

**Outlet/Reporter:** Toronto Star, Ainslie Cruickshank

**Topic:** Constance Lake FN Agreement

**Deadline:** June 29 (afternoon)

**Questions/Responses:**

**1. I wondered if you could give me some more information about the Grievance Table process? When was this established? Why was it established? How does it work?**

The agreement between Ontario and Constance Lake First Nation is the first formal agreement established as a result of the Grievance Table process.

However, the ministry has taken action on other identified grievances using different mechanisms.

For example, a key grievance identified through the First Nation-Ontario Energy Table was the high cost of electricity. The government acted swiftly to address this issue by directing the Ontario Energy Board to report on options for rate assistance for on-reserve First Nation households. As a result, Ontario announced its Fair Hydro Plan on March 2, 2017 which includes the introduction of a First Nations Delivery Credit.

**2. Can you tell me how many First Nations the ministry is negotiating with? Which revenue generating projects are in question?**

The Ministry is currently working with several communities; however, these discussions are confidential.

**3. I also wondered who owns the Shekak-Nagagami hydro plant? Does the new resource revenue sharing deal affect the company at all? I.e. do they have to share a large piece of the revenue pie? Or does this reduce the level of revenue the government receives each year?**

Brookfield Power is the current owner of the facility. The agreement signed between Constance Lake First Nation and Ontario will offer stable, long term cash flows that will be provided directly to the community.

The agreement does not involve the project proponent and therefore has no direct impact to the project proponent. This includes no impacts to the current power purchase agreement held with the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation through which the facility sells electricity to the province.

**4. How much does the government get annually from the project?**

The province does not receive revenues.

The 19 MW facility sells electricity to the province through a power purchase agreement held with the Ontario Electricity Financial Corporation (OEFC).