

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk refers to the risk that the IESO will encounter financial difficulty in meeting obligations associated with its financial liabilities when due. The IESO manages liquidity risk by forecasting cash flows to identify cash flows and financing requirements. Cash flows from operations, short-term investments, long-term investments and maintaining appropriate credit facilities help to reduce liquidity risk. The IESO's long-term investments are normally able to be redeemed within two business days; however, the investment manager of the pooled funds has the authority to require a redemption in-kind rather than cash and has the ability to suspend redemptions if deemed necessary.

i) Market Settlements

In cases where a market participant fails to pay, the IESO will utilize credit facilities to settle the market. If the IESO has exhausted the availability of its credit facilities, then the IESO will pay market creditors on a pro rata basis in proportion to the amounts owed to each market creditor.

ii) Fair Hydro – regulatory asset

In accordance with the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan Act, 2017,

- the IESO will establish a regulatory asset as it continues to settle the market and recover Global Adjustment from customers, but as a result of the fair adjustment applicable to specified consumers the IESO collects less than the full amount of the Global Adjustment. The IESO records the shortfall together with the costs of financing the shortfall, the amounts charged to the IESO by the Fair Hydro Trust in respect of the carrying costs of the Fair Hydro Trust, when applicable, and certain other amounts, in a Deferred Global Adjustment Variance account (such amount a regulatory asset)
- IESO utilizes its credit facilities to fund the amounts recorded in the Deferred Global Adjustment variance account, and
- IESO is permitted to: a) transfer all or a portion of the regulatory asset to a financing entity, and b) after May 2021 fully recover any non-transferred asset from specified consumers.

As a result of the Fair Hydro Plan, the IESO will be required to borrow the amounts to be recorded in the Deferred Global Adjustment Variance Account (see the bulletin above). The IESO has a current \$2 billion line of credit with the OFA (see Debt Note 75) with a maturity date of September 30, 2022, to fund these amounts. The IESO expects to continue to transfer the regulatory asset to the financing entity and use the funds of such transfer to reduce the amounts borrowed. However, the financing entity is not obligated to purchase any transfer(s) offered by the IESO, and therefore the IESO is potentially subject to liquidity risk.

Pursuant to regulation the IESO's funding obligation is to pay financing charges to the Fair Hydro Trust monthly during the period beginning on December 1, 2017 and ending on July 31, 2021.

In relation to its regulatory funding obligation, the IESO will provide security on the IESO's current monthly obligation to pay the carrying costs. The security provides the financing entity first priority over IESO receivables due from LDCs and other electricity vendors.