

Re: CBC Note

From: "MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)" <"o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=mackenzie, rebecca (opo)7a8">
To: "Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)" <kate.moseley-williams2@ontario.ca>
Date: Thu, 02 Mar 2017 15:46:27 -0500

Looks good

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 3:38 PM
To: MacKenzie, Rebecca (OPO)
Subject: FW: CBC Note

Hey Rebecca – can you review before I sent to Maddy?

From: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)
Sent: March-02-17 3:37 PM
To: Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)
Subject: Re: CBC Note

Good. Send to Rebecca.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)
Sent: Thursday, March 2, 2017 3:30 PM
To: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)
Subject: RE: CBC Note

Media Prep Note: Rate Mitigation Interviews with CBC – Day 2

Friday March 3, 2017

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 AM

Location: CBC Toronto Studio, 250 Front Street West

Prepared by: Jennifer Beaudry

Reviewed by: Issues Team

Premier,

On Friday you will do a series of one-on-one interviews in studio at CBC Toronto. Your first interview of the day will be with Matt Galloway the host of CBC Metro Morning. Next you will sit-down with Wei Chen of Wei Chen of CBC Ontario Morning. Your last interview will be with CBC Ottawa Morning.

As these interviews are live, there will be no embargo for these interviews.

The purpose of these interviews is to explain your announcement, *Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan*, and reiterate the positive difference this will make for Ontarians.

For messaging, we have included your statement from today's announcement. We would also like to note that Matt Galloway recently had Rob Benzie and Andrea Horwath on his show. We have included the transcripts from those interviews below for your reference.

It's going to be a great morning. A note for your afternoon interviews will follow.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached on my mobile: 647-299-5435

Jenn

7:10AM – CBC Metro Morning –Live –In Studio

Host: Matt Galloway

Matt Galloway is the host of Metro Morning on CBC Radio in Toronto. You have met Matt many times to talk about various aspects of provincial politics. In September you and Matt spoke about the speech from the throne and our plan to build Ontario up for everyone. You were last on Metro Morning in November to speak about the US election results.

7:40AM – CBC Ontario Morning – Live –In Studio

Host: Wei Chen

Ontario Morning is CBC Radio's weekday, wake-up show for much of Southern Ontario. It broadcasts to centres such as London, Owen Sound, Barrie, Orillia, Peterborough, Belleville/Trenton, Brockville, Cornwall and Pembroke, as well as the surrounding rural areas. You last met with Wei in September of 2016 to discuss the speech from the throne and our plan to build Ontario up for everyone.

8:10AM –CBC Ottawa Morning – Live – CBC Toronto Studio

Host: Robyn Bresnahan

Robyn Bresnahan is the host of Ottawa Morning which airs weekdays from 5:30 to 8:30 AM. You last spoke with CBC Ottawa Morning in January of 2015 to talk about your 10 day campus tour.

Premier's Statement on Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan

We're here today to talk about the high cost of electricity in Ontario: how it got to this point, how it must be fixed and how exactly we're going to put that fix in place. For too long, governments -- my own included -- have made mistakes in the way we've structured Ontario's electricity system. That has resulted in rates that are unfairly high. It's time to fix those mistakes, in ways that work for today, and for the future.

Electricity is not a frill -- it's an essential part of our daily lives. And everywhere I go, I hear from people worried about the price they are asked to pay for hydro and the impact it has on their household budgets. It's not just some people, and it's not just in some places. It's everyone and in every corner of the province. In the North and the South. In rural Ontario and downtown Toronto. For the past couple of months I've made a point of connecting with people who have

written to me about this issue. I've called them up or gone to visit. I've sat and talked and listened.

Here's what I've heard. Families have said to me they don't understand why rates have gone up so much -- or why they've gone up so quickly. People have told me they are confused by bills that charge more for delivery than for the power that's been used. For some families, it's gotten to the point where they must choose between keeping the lights on and keeping food in the fridge. That's unacceptable.

People want to know three things: First, that relief -- substantial relief -- is on its way. Second, that relief will go to everyone. And third, that the relief will be lasting because it is built on a real change -- in other words, that bills won't jump back up in a couple of months or a couple of years. We're going to deliver on all three counts -- and that starts by bringing down what people pay on their bills.

Last September, I committed to reduce electricity bills by 8% across the board, equivalent to the provincial portion of HST. But it hasn't been enough. It's made too small a dent. For that reason, we are taking further action. We are tripling the size of the cut we're making to people's hydro bills from 8% to an average of 25%. Electricity rates in Ontario will come down significantly, they're going to stay down and everyone will benefit.

Let me emphasize that last point -- the cut will go to all households that pay for electricity. There will be no asterisks, no loopholes and no exceptions. Our plan will lower electricity bills by 25% on average for all residential consumers in the province. And for those living in rural communities or with low incomes, the break will be even greater.

