during engagement and the connection process to ensure Toronto Hydro maintains our commitment to this pursuit.

Do you have any suggestions to improve this manual? If so, please contact Development Planning through your Key Accounts representative or **keyaccounts@torontohydro.com**.



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