

RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

From: "Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)" <colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca>
To: "Forgione, Andrew (OPO)" <andrew.forgione@ontario.ca>, "McPhail, Blane (OPO)" <blane.mcphail@ontario.ca>, "Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY)" <kevin.denheijer@ontario.ca>, "Berry, James (ENERGY)" <james.berry5@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)" <jennifer.beaudry@ontario.ca>, "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" <bill.killorn@ontario.ca>
Date: Wed, 20 Sep 2017 08:08:52 -0400

Will do. Thanks.

Colin Nekolaichuk | Press Secretary
Office of the Hon. Glenn Thibeault | Minister of Energy
T: 416-325-2690 C: 647-504-4928
colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca

From: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Sent: September-20-17 7:49 AM
To: McPhail, Blane (OPO); Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY); Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY)
Cc: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO); Killorn, Bill (OPO)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Hi guys – here's the approved final. Pls send it out at 8:45 AM.

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Good morning,

This morning Todd Smith is scheduled to speak in the media studio about 'hydro power concerns' – a topic the Conservatives have been eager to mislead the public and media on, all while demonstrating little understanding on how electricity is traded.

We have been absolutely clear in our position that we would only agree to a new electricity agreement with Quebec if it saved money for Ontario ratepayers and reduced GHGs – and the negotiation to meet those core objectives remain active. As a reminder, I've attached the letter from July 27, 2017 that outlines the rejected offer.

Previous discussions with Quebec have benefitted Ontario ratepayers. In December 2016, a new electricity trade agreement was announced between the two provinces which will reduce GHG emissions system and lower the costs to Ontario ratepayers by \$70 million by importing 2 TWh of hydroelectric power from Quebec each year between 2017 and 2023.

While the Conservatives pay lip service to reducing electricity rates, it's been 202 days since Conservative Leader Patrick Brown said he would release his energy policy. Since then, Todd Smith and the Conservatives voted against the Fair Hydro Plan, which is now in effect and has reduced electricity rates by an average of 25 per cent for all residential customers, and as many as half a million small businesses and farms. They voted against immediate hydro relief for the most vulnerable, rural and Northern customers, who are seeing reductions in the range of 40 to 50 per cent.

We will continue working to bring reliable, clean electricity to Ontarians at the most affordable price possible. We would certainly be interested to hear how Todd Smith and the Conservatives plan to do that.

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From: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Sent: September-20-17 7:22 AM
To: McPhail, Blane (OPO); Nikolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY); Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

We will bring it up @ snr staff quickly to ensure they're good w the strategy then I'll let you guys know.

From: McPhail, Blane (OPO)
Sent: September-19-17 8:11 PM
To: Nikolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY); Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY)
Cc: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Thanks guys. This looks good to me - Forge, any issues? I wasn't here when this story broke over the summer so don't know the in's and out's as well as the rest of you guys. Just want to make sure we've hit all the right points here.

From: Nikolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 6:36 PM
To: McPhail, Blane (OPO); Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY)
Cc: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Hey Blane,

Here's an email we can share with gallery tomorrow ahead of Todd Smith's presser. I would plan to get this to them at 8:30am. I've also attached the letter that we would include, which you've seen previously. Let us know if you'd like to see any edits.

Thanks,
Colin

Good morning,

This morning Todd Smith is scheduled to speak in the media studio about 'hydro power concerns' – a topic on which the Conservatives have been eager to mislead the public, all while demonstrating little understanding on how electricity is traded.

We have been absolutely clear in our position that any electricity trade with Quebec will have to be cost effective and provide a reduction to electricity costs, will be a reliable source we can plan for, and will support our goal of reducing GHGs.

The most recent offer did not meet those core objectives as the attached letter lays out, but we look forward to continuing discussions with our Quebec counterparts.

Previous discussions with Quebec have benefitted Ontario ratepayers. In December 2016, a new electricity trade agreement was announced between the two provinces which will reduce GHG emissions system and lower the costs to Ontario ratepayers by \$70 million by importing 2 TWh of hydroelectric power from Quebec each year between 2017 and 2023.

While the Conservatives pay lip service to reducing electricity rates, it's been 202 days since Conservative Leader Patrick Brown said he would release his energy policy. Since then, Todd Smith and the Conservatives voted against the Fair Hydro Plan, which is now in effect and has reduced electricity rates by an average of 25 per cent for all residential customers, and as many as half a million small businesses and farms. They voted against immediate hydro relief for the most vulnerable, rural and Northern

customers, who are seeing reductions in the range of 40 to 50 per cent.

We will continue working to bring reliable, clean electricity to Ontarians at the most affordable price possible. We would certainly be interested to hear how Todd Smith and the Conservatives plan to do that.

Cheers,
Colin

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From: McPhail, Blane (OPO)
Sent: September-19-17 3:46 PM
To: Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY); Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)
Cc: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Good call. May ask at the 4 PM as well as FIT 5 fyi

From: Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY)
Sent: September-19-17 3:45 PM
To: McPhail, Blane (OPO); Berry, James (ENERGY); Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)
Cc: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: RE: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Likely to be the opposition day motion;

Mr. Brown — That in the opinion of this House, all contracts with the Province of Quebec for excess imported power should be tabled with, and approved by the Legislative Assembly before being signed by the Premier or the Minister of Energy.

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From: McPhail, Blane (OPO)
Sent: September-19-17 3:43 PM
To: Berry, James (ENERGY); Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY); Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY)
Cc: Forgione, Andrew (OPO)
Subject: FW: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

Hey – any idea what the first one is about?

From: MacInnis, Darrell [<mailto:dmacinnis@ola.org>]
Sent: September-19-17 3:41 PM
Subject: MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE-Wednesday, September 20, 2017

MEDIA STUDIO PRESS CONFERENCE
Wednesday, September 20, 2017

SUBJECT: MPP, Todd Smith will hold a media availability
regarding hydro power concerns.

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

SPONSOR: MPP, Todd Smith

SUBJECT: College faculty, represented by OPSEU bring
bargaining message to Queen's Park.

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

SPONSOR: MPP, Peggy Sattler

SUBJECT: MPP, Cheri DiNovo to discuss future endeavors.

TIME: 10:00 a.m.



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