



December 4, 2025

Re: IE26.14 Electricity and Toronto's Climate Commitments

To: Chair Paula Fletcher and members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

ClimateFast supports the resolutions that Councillor Saxe is bringing forward to you today.

We share the deep concerns that have motivated bringing forward these three recommendations.

1. City Council advise the Independent Electricity System Operator that its draft twenty-year Integrated Regional Resource Plan for Toronto is fundamentally incompatible with Toronto's climate commitments and therefore is unacceptable.
2. City Council request the Toronto Hydro Board to propose and cost a plan for electricity supply to the City of Toronto that is aligned with the City's 2040 net zero target, phases out the Portlands gas plant by 2035 (except in extreme, exceptional and emergency circumstances totalling less than 88 hours per year) and aggressively pursues all cost-effective local energy efficiency, renewable energy and storage options.
3. City Council request the Auditor General of Ontario to review the impact on Torontonians' energy costs and air quality of the Independent Electricity System Operator's draft Integrated Regional Resource Plan, and whether Torontonians' energy costs and exposure to air pollution could be durably reduced by maximizing local energy conservation / efficiency (negawatts) and local distributed energy resources, including vehicle-to-grid integration.

These resolutions fit with the history of support for renewable energy and for closing the Portlands gas plant from this Council.

We are appalled at the imposition of a climate plan by the province on this city that is not in any way collaborative, or respectful of the wishes of Toronto City Council and its residents.

It is really important for City Council to publicly state that the IESO's IRRP plan does not meet our expectations and that implementing it will make it impossible to meet our emissions reductions targets, in addition to endangering the health of Torontonians.

The Portlands Energy Centre is the #1 GHG emitter and #1 polluter in toxic substances in our city. Any electricity plan that does not include shutting PEC at the earliest opportunity is not suitable for our city.

Any electricity plan that sidelines and ignores the major contribution that solar and wind can offer to our city, in combination with battery storage, for a secure and reliable electricity supply is not suitable for our city.

Any electricity plan that ensures rising electricity costs for decades to come, in addition to the toxic output of both the gas plant and the proposed new nuclear plants is not suitable for our city. Where are the wastes going to go? How are they going to be kept safe for a million years? Is this the legacy we want to leave the next generation, and thousands of generations after that?

We are still paying for the existing nuclear plants, hidden in our electricity bills and subsidized to the tune of \$6 Billion annually in our taxes. This will be rising to \$9Billion. Why would we take on this horrendous debt when renewable solutions are at hand, and being implemented all over the world?

Why wouldn't we go for least cost electricity? We might be subject to the whims of the province since they have the power to decide on many aspects of our electricity future, but we surely should not be robbed of the right to publicly declare that this is not what we want to see for our future.

It also makes perfect sense to ask Toronto Hydro to do as much of what we want in developing renewable energy for our electricity grid as they can.

And it makes sense to ask the Auditor General to review the exorbitant costs that the province plans to commit us to, as well as the emissions that this will generate. The AG has already excoriated the provincial government over their lack of progress on a climate plan. In her report on October 2nd. The province's response was to kill the climate target altogether.

If we as the City of Toronto don't stand up and say this is not OK with us, it looks like it is OK with us. Is it OK to you, members of our IEC? We as Toronto residents count on Toronto councillors to be our voice to the province. To not speak up because of fear of being bullied, or because we just feel we have no say in the matter is to stay silent in the manner that many institutions in the US are allowing themselves to be made silent and bullied by Trump.

But some in the US are standing up to Trump, notably Mamdani in New York City and Kathy Hochul in New York State. They are continuing to make progress on climate goals through innovative solutions such as balcony solar and individual heat pumps in apartment buildings, to both heat and cool residences.

These motions before you are a way of standing up to a situation in which Toronto is being bullied. We need to act. It's a climate emergency and it calls for us all to have the courage and strength to speak up, to speak truth to power.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lyn', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends to the right.

Lyn Adamson
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