

Ontario Introduces New Savings for Electricity Consumers

Rate Relief Plan Will Lower Bills Across the Province

NEWS

February XX, 2017

Ontario is proposing additional cost-savings through legislation and regulation, which, if passed, would save the typical residential consumer X per cent off of their electricity bill.

The **Rate Relief Plan** includes:

- **Smoothing the Global Adjustment (GA)** over a longer term period for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) eligible consumers, resulting in savings of approximately \$X a month on the typical electricity bill.
- **Helping the most vulnerable** by enhancing electricity support programs and shifting costs off the electricity bill. Eligible consumers will receive additional funding through assistance programs including:
 - Establishing an LDC Affordability Fund which will support Ontarians who are not eligible for the [Home Assistance Program](#) and struggle to pay their electricity bill.
 - Broadening Rural or Remote Rate Protection (RRRP) to provide delivery charge relief for the customers of the local distribution companies (LDC's) with the highest delivery charges.
 - Expanding the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) to increase participation and provide further assistance to eligible participants.
 - Establishing a new On-Reserve First Nations Delivery Rate.
- **Identifying sector efficiencies** and modernizing Ontario's electricity market, working in collaboration with the Independent Electricity System Operator and the Ontario Energy Board.

Ontario has invested in modernizing the province's electricity infrastructure, which has resulted in rising electricity costs. Global Adjustment covers the cost of providing adequate electricity generating capacity and conservation programs in Ontario. Many of the generating facilities that have been developed recently are expected to operate past their contract life, so it is possible to apply those potential future savings to consumers now by deferring a portion of Global Adjustment.

Ontario has a robust electricity supply and is in a good position for market renewal. An adaptive energy market has the power to improve inefficiencies, increase transparency, enhance opportunities for innovation and enhance competition to reduce system costs.

Reducing electricity costs is part of Ontario's plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUOTES

"We have heard from ratepayers across the province that we need to do more to help reduce costs. The government is committed to ensuring an affordable energy system for all Ontarians."

Commented [BR(1)]: Hyperlink to [Ontario.ca/raterelief](#)

Commented [LL(2)]: Will link to backgrounder

Commented [LL(3)]: Link to backgrounder

Commented [MB4]: Link to backgrounder

These new measures will have a significant impact on your monthly bill and will help the most vulnerable.”

— Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy

QUICK FACTS

- The government has taken a number of actions to reduce electricity ratepayer costs, including:
 - [Renegotiating the Green Energy Investment Agreement](#) to reduce contract costs by \$3.7 billion.
 - [Reducing Feed-In Tariff \(FIT\) prices](#) saving ratepayers at least \$1.9 billion.
 - Introducing a competitive Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) process to drive down costs approximately \$1.5 billion lower than the 2013 LTEP forecast.
- In September, actions were announced to reduce electricity costs by:
 - Providing an [8% rebate](#)
 - Updating the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) for up to \$45/month savings when combined with the 8% rebate
 - Expanding eligibility for the [Industrial Conservation Initiative \(ICI\)](#) which could provide up to one-third savings for participants
 - [Suspending the Large Renewable Procurement program](#) (LRP II) and the Energy From Waste Standard Offer Program (EFWSOP), resulting in up to \$3.8 billion in costs, relative to the 2013 LTEP forecast. .

LEARN MORE

- [Estimate](#) how much you can save on your next bill
- Learn how Ontario is developing the next [Long-Term Energy Plan](#).

Commented [LL(5)]: Link to Ontario.ca/raterelief

For media inquiries only call:

Colin Nikolaichuk, Minister's Office, 416-325-2690
Colin.Nikolaichuk@ontario.ca 416-325-2690.

Natasha Demetriades, Communications Branch, 416-326-5452
natasha.demetriades@ontario.ca

ontario.ca/energy-news
Disponible en français