

Residential energy storage wellington

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CENTRE WELLINGTON - Increasing demand on the electrical grid and the drive by government to electrify cars is causing the province to stare down an impending power supply shortage by 2028, according to David Anders - and the Belwood area could be part of a solution.

Anders is director of "distributed energy solutions" for Alectra, a utility company serving 17 communities, including Rockwood and Guelph.

Together with U.S.-based Convergent Energy and Power, Alectra is pitching the community and Centre Wellington on a battery storage facility proposed on 13 acres of rural property along Wellington Road 18.

Anders spoke about the proposal during an informal Nov. 15 online information session, joined by Convergent's senior VP of development Tremor Temchin.

"[The load is] growing through both economic activity, as well increasingly converting to electric power for things like heating and electric vehicles," Anders said, adding supply is going down at a time when demand is going up.

Nuclear power generation plants in Bruce and Pickering are scheduled to be refurbished, and the Darlington plant is being retired.

The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), the organization that manages power supply for the province, is looking to lithium ion batteries to get ahead of the problem.

Certain companies have been qualified by the IESO to put proposals forward for battery storage facilities on 20-year contracts, bringing about the joint Alectra-Convergent venture known as "Alectra Convergent Development JV."

In total, the group has proposed eight energy storage projects, including the one near Belwood.

Batteries are sourced from companies such as Tesla and Fluence, and are assembled in modular containers.

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