

Re: Fair Hydro Plan Update

From: "Bevan, Andrew (OPO)" </o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=bevan, andrewf93">
To: "Rowe, Mary (OPO)" <mary.rowe@ontario.ca>, "Bossin, Bryan (OPO)" <bryan.bossin@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Donelson, Philip (OPO)" <philip.donelson@ontario.ca>, "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <rebecca.mackenzie@ontario.ca>, "Byberg, Ann (OPO)" <ann.byberg@ontario.ca>, "McEachern, Gillian (OPO)" <gillian.mceachern@ontario.ca>, "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <bill.killorn@ontario.ca>
Date: Tue, 11 Apr 2017 07:44:03 -0400

We need to talk about this further. This will not go down well with a lot of people

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Rowe, Mary (OPO)
Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 11:47 PM
To: Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO)
Cc: Donelson, Philip (OPO); MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO); Byberg, Ann (OPO); McEachern, Gillian (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Subject: Re: Fair Hydro Plan Update

Thanks Bryan - I'm ok with the insert ...

Mary W. Rowe
Deputy Principal Secretary
Office of the Premier
Ontario, Canada

From: ["Bossin, Bryan (OPO)" <Bryan.Bossin@ontario.ca>]
Sent: Apr 10, 2017 9:18 PM
To: ["Bevan, Andrew (OPO)" <Andrew.Bevan@ontario.ca>, "Rowe, Mary (OPO)" <Mary.Rowe@ontario.ca>]
Subject: [Fair Hydro Plan Update]
Cc: ["Donelson, Philip (OPO)" <Philip.Donelson@ontario.ca>, "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <Rebecca.MacKenzie@ontario.ca>, "Byberg, Ann (OPO)" <Ann.Byberg@ontario.ca>, "McEachern, Gillian (OPO)" <Gillian.McEachern@ontario.ca>, "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <Bill.Killorn@ontario.ca>]

Hi Andrew, Mary,

Following a meeting last Friday with Energy MO, wanted to provide you with a brief update on implementation timelines and communications over the next few weeks.

On April 20, the OEB is expected to release updated RPP rates coming into effect May 1st. These rates will take into account the forecasted impact of GA smoothing and moving of certain programs from rate base to tax base that do not require legislation. We are not planning any proactive communications on this at this point. Energy would respond reactively to indicate this is expected and in line with the work we are doing to implement the fair hydro plan and reduce bills by summer.

Energy is proposing May 4 for the introduction of the fair hydro plan enabling legislation. We would issue a

news release and could explore the possibility of an event to highlight, although we will be in the post-Budget rollout at this point. There is also an opportunity to highlight the expanded OESP when it launches in early May.

An important flag : Under the current project timelines, people would start to see reductions on June bills, but changes to the way bills are designed would not be implemented until after legislation has passed. This means that people will be receiving bills that maintain the status quo in terms of language and line items (including 8%), but which reflect a lower rate consistent with the fair hydro plan promises.

Energy MO has indicated this is a capacity/timing issue, and that substantive bill changes are not possible while simultaneously developing and passing the legislation. They are proposing a **bill insert** that could be used in the interim between when reductions start to appear and when options are approved on bill redesign (a package is in the early stages of development). Draft text for the insert is below.

This is something we may want to revisit if the goal is to ensure people are accurately informed about rate reductions through information directly on bills. This would likely require updated direction and reinforcement from us, as Energy will have concerns.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Bryan

Bill Insert (draft):

"Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan is lowering electricity bills by 25 per cent on average for all residential customers and as many as half a million small businesses and farms. Lower-income Ontarians and those living in eligible rural communities will receive even greater reductions, as much as a 40 to 50 per cent cut. These measures include the eight per cent rebate introduced in January and builds on previous initiatives to deliver broad-based relief on all electricity bills.

The Fair Hydro Plan is the single largest rate reduction in the Ontario history, with rates also held to inflation for the next four years. To find out more, visit Ontario.ca/FairHydroPlan."

Bryan Bossin
Director, Communications Planning
Office of the Honourable Kathleen Wynne | Premier of Ontario
Office: 416-325-7952 | Mobile: 647-338-3561