



Algonquins of Pikwakanagan  
First Nation

May 25, 2025

City of Ottawa  
110 Laurier St. W  
Ottawa, ON  
K1P 1J1

Attn: Mayor and Council

**Re: Request for Municipal Support Resolution  
Proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project -  
2555 and 2625 Marchurst Road (the “South March BESS Project”)**

We are writing to seek a resolution of Ottawa City Council confirming the City of Ottawa’s support, in principle, for the development of the South March BESS Project at 2555 and 2625 Marchurst Road (Schedule “A”), as a necessary first step to advancing the detailed study and design of the project.

The South March BESS Project will deliver critical infrastructure for the residents and economy of the City of Ottawa and help support a reliable supply of energy at a time when Ontario’s Independent Electricity System Operator (the “**IESO**”) is projecting a substantial increase in demand. Energy storage provides a safe, reliable and flexible form of electricity supply, drawing energy from the grid during off-peak hours when demand is low and injecting that energy back into the grid when it is needed most.

Municipal support for the South March BESS Project would be consistent with the Government of Ontario’s updates to the Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) in August 2024, instructing municipalities to promote green infrastructure, including energy storage systems.

The need for this type of project in Ottawa is also well established within the City’s existing Official Plan and policies that were recently reviewed in detail in the February 12, 2025, Report to Committee and Council (ACS2025-PDB-PS-0016). The Official Plan Amendment (OPA - BL 2025-71 - Battery Energy Storage Systems), issued by city staff, detailed recommendations for a suite of policy and by-law amendments including amendments to the City’s Official Plan and Zoning By-law intended to support the advancement of municipal approvals for battery energy storage facilities. Unfortunately, these amendments have been appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal, which has created a policy gap and significant uncertainty for proponents developing energy storage facilities.

Together with our joint venture partner, the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation, Evolgen wishes to make a substantial investment in the City’s future by developing the South March BESS Project. This includes very significant initial investments, including in extensive studies and design work, which will be required to advance the project through the City’s development approvals process.

In the context of the uncertainty created by the appeal to the City's process relating to BESS approvals, a support resolution from the City of Ottawa will provide us a clear signal to continue advancing our work. We remain committed to broad public consultation and engagement, which will form part of the future municipal approvals processes, and we look forward to informing these consultations with the detailed studies and advanced technical work that is being undertaken.

In order to give the City the confidence to proceed with the requested resolution, we have been focussed on identifying the best possible site for our project, which has drawn on a robust site selection process as well as comments received from the public. Throughout 2024 and 2025, we have also undertaken significant public consultation, including:

1. **April 2024:** Informed Councillor Kelly's office about possibility of contract award
2. **Summer of 2024:** outreach to numerous landowners and public about potential site selection, including meeting with Councillor Kelly's staff followed by a meeting with Councillor Kelly
3. **October 2024:** conducted a virtual BESS fire safety workshop and an in-person session with City staff, Ottawa Fire Services and participants from neighbouring municipalities
4. **November 2024:** discussion with Rural Woodlands Ottawa
5. **January 2025:** formal announcement of South March BESS Project, including additional door knocking, podcasts, and the launch of the project website, [www.GetChargedOttawa.ca](http://www.GetChargedOttawa.ca)
6. **January 2025:** industry engagement and panel discussion at Kanata North Technology Park
7. We followed through on the commitment we made at the Kanata North panel to post detailed answers to over 100 resident questions on our website.
8. **February 2025:** mailouts and advertisement of Open House and publication of FAQs
9. **February 23, 2025:** Open House with global subject matter experts present to respond to questions with over 200 community members participating
10. **February 2025:** meeting with Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority
11. **March 2025:** initiated follow up door knocking information campaign and notice to stakeholders regarding the commencement of Class Environmental Assessment

A municipal support resolution is not a final approval of the South March BESS Project but it is a necessary step that is required now to allow us to achieve critical milestones established by the IESO for the development of the project. This step will support the advancement of detailed technical work that will inform a meaningful and thorough municipal development approvals process with the City. There will also be additional broad public consultation through the next phase of the planning process as well as another opportunity for the public to engage with the project through the Zoning By-law amendment process.

We appreciate your consideration.

Regards,



Geoff Wright  
*SVP, Brookfield Renewable*

## SCHEDULE “A”

### Site Location, Project Description and Municipal Planning Context

**Site Location:**

The site is located south-west of Marchurst Road approximately 1km from Thomas A Dolan Parkway

**Project Description:**

The proposed system will be a 250 megawatts (MW) LFP BESS located on two 40.5-hectare (100 acre) properties, for a total of 81 hectare (200 acres). The system will occupy approximately 4 hectares (10 acres), and the total footprint including the access road, storm water management pond and substation is approximately 6 hectares (15 acres). The project design will be finalized considering feedback from stakeholders.

The project will provide approximately 1000 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy storage capacity.

The site forms part of the following lands:

**2555 Marchurst Road:**

Part of PIN: 04533-0509 (LT)

Legal Description: E ½ LT 25 CON 1 MARCH; S/T MH3272, MH3525, MH3632, MH3985 KANATA

**2625 Marchurst Road:**

Part of PIN: 04533-0507 (LT)

Legal Description: PART LOT 26 CONCESSION 1 MARCH AS IN CT180160; S/T MH3280, MH3607, MH3685, MH4024; CITY OF OTTAWA

**Project Website:** <https://evolugen.com/facilities/south-march-bess/>

**Community Open House:**

February 23, 2025. West Carleton Secondary School, 3088 Dunrobin Rd, Dunrobin, ON

**Planning Context:**

While the larger parcels include other designations and zoning, the BESS project development will be entirely located only within Rural Countryside (RU) designation and zoning.