



To The Township of Brock Municipal Council,

I am contacting you on behalf of wpd, the proponents of the Beaverton BESS (Battery Electric Storage System) facility.

wpd has been informed that there is a motion on the agenda for the council meeting currently scheduled for Monday March 4, 2024, related to BESS facilities, and the consideration of their potential location on class 1-4 farmland.

We understand from the resolution that council has identified concerns about which it does not yet possess a full information and understanding. However, we are concerned that the proposed response identified within the resolution is to make a decision in the absence of information with respect to the location of BESS facilities until 2026. We would kindly suggest that an appropriate response to an absence of information by council, as decision makers, is to seek all further information available from the relevant parties before making a decision. We certainly understand that in certain special circumstances there may be a pressing urgency which makes it impractical without providing a right to be heard by all affected parties before moving to an interim decision. However, with respect, this does not appear to be that type of situation as the decision does not appear to be interim or temporary, and the situation does not appear to be urgent. For IESO connected BESS facilities participating in procurements E-LT1, or LT1, projects have already been submitted in response to the RFP from IESO and will have 18 months to obtain municipal consent or not following the decision from the IESO with respect to the proposals received. There do not appear to be any projects from the successful results of the Expedited Process which list Township of Brock as their Location, and Projects from LT1 are currently targeting May 2024 for notification of selected proponents of LT1 ( see for further details: <https://www.ieso.ca/en/Sector-Participants/Resource-Acquisition-and-Contracts/Long-Term-RFP-and-Expedited-Process>).

With that in mind, Council will have until approximately November 2025 to determine whether any location or decision is appropriate, and proponents for any project will be required to obtain Municipal Support before that date, which should provide sufficient time for council to seek further information in response to the resolutions stated issue that BESS concerns are not yet fully understood.

In addition, wpd has not had an ability to formally present our Project to council as our intention is to provide this information once the RFP was completed and we had more relevant information available. We would certainly be willing to consider supplementing any information or reports prepared for council at that time to respond to specific concerns from council. Information we had already planned to present includes:

- The general limited areas the BESS can be sited vis-à-vis transmission stations
- The rationale for siting our facility in its proposed location
- Design and Decommissioning decisions that would limit the long-term impact of the facility that will be removed in 20 years.
- Options to provide remediation or rehabilitation on land elsewhere in the Municipality to alleviate the impact on the land our project would temporarily utilise.

- In addition, there have been several statements regarding the intended use of BESS facilities in the Township and Region which we would like the opportunity to respond to and clarify.

BESS facilities are a proven resource and are not fundamentally different from the batteries used to power electronic devices, cars, transportation or that are being attached to commercial and residential homes. Large facilities have been built around North America with several facilities already in operation in Ontario. Delaying a decision on the current resolution regarding the siting of BESS facilities in Brock Township now has no impact on the current IESO RFP, or on the Municipality's ability to provide or refuse a decision with respect to a projects currently within RFP at a later date , once the RFP has been concluded and once the relevant parties have had the chance to present information in response to any concerns the Township may have about BESS facilities that it feels are unresolved.

As such, we respectfully ask council to defer a vote on the resolution at 13.3 of the March 4 2024 Agenda with respect to BESS facilities until a later date when the opportunity to be heard on the concerns of council, and for the receipt of further consultation and information has been provided to impacted individuals.

Best Regards,

Jonathan Clifford  
Business Development Manager.