

Policy

Cabinet agreed that:

1. ENERGY and MOF implement electricity price protection for residential, commercial and industrial consumers by January 1, 2017 through the following:

- i) For residential consumers, provide a rebate on the pre-tax cost of electricity for all consumers under the Ontario Energy Board's Regulated Price Plan; and any other consumers who were eligible for financial assistance under OCEBA during the period the program was in place
- ii) For rural or remote consumers, increase the total amount of rate protection available to low density Hydro One Inc. consumers under the Rural or Remote Rate Protection Program (RRRP) BY \$140 MILLION;
- iii) Consider, and if appropriate, utilize a mechanism to periodically adjust the total annual amount of rate protection available to Hydro One Inc. consumers under the RRRP, effective January 1, 2018.
- iv) For industrial consumers, lower the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) threshold to 1 megawatt.
 1. Remove eligibility restrictions to industrial consumers in the manufacturing, resource extraction, refrigerated warehousing and data processing and hosting sectors; and
 2. Require new entrants to opt-in to the ICI program

2. ENERGY and MOF seek necessary TB/MBC approvals in Fall 2016.

3. ENERGY and MOF seek approvals for:

- i) the proposed [title of proposed bill] and any supporting regulations under the proposed [title of proposed bill], and with other complementary regulatory amendments, subject to the Legislature's approval of the Act, including the following elements:
 - i. The rebate would be available starting January 1, 2017 and before such date as may be prescribed;
 - ii. The legislation would specify the types of costs to which the rebate would or would not be applied, with authority to make changes to regulation;
 - iii. The legislation would address invoicing requirements, including authority to prescribe how the rebate is to appear on consumers electricity bills;
 - iv. The legislation would include authority to prescribe the way in which the rebate is to be flowed through to consumers, and the way

Commented [KM1]: Should there be a built in review period?

Commented [MC2]: TBC - reference the % or not

Commented [MC3]: Need a definition that does not include OCEBA, and does this capture industrial consumers from 0.5-1 megawatt?

Commented [MC4]: TB decision

Commented [MC5]: Need to be more specific – under what circumstances, or to achieve what goal?

Commented [MC6]: Not necessary to include here, but how many associated regs are there?

- in which electricity vendors providing the rebate are to be reimbursed;
 - v. The legislation would include record-keeping requirements for electricity vendors and other prescribed persons;
 - vi. The legislation would include inspection powers for inspectors appointed by the minister of Finance, including powers related to the recovery of overpayments.
- ii) amendments to Ontario Regulation 429/04 made under the *Electricity Act, 1998* to lower the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) threshold to 1 megawatts.
 - iii) amendments to Ontario Regulation 442/01 (Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection) made under the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, to increase support through the the Rural and Remote Rate Protection Plan to Hydro One rural customers.
5. ENERGY and MOF work with MOECC to explore the recycling of Cap and Trade proceeds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Account for commercial and industrial electricity consumers and report back to TB/MBC by the end of 2016.
6. ENERGY and MOF work with Cabinet Office, Premier's office to develop a communications plan.

TB/MBC

TBC with TBS

LRC

Cabinet approved version [name] of this draft legislation for introduction, subject to the following:

1. The Office of Legislative Counsel is authorized to prepare a French version and to make minor adjustments to the English version, for the purpose of ensuring consistency between the two versions and making other improvements or correcting mistakes discovered in the translation process