

## End of Sitting NR and Backgrounder – ENERGY

### **For News Release**

Its far-reaching actions have included landmark legislation in two areas that make a real difference in people's everyday lives: the largest-ever increase in the minimum wage in Ontario's history, **and the largest-ever reduction in electricity rates**. This year the Ontario legislature also passed a comprehensive package of measures to make it more affordable to buy or rent a home, and introduced the biggest expansion of medicare in a generation by making prescription drugs free for everyone under 25.

**Lowering electricity bills by 25 per cent on average for all residential customers**, as well as for many farms and small businesses, through the Fair Hydro Plan. The plan has reduced bills by even more for people who have low incomes or live in eligible rural and Northern communities. And it is increasing fairness by restructuring how Ontario's massive investments to improve the electricity system are financed. Although these investments will benefit people for many decades to come, the burden of financing them had unfairly fallen almost entirely on today's ratepayers. The plan will share this burden more equitably over time.