In addition, this rate relief is designed to last. After we bring bills down by 25% we will hold them there with rates rising only with inflation -- or roughly 2% -- for at least four years. This is the largest cut to electricity rates in the history of Ontario. In dollars and cents, the exact benefit will vary by household. But if, for example, your monthly bill adds up to \$135, this cut will drop it down to around \$101.

Now that I've described what we're doing today, let me turn to how. I'll have to begin with a bit of context about the way our electricity system has evolved over the years. Because the way we bring rates down isn't by waving a magic wand. It's by fixing a system that has been structured unwisely, and in some ways unfairly. For decades, Ontario enjoyed one of the largest, most impressive and up-to-date electricity systems in North America, if not the world. Power generation was supported through a combination of hydro, coal and nuclear. Power lines crisscrossed the province and the lights came on because we had sophisticated, well-run distribution systems.

But over time, there were two problems. First, governments of all stripes let the maintenance and support of that system slide. No politician or premier wants to defend rising rates, and for decades the easiest way to avoid the pinch was to invest as little as possible. But that came at a price. Eventually, systems became outdated, the grid was less reliable and, just like an old house that wasn't kept up, it began to show. We all remember the blackouts in 2003 when it became obvious that our system was long overdue for some significant -- and expensive -- upgrades.

Let me just pause and say on this point that we all bear responsibility for that. Liberal, Conservative and NDP governments. For the better part of 50 years we didn't pay our way. Until about a decade ago, when it came to a head. The system needed major rebuilding. Which meant a major price tag. A lot of that money came in the form of rates -- higher bills. So for the past few years customers have been paying not only for the power they consume but for the past neglect, for the price of major new refurbishments and for the cost of renovating a system that went without proper repairs for far too long.

So the good news is that we've created an electricity grid that is second-to-none. In the past few

years we've invested more than \$50 billion in electricity infrastructure -- new dams in the south, new towers in the north, \$13 billion to refurbish nuclear power plants alone and billions more to ensure new transmission and distribution lines everywhere. These are enormously important assets that meet the demand for cleaner and reliable power everywhere in the province. These are assets that belong to all the people of Ontario and that will serve us for many decades to come.

But the way we financed those investments was a mistake. We asked one generation -- today's generation -- to unfairly shoulder the burden of nearly all of those costs. We had to play catch-up and we asked today's ratepayers to cover nearly the whole tab. Think of it in terms of a mortgage. We needed to rebuild the system and so we went to the bank for that money. But the terms that were set weren't fair -- particularly the amortization. Instead of paying off the mortgage over 30 years, we agreed to a term of 20. That means that we pay things down faster. But the monthly mortgage payments -- or, in this case, your hydro bills -- are higher. And it doesn't really make sense since that house -- or in this case the electricity system -- is an asset that will continue to benefit people far past that contract term.

In effect, this generation has been subsidizing not just those who came before, but those who will come next. That's not right -- and it has been notably unfair on today's hydro users. So we're fixing that. We're refinancing the mortgage and setting a new term that stretches over a longer period. Over time, it will cost a bit more. And it will take longer to pay off. But it is fairer -- because it doesn't ask this generation of hydro customers alone to pay the freight for everyone before and after. The burden will now be shared more evenly and more appropriately. That's the first and most important fix we're putting in place.

There is a second reason, however, that hydro bills have gone up and I also want to acknowledge that. For years, we fueled part of our electricity grid with dirty coal. It was a relatively cheap way to generate power but it was costly in terms of environmental and health effects. Smog days, exhaust, particulates, emissions and climate change. These were all dangers of using coal. The previous government, under my predecessor, changed that. We no longer burn coal to generate electricity in Ontario. And we have since gone further. We have adopted a range of programs to encourage the development of clean energy here at home with solar and wind generation. And we have championed conservation.

I believe strongly in those policies. A growing clean energy sector creates jobs for everyone. Fewer smog days improve the health of us all. I believe they will generate benefits far into the future -- both economically and environmentally. But they come at a cost. We clearly did not always get the implementation right. For example, the incentives we first put in place to encourage green energy production were too generous and we've had to bring them down.

It's not just about clean energy policies. We've also long had programs in place to give targeted help to certain communities and groups -- like the Ontario Electricity Support Program or OESP, which helps lower hydro costs for those with lower incomes. There are also people living in rural and remote parts of Ontario who have been paying much higher distribution costs, compared to people who live in urban areas. And we are going to be providing more relief on those delivery charges -- supporting some 800,000 families.

We can all agree that we have to help people who need that extra support. But ratepayers have been carrying the cost of those programs, not taxpayers. And that simply is not fair.

