

Re: Transcript - Global News - Concerns Raised About Affordability, Timeframe of Hydro Rebate

From: "Killorn, Bill (OPO)" </o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=killorn, bill (opo)0f4">
To: "Ingram, Kelsey (MOF)" <kelsey.ingram@ontario.ca>, "Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)" <jordan.lazarus@ontario.ca>
Cc: "@OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management" <opo-mediarelationsandissuesmgmt@msgov.gov.on.ca>
Date: Tue, 13 Sep 2016 20:33:23 -0400

We also need to be consistent that this is permanent. The Premier is saying it in her interviews.

From: Ingram, Kelsey (MOF)
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 8:31 PM
To: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)
Cc: @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management
Subject: Re: Transcript - Global News - Concerns Raised About Affordability, Timeframe of Hydro Rebate

Will do - i'll have a suggested response to you before QP tomorrow.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Lazarus, Jordan (OPO)
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 7:44 PM
To: Ingram, Kelsey (MOF)
Cc: @OPO-Media Relations and Issues Management
Subject: Fw: Transcript - Global News - Concerns Raised About Affordability, Timeframe of Hydro Rebate

Hey Kelsey,

Using what we sent to Allison today could you put together a quick note explaining to Alan Carter what your minister was referring to.

Thanks,
Jordan

From: Ferguson, Cameron (CAB) <Cameron.Ferguson@ontario.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 7:42 PM
To: @CAB-Trans PO; @CAB-Trans CO

*As requested by Jordan Lazarus

Concerns Raised About Affordability, Timeframe of Hydro Rebate

Source: Global

Sep 13, 2016 6: 00 PM (12)

Anchor 1: More questions tonight about Kathleen Wynne's promise to reduce your hydro bill and how the province will afford it.

Anchor 2: The cost to taxpayers to reduce bills by 8 per cent will be \$1 billion a year.

Anchor 1: So the Premier was asked: Where is this money going to come from?

Premier Kathleen Wynne: Because of this success that we are seeing and the economic growth, we are able to make further investments to support people.

Anchor 2: The Premier pointing out that 6 per cent growth over the past two years combined with projected growth going forward means the treasury can afford that \$1 billion a year. But listen to the Finance Minister answer the same question.

Charles Sousa, Minister of Finance: The reason is that we have built in reserves and contingencies into the plan, even back in the budget, so that we can accommodate this.

Anchor 2: So is it economic growth or a contingency—which is essentially a rainy day fund—that will pay for that rebate? That seems unclear. Also, if you thought the Wynne Liberals were scrapping the provincial HST on hydro, you would be wrong because the government cannot do that without approval from Ottawa, so instead it's rebating the equivalent amount of the provincial HST, which begs the question...

Reporter: How long will the 8 per cent rebate be on for?

Minister Sousa: It's our intention to proceed as long as we're able to provide for greater affordability, and we'll proceed to do so.

Reporter: So how many years are you going to have an extra billion to be able to throw at this?

Minister Sousa: Actually, what's important is to ensure we grow the economy to invest in the things that enable us to make the grid cleaner.

Anchor 2: It's an important point because you know rebates come and go. At the beginning of the year, a 10 per cent rebate called the Clean Energy Benefit expired, and this new 8 per cent rebate replaces it. But, let's get back to that central question.

Reporter: Just to recap, you don't know how long the rebate will be in place for?

Minister Sousa: I do know exactly that the rebate is going to be applied January 1 and that's going to be --

Reporter: But how long it will it stay there?

Minister Sousa: -- and that's going to be ongoing --

Reporter: But how long will it stay there?

Minister Sousa: -- and that will be available to the people of Ontario --

Reporter: So you don't know how long it will be?

Minister Sousa: What we do know and what we will do is provide that rebate to the people of Ontario.

Anchor 2: So enjoy that 8 per cent rebate on your hydro bill when it kicks in January 1, just don't get used

to it, because we don't know how long it will last.

Transcript captured directly from source. Some typographical errors or omissions are to be expected.