

What should Yukon's electricity future look like?

Yukon Energy has started working with Yukoners to chart the course for the territory's electricity future in the short to medium term. The 2016 Resource Plan will cover electricity needs over the next 20 years. To help you get involved in the planning, we have prepared a series of articles that will provide you with a baseline of knowledge about electricity in our territory. This is the last in the series.



Planning for the territory's future electricity needs is no easy task. It takes a great deal of careful thought and research, and a balancing of values.

It also takes help from you. Yukoners are all stakeholders in the territory's electricity future, and Yukon Energy will soon be looking for your input throughout an 18-month exercise. The result will be a comprehensive plan to meet Yukon's electricity needs between 2016 and 2035.

In a parallel exercise, our parent company Yukon Development Corporation is working on energy planning beyond 2035; a project known as "Next Generation Hydro."

There are essentially four steps to Yukon Energy's resource planning process:

- We must get as accurate a picture as possible of what the electricity needs are expected to be over the next 20 years under a variety of scenarios.
- We must look at our current inventory of energy supply and determine how much of a shortfall will need to be made up over the next two decades.
- We must look at all the possible generation and transmission energy options and combinations available to us, analyze each one based on some consistent criteria, and determine which ones make the most sense to meet the future electricity needs of Yukon.
- We will write a plan that will be submitted to our regulator, the Yukon Utilities Board, for its review.

You will have a chance throughout this process to ask questions

and give input. Specifically, we want to hear what you envision for Yukon's electricity future. Knowing that any energy option requires trade-offs, how would you balance issues such as environmental protection, cost, reliability, and sufficient supply? What are your thoughts on building energy supply ahead of demand versus only when the need exists?

In essence, we want to understand your values so they can be reflected in our resource plan.

Over the next few months, Yukon Energy will provide details about how you can become involved in the process. We will offer you a variety of ways of making your voice heard. We recognize that not everyone has the time to attend public meetings, so we'll offer other options as well, such as surveys, an interactive website and social media sites.

We look forward to working with you to chart the course for Yukon's electricity future.