Q/A Response – Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Q1. Who is eligible for the 25% reduction announced in Ontario's Fair Hydro Program?

All electricity consumers eligible for the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) would be eligible. The government also intends to extend eligibility to all consumers who receive the 8% rebate as specified in the *Ontario Rebate for Electricity Act*.

RPP-eligibility is outlined in O.Reg. 95/05 and includes consumers who meet any of the following criteria:

1. Low-volume consumers.
2. A consumer who has a demand of 50 kilowatts or less.
3. A consumer who has an account with a distributor, if the account relates to,

    i. a dwelling;

    ii. a property as defined in the *Condominium Act, 1998*;

    iii. a residential complex as defined in the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006*; or

    iv. a property that includes one or more dwellings and that is owned or leased by a co-operative as defined in the *Co-operative Corporations Act*.

4. A consumer who annually uses at least 150,000 but not more than 250,000 kilowatt hours of electricity.
5. A consumer who has an account with a distributor if the consumer,

    i. carries on a business that is a farming business for the purposes of the *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act, 1993*, and

    ii. holds a valid registration number assigned under that Act or the consumer's obligation to file a farming business registration form was waived pursuant to an order made under subsection 22 (6) of that Act. O. Reg. 58/08, s. 1; O. Reg. 115/09, s. 1 (2); O. Reg. 494/10, s. 2 (2, 3).

Consumers who have opted out of the RPP to sign contracts with electricity retailers or become wholesale consumers would be eligible; however, their bill reduction would depend on their consumption, local distribution company and cost of retail contract.

Altogether, there are nearly 5 million consumers eligible for the Regulated Price Plan, including up to 500,000 small businesses and farms.

Q1. Who is eligible for ICI expansion announced in Ontario's Fair Hydro Program?

The expansion of the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) would be available to electricity consumers with peak demands between 500 kW and 1 MW that operate under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 31, 32 and 33 (i.e., Manufacturing).

Examples of sectors under NAICS codes 31-33 that have electricity consumers in the 500 kW -1 MW range include:

- Food and Beverage;
- Apparel;
- Plastics and Rubber;
- Computers and Electronics;
- Transportation Equipment;
- Fabricated Metal Products;
- Chemicals; and
- Wood Products.