

Q/ Can you tell me how these changes impact small business and commercial electricity consumers? Do their rates come down too? Do they pay different rates than residential consumers?

Globe and Mail

Small businesses, if eligible for the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Regulated Price Plan (RPP), will benefit from most of the changes announced in Ontario's Affordable Hydro Plan. In order to be RPP-eligible, a consumer's annual consumption must be below 250,000 kWh/year or peak demand must be below 50 kW.

RPP-eligible small businesses will receive the benefit of Global Adjustment (GA) refinancing and would benefit from shifting the funding for electricity support programs (e.g., Ontario Electricity Support Program) to provincial revenues.

Q/ Can you please tell me if Ontario's Affordable Hydro Plan will reduce hydro rates for institutions such as – the City of Barrie, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH), Georgian College, etc?

Barrie Examiner

Most municipalities, university, schools and hospitals (MUSH) electricity consumers would not be eligible for the Global Adjustment (GA) refinancing portion of Ontario's Affordable Hydro Plan as they are generally too large to be eligible for the Regulated Price Plan (RRP).

MUSH consumers would benefit from shifting the funding for electricity support programs (e.g., Ontario Electricity Support Program) to provincial revenues.

Q/ When government says small business when referring to the 25 per cent on average cut, what is the definition of small business (generally, who would be eligible and who wouldn't be)?

Automotive News Canada (MO to respond)

Small businesses, if eligible for the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) Regulated Price Plan (RPP), will benefit from most of the changes announced in Ontario's Affordable Hydro Plan.

This would generally include smaller businesses such as dry cleaners, convenience stores and small restaurants and retail stores, but would exclude businesses such as larger restaurants, welding shops, medium and large office buildings and big box retailers.