

September 24, 2002

## **IMO ISSUES QUARTERLY 18-MONTH OUTLOOK**

The Independent Electricity Market Operator's (IMO) quarterly 18-Month Outlook, which was released today, provides important demand/supply signals for Ontario's wholesale electricity market, said President and CEO Dave Goulding.

The report is an assessment of the adequacy of the Ontario electricity system for the 18-month period from October 2002 to March 2004. The assessment is based on the IMO's forecasts of electricity demand, information from market participants on available supply of electricity, and the expected configuration and capability of the transmission system.

Reserve levels will remain below the IMO's planning reserve levels for much of the balance of 2002, but generation resources from outside Ontario are expected to be available to supplement internal supply if necessary. For 2003, the resource picture is highly dependent on the return to service, on schedule, of laid-up units at Pickering A and Bruce A, and the return to service of other large generating units from planned maintenance outages. For purposes of this assessment, the IMO has adopted the nuclear return-to-service dates provided to it in August. Delays could lead to extensive reliance on imports, as was the case during the summer of 2002.

The Independent Electricity Market Operator (IMO) is a non-profit agency responsible for operating and regulating Ontario's wholesale electricity system and the new wholesale electricity marketplace -- linking buyers and sellers while directing the flow of electricity on Ontario's transmission system from generators and suppliers to local distribution companies and wholesale buyers.

The report is available at:

[http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/pubs/marketReports/18MonthOutlook\\_2002oct.pdf](http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/pubs/marketReports/18MonthOutlook_2002oct.pdf)

-30-

Media contact: Corporate Communications  
The Independent Electricity Market Operator  
Tel: (416) 506-2823  
E-mail: [media@theIMO.com](mailto:media@theIMO.com)