

## **Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan Delivers Fairness and Choice** *Province's Strong, Reliable Energy System Well-Poised for Future Challenges*

**NEWS**

**October XX, 2017**

Today, Ontario released the 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) that focusses on energy affordability, innovation and customer choice.

The LTEP, *Delivering Fairness and Choice*, is a road map that sets out the direction for Ontario's energy future. The Province engaged with thousands of Ontarians to develop our plan. During engagement, Ontarians said that affordability is a top priority and that consumers wanted more control and choice over how they use and pay for electricity.

Nearly \$70 billion has been invested in the electricity system since 2003. These investments have provided several benefits, including providing a clean and reliable electricity system. The government closed its coal-fired generating stations: Last year, Ontario's electricity system was 90 per cent free of greenhouse gases that cause climate change. Ontario's success in building a clean and reliable electricity system means we can maintain our focus on helping Ontarians.

The 2017 LTEP confirms that electricity prices are forecast to remain below the level projected in the 2013 LTEP. For example, the 2013 LTEP forecast that typical residential monthly electricity bills would be \$170 in 2017 and \$200 in 2027. The 2017 LTEP forecasts bills prices to be \$127 and \$181 respectively, including the change in average consumption from 800 to 750 kilowatt hours per month. The outlook for electricity prices for large consumers will be, on average, in-line with inflation over the forecast period.

In *Delivering Fairness and Choice*, Ontario outlines plans to improve fairness, flexibility and choice in the energy sector through a number of key initiatives:

- Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan has reduced electricity bills by an average of 25 per cent for residential consumers and will hold any increases to the rate of inflation for four years. As many as half a million small businesses and farms are also benefiting from the reduction. *Delivering Fairness and Choice* outlines how additional costs will be taken out of the system over the long-term to maintain affordability.
- *Delivering Fairness and Choice* aims to maximize the use of Ontario's existing energy assets in order to limit any future cost increases for electricity consumers.
- The government will enhance consumer protection by giving the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) increased regulatory authority over unit sub-meter providers.
- The government will continue to support expanded access to natural gas, building on the \$100 million expansion of the Natural Gas Program, giving consumers greater choice and aiding in the economic development of their communities.

- Market Renewal will transform Ontario's wholesale electricity markets and ultimately result in a more competitive and flexible marketplace.
- The government will work with the OEB to provide customers greater choice in their electricity price plans, through pilot projects that are being rolled-out in select service territories across the province.
- The net metering framework will continue to be enhanced to give customers new ways to participate in clean, renewable energy generation and to reduce their electricity bills.
- Barriers to the deployment of cost-effective energy storage will be reduced.
- Utilities will be able to intelligently and cost-effectively integrate electric vehicles into their grids, including smart charging in homes.
- The government will work with the OEB and local distribution companies (LDCs) to redesign the electricity bill to make it more useful for consumers in understanding and managing their energy costs.
- The Green Ontario Fund will provide energy consumers with a co-ordinated, one-window approach to encourage conservation across multiple energy sources and programs.
- The government is committed to expanding Green Button province-wide and intends to propose legislation that would, if passed, enable it to require electricity and natural gas utilities to implement Green Button, Download My Data and Connect My Data.

A strong long-term energy plan is an essential part of Ontario's plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

## QUOTES

"Ontario's success in building a clean and reliable energy system means we can renew our focus on helping Ontarians and their families. The 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan delivers fairness and flexibility to prepare Ontarians and meet future challenges."

— Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy

## QUICK FACTS

- [The last LTEP was issued in 2013.](#)
- Thousands of people from across the province were engaged in the development of the 2017 LTEP. The consultation and engagement process, which took place from October 2016 to January 2017 included:
  - 17 stakeholder sessions, with participation from approximately 550 people
  - 17 public open houses attended by hundreds of Ontarians.
  - 17 meetings with representatives from nearly 100 Indigenous communities and organizations
  - more than 1,500 formal submissions, 200 letters and emails, as well as 2,835 online comments and submissions
- The Minister of Energy issued directives to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) and the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to develop implementation plans to meet objectives outlined in *Delivering Fairness and Choice*.

## LEARN MORE

*Delivering Fairness and Choice*, the 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) [\[link\]](#)

Learn about [Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan](#)

Read more about [climate change and the electricity system](#)

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