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THE FUTURE POWER SYSTEM

FEEDBACK SUMMARY

May-August 2021

WHAT WE DID

Our company is facing big decisions when it comes to our future. To reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and meet federal regulations, SaskPower will be retiring about 1,400 megawatts (MW) of conventional coal by 2030. This generation needs to be replaced by lower- or non-emitting power sources. Currently, we're on track to reduce our GHG emissions by at least 50 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. But more needs to be done. We're working on how to make even deeper cuts to GHG emissions – like achieving net zero by 2050. There is no single path to choose. That's why we're engaging with the public on the future power system by using a deliberative dialogue approach. This approach allowed us to hear from a cross-section of Saskatchewan residents to learn what's important to them and what they hope to see in our long-term strategy to power our province.

In May and June, we held eight virtual deliberative dialogue sessions that saw around 300 participants from around the province. We partnered with Dialogue Partners to facilitate these interactive online sessions and provide a report of what we heard. In each session we explored hypothetical scenarios to better learn what planning considerations SaskPower should keep in mind as we look towards 2050. These "conversation starters" helped us find out what's important to the participants, and what you and your fellow residents would like to see when it comes to our long-term plan to power our province. We were pleased to see that 94 per cent of participants felt they had an opportunity to share their perspectives and ideas for the future.

We appreciate everyone who gave their time to share their perspectives on what matters to them. We're still in the very early days of planning our future power system. We'll use this information to help guide our planning efforts for 2050 and beyond. We'll continue to host opportunities to exchange information.

WHAT WE HEARD

PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT, REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS

- Address climate change by reducing GHG emissions
- Transition from non-renewable to renewable power options
- There is disagreement about how fast to reduce emissions and in what way

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MAKE FAIR, HONEST AND SMART FINANCIAL DECISIONS

- Be open and transparent about the true costs of energy from start to finish
- Leverage federal funding to support large infrastructure projects
- Keep power costs low for customers

FIND COLLABORATIVE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL SOLUTIONS

- Be open to learning from others and find opportunities to leverage innovative solutions
- Engage and build partnerships with other producers, governments (e.g., municipal, provincial, and federal) and jurisdictions to leverage integrated solutions
- Continue engaging with customers – this is our shared future
- Consider developing customer self-generation opportunities and options for communities to participate

UNDERSTAND AND CONSIDER THE FULL IMPACTS OF PLANNED SYSTEMS AND SOLUTIONS

- Recognize the transition away from certain power supply options (e.g., conventional coal, oil and gas) will impact some communities more than others
- Understand the trade-offs of each power supply solution available, who or what it might impact (e.g., Indigenous communities, businesses, farmers, the environment), and the severity or implications of those impacts (both positive and negative)
- Ensure that solutions selected are aligned with the emissions reduction timelines and other sustainability goals

RELIABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND EQUITABLE POWER FOR ALL

- Understand current and emerging power use trends
- Develop options and infrastructure (e.g., a modern grid) that can meet customer and system needs
- Ensure all customers have equitable access to new and emerging power options

RECOGNIZE TENSIONS EXIST AROUND THE USE OF NUCLEAR POWER

- Understand that support for the use of nuclear power from small modular reactors (SMRs) is mixed
- Continue to further community discussions around SMRs to increase public understanding of these technologies

While the hypothetical scenarios allowed participants to explore different perspectives, participants would like to examine real scenarios as part of the decision-making process moving forward.

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WHAT'S NEXT

Here's what we're doing so far with what we've heard.

1. We're sharing the full report submitted by Dialogue Partners as well as the verbatim notes and follow up questions and ideas from participants. **Please reach out to us by Sept. 30, 2021 if you feel anything was missed or misconstrued.**

2. We're seeking Indigenous perspectives on the future power system. We're working with the First Nations Power Authority to offer a series of roundtable discussions for First Nation and Métis community members. These sessions are being held this fall around the province. They'll focus on what a clean energy future means to Saskatchewan Indigenous communities, as well as the potential fit for nuclear power from SMRs.

3. We're talking internally about how more customers can participate in renewable power and contribute to GHG emissions reduction goals together. We've also been working through feedback we heard this past June during our **net metering program consultation**.

4. We're considering who's missing from the conversation and how we can be more inclusive.

5. We'll continue to evaluate the full range of low- or non-emitting power sources. To keep options open, different planning projects will be activated at different times with their own decision points. We'll engage further on these specific projects. Here are some examples of what's happening right now. If you want to participate in these specific projects, visit these links:
    - **Utility-scale battery energy storage system**
    - **Evaluating sites for new natural gas power stations**
    - **Planning and development of nuclear power from small modular reactors**

    We're making record investments to build and maintain power lines throughout the province to strengthen the power grid and reduce outages. Watch our **projects page** for future projects or to catch up on all our current work.

    We're also looking at ways to build more transmission lines that connect us with our neighbours. **Learn more about why this is important here**.

6. We'd like to continue the conversation with you and ensure there are opportunities for others. Click on the 7-question **survey** to help us understand how best to continue to exchange information, what criteria you'd like more information about per power source option and what power-related topics we should create opportunities for next.