# HST rebate + DRC removal vs OCEB

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Hey – here's a one pager on the savings of HST rebate + DRC removal vs OCEB. Jenn and I would use these KMs to put something together for Solomon. We could also share this with caucus.

Let me know if you have any edits.

**HST Rebate + Removal of Debt Retirement Charge vs Ontario Clean Energy Benefit**

The Ontario Clean Energy Benefit (OCEB) was a five year temporary program that ended – as planned – last year.

It was introduced to help consumers as we transitioned from coal towards a clean, modern and more reliable electricity system.

The good news is that we've already done the heavy lifting in terms of rebuilding aging infrastructure and transitioning off of coal.

Because of these investments, Ontarians won't see the cost increases coal-dependent provinces like Alberta and Saskatchewan will.

But we need to take the next step in ensuring that our clean, reliable system is affordable.

Despite consistent economic growth since the global recession, many families aren't feeling the impact of the recovery in their everyday lives.

Recognizing this, we are taking the single largest action to reduce costs for electricity consumers in the province's history.

- Rebating provincial portion of the HST to reduce bills by 8%
- Cutting delivery charges for the most rural customers by 20%
- Empowering industrial businesses to reduce bills by one third through the Industrial Conservation Initiative

These permanent new measures, which build on a number of other assistance programs, will take effect January 1, 2017.

When combined with removing the Debt Retirement Charge, we're saving the average family $195/year, more than what these same customers saved under the OCEB.

This is on top of existing programs like the Ontario Electricity Support Program, which is saving families in need another $430/year on average.

We've also nearly doubled the Rural or Remote Rate Protection program, saving rural and remote customers an additional $324/year on average.

Our plan provides needed assistance to consumers of all sizes, and it **targets support to those that need it most.**

We're doing this because we know that families need help with the cost of everyday living.

## Background

Removing the Debt Retirement Charge saved the average family $65/year (4%, or $5.42/month)

The HST rebate is an average of $130/year (8%, or $11/month)

OCEB for these same customers would be, on average, $162.50 (10%, or $13.54/month)

**Net, these customers are still seeing $32.50 in additional savings under the new set of programs. (2%, or $2.71/month)**

That means that our efforts over the past year not only save every family more than they ever did under OCEB (as seen above), but families most in need of help have been given even significant support over and above that baseline.