

Hansard: Pettapiece (Scott) (McNaughton) to Thibeault -- Hydro One Exec Salary

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INSTANT HANSARD

>> MPP Pettapiece: Thank you, Speaker. My question is for the **Premier**. Mr. Speaker, does the **Premier** believe \$6 million is an acceptable salary for the C.E.O. Of Hydro One?

>> Minister Thibeault: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Once again, you know, I'm pleased to rise and talk to the same question. You know, we recognize that the executive style where you said Hydro One are high compared to the vast majority of Ontario salaries and we remain committed to regulation, accountability and transparency through our government's involvement as a majority shareholder. You know, Mr. Speaker, the gimmick that we're seeing from the other side, especially from the leader of that party, Mr. Speaker, is going to drive us down the same mess that we're seeing south of the border, Mr. Speaker. You know, this isn't going to do anything to actually take a single cent off of anyone's hydro bills, Mr. Speaker. Not one single cent. But you know what did, Mr. Speaker? Was our fair hydro plan. Our fair hydro plan makes sure that we reduce rates. By 25% on average, Mr. Speaker, and we'll continue to put forward policy and not bumper stickers. Like the gimmick that they're doing, Mr. Speaker.

>> MPP Scott: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Back to the **Premier**. Mr. Speaker, to the **Premier**, is \$6 million an acceptable salary for the C.E.O. Of Hydro One?

>> Minister Thibeault: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, is voting against 25% reductions for families right across this province something that, you know, everyone should do, Mr. Speaker? Yes, it should, Mr. Speaker. And it's this party that did it. On that side of the House, we used to talk about them as being the party that had no plan, Mr. Speaker, and then they had a weekend where they brought forward a plan, and they were K the fair hydro plan, Mr. Speaker, and that was something that we thought was great but they should have voted for it when they had a chance. But now that plan has disappeared again, Mr. Speaker, and they are once again the party that has no plan. The only thing that they can talk about, Mr. Speaker, is Hydro One C.E.O. Salaries. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we recognize that executive salaries are high, but when it comes to actually making a difference in taking costs. Bills, Mr. Speaker, we reduced those especially in one area by up to 50% because of our action, Mr. Speaker.

>> MPP McNaughton: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Back to the **Premier**. It is shocking to see the Liberals defend their \$6 million man. Mr. Speaker, how does the **Premier** defend the salaries of the Hydro One C.E.O.?

>> Minister Thibeault: Thank you once again, Mr. Speaker. You know, Mr. Speaker, it's our government that understands that affordability is critical for families and businesses and, as I've said before, Mr. Speaker, that's why we launched Ontario's fair hydro plan reducing rates by 25% on average for all residential consumers as well as many a half a million small businesses and farms. And our plan is working, Mr. Speaker. You know, a recent report by the Environmental Commissioner reconfirmed Ontario's families and small businesses pay less on average than many other North

American jurisdictions. Families in cities like new York, Boston and San Francisco pay more than double the average of Ontario and consumers in charlottetown, Regina, Halifax and moncton are paying more than the Ontario average, Mr. Speaker. By bringing down surprise -- prices for customers we're continue to increase fairness and create more opportunities for Ontario families, Mr. Speaker. We'll continue to find ways and bring forward policy that help. They can keep bringing forward bumper sticker policies, Mr. Speaker .

N.B.: Transcripts are captured by a closed captioning system and may contain errors.