

Quick Debrief re CME Roundtable Discussion

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Hi Deputy,

As requested, below is a short debrief from the roundtable discussion with the CME. Not much new. Folks just wanted an opportunity to raise their concerns about the cost of electricity for their sectors.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,
Martin

CME Roundtable Discussion – Debrief

Participants: Auto companies, manufacturing firms/companies, fuel refiners, energy consultants, Toronto Hydro, Hydro 1, CME, etc.

Introductions / Context: We opened the discussion with a brief update on what the Ministry has been working on over the last 18 months (i.e., 2017 LTEP, OFHP and Green ON). Provided some highlights that the roundtable would be interested in with respect to OFHP, 2017 LTEP, Conservation and Green ON. Following the update, Kaili and [Steen](#) responded to comments / questions.

Outlined below are some comments/questions raised during the roundtable discussion.

Comments and Questions Raised:

- **Cost of electricity is too high for industrial and manufacturing companies in Ontario (i.e., resulting in a loss of competitiveness, inability to secure investments and capital flight).**
- **There was no real relief in the 2017 Fall Economic Statement. The tax measures didn't provide enough relief to mitigate the impact of the new minimum wage legislation and/or cost of electricity.**
- **Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan and the 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan were missed opportunities to address electricity costs concerns of industrial and manufacturing companies.**
- **Ontario needs to introduce an "industrial commercial" rate (i.e., at approximately 8 cents a Kwh).**
- **Need to change the conversation. Recognized that a "whole of government" solution is needed to address the competitiveness concerns of industrial and manufacturing companies, not just an Ministry of Energy issue. Other ministries should be involved including: MEDG, MOL, MOECC, etc.**
- **How are we going to meet near-term electricity supply gaps if the forecasted demand materializes? Note: Ministry indicated that IESO's Market Renewal initiative is a pathway to address this matter.**
- **DRC needs to be removed from electricity bills; original commitment was to remove it earlier (this was cited by one member as an example of why there is a lack of trust of government). Note: The Ministry advised that the DRC comes off as of April 1, 2018.**
- **General observation that companies are not investing in Ontario; they are making capital investments in other jurisdictions including other provinces where electricity prices are lower.**
- **What was government's views on Energy East (i.e., why didn't Ontario save the project)?**