

QP Newsletter: QP Briefing and Queens Park Today - May 12

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Attachments: May 12, 2017 — Daily Report.pdf (308.2 kB); Briefing - May 12, 2017.pdf (860.56 kB)

Good Morning,

Please find attached the May 12, 2017 issues of QP Briefing and Queens Park Today.

QP Briefing

Headlines:

- * **(P.2)** The Progressive Conservatives emailed reporters a potentially damaging and purportedly confidential cabinet document Tuesday, mere minutes before Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** was set to table the Liberal government's Fair Hydro Act, which outlines the Grit plan to

reduce household electricity bills by an average of 25 per cent.

- * **(P.6)** The Liberal government's critics are complaining that the Grits aren't giving them enough time to criticize.

The legislature is currently scheduled to rise for the summer on June 1, and the Liberals have either time-allocated or plan to time-allocate legislation that will enact their sweeping budget and hydro plans.

Queens Park Today:

- **(P.4)** Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** tabled **Bill 132**, the Fair Hydro Act. The [legislation](#) lays out how the province will lower electricity bills by 25 per cent (that figure includes removing 8 per cent provincial HST off bills, which was implemented on January 1, 2017).

Question Period

- PC MPP **Todd Smith** asked about a response to an order paper question he received from Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** on the Fair Hydro Plan.
 - Smith said "people of Ontario deserve to know if the government's hydro plan involves millions or billions paid out in fees to brokers or bankers."
 - PC MPP Steve Clark asked whether cabinet has ever been briefed on the expected cost of electricity up to 2024.
 - Thibeault said he does not have a crystal ball, but the Fair Hydro Plan refinances the global adjustment over 20 additional years in order to lower rates now.
- **NDP lead-off**
 - NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns** again went after the government over the Hydro One sale.
 - He asked why the government will not listen to countless stories of Ontarians who can't pay their hydro bills because privatization has caused rates to soar 300 per cent since the Conservatives first began to privatize the system.

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