As I have said, electricity is a necessity. So it only makes sense that we share the cost of making sure no one has to make those difficult decisions between heating their home and feeding their family. Of course, the consequence of these big changes -- refinancing our electricity system's mortgage and shifting programs off of the Hydro bill -- do not come free. Although the refinancing occurs within the electricity system and is accounted for separately, the overall fiscal impact of this relief and restructuring will cost the province about \$2.5 billion over the next three years.

Thanks to a provincial economy that is leading all of Canada in growth, we can make this change and stay on track for a balanced budget next year and the years to follow. But it's going to be a lot harder now and we'll remain a lot closer to the line.

Let me just say this: It's worth it. It's worth it for a true structural fix that will be long-lasting. Not just another short-term stopgap. But something sound and sustainable. And that's exactly what we've done. The people and families I've spoken with in recent months have made it clear: This must be our top priority. The burden of high hydro rates has become too great. We have to bring them down. And frankly, if we're going to bring our budget into balance, what better place to direct that newfound financial strength than giving households a break in the high price they pay for electricity?

In that respect, let me also address the elephant in the room -- didn't it take me too long to come to grips with this? Why am I only acting now? Those are fair questions. It has taken a long time. But it's not as if I've been unaware of the challenge. I have seen the rising rates. My family and I get a bill like anyone else. And we did take action -- with targeted relief, the 8% cut, the Hydro-Québec deal. These were worthwhile initiatives. But, ultimately they were too narrow in scope -- too limited when the kind of fix required was more fundamental.

Beginning last year, I started to ask tougher questions about how we got to this point. And what could be done. For decades, bad choices have been made. Those governments, including ours, who for decades pushed off the price of reinvesting in the system? That was a mistake. Putting too much of the burden on a single generation of ratepayers? That was a mistake. And asking hydro users alone to pay for policies that ought to be paid for by all taxpayers? That was a mistake too. The policy was wrong. That made the pocketbook pressures impossible. And as Premier, I have an obligation to set the policy right. To put in place a fix that will work. And a fix that will last.

Bringing down rates by 25% and fixing the system's structure -- that's the approach that I believe in. I think it's better for Ontario. And I know it's fairer on families.

CBC METRO MORNING INTERVIEW WITH ROB BENZIE

Date: March 1, 2017

Station: CBC Radio (Toronto)

Length: 8:30 minutes

Speaker(s): Rob Benzie, Queen's Park Bureau Chief for the Toronto Star

CBC: If you travel across this province and ask people what the biggest issue facing them and what they want raised during the next provincial election, pretty good chance that people will talk about hydro rates. Soaring hydro costs have been a real flashpoint for the Premier's government. They're hoping to change that. For weeks, the Liberals have been pledging to take action to cut hydro bills. We learned first about that when Mike Crawley was reporting on it a couple of weeks ago. Now, there is new information that apparently has been leaked to The Toronto Star suggesting that Liberals will cut hydro rates by something like 25 percent. Is that enough? Are we actually going to have an election fought over hydro? Robert Benzie, Queens Park Bureau Chief for the Toronto Star joins us. Mr. Benzie, good morning.

ROB BENZIE, TORONTO STAR: Good morning, Matt.

CBC: What have you learned about the Liberals idea on how to cut hydro rates?

BENZIE: Well this is a plan that's going to Cabinet today at noon. It hasn't been approved yet and we're not clear when it would actually be announced, but it might be as early as tomorrow. And it's basically

refinancing your mortgage. The government has signed more than 27,000 different power generating contracts with independent producers. Everyone from a farmer with a turbine in his or her field to a gas fired power plant that generates electricity for us to be listening to the radio this morning in the city. These are thousands of contracts that are out there and they're done over a set period of time, mostly 20 years. The government's going to extend the length of those contracts, so they'll be smaller payments, lower payments over a longer period of time. It's like if you have a 15 year mortgage on your house and you want lower payments, you do it over 25 years. You pay longer, but you pay a more reasonable rate and the government believes it can do this because the infrastructure that it's financing lasts longer than 20 years. Gas plants can last 40 years, turbines 30 years. So, I think the thinking is that they're putting too much money upfront and people are noticing it on their bills. It's the global adjustment, that awful little line on your hydro bill that drives people crazy. This is a line that was added in 2005 to cover the \$50 billion cost of all of these different electrical contracts. So, I think it's something that they've been working on night and day for many months since Premier Kathleen flagged it for us last November.

CBC: As I mentioned, we have been reporting on this. Our colleague Mike Crawley was talking about what looked like an eight percent cut and then it looks like perhaps things have been added to this. How desperate are the Liberals to try and be shown to be offering some sort of relief to those who are being clobbered by these high hydro rates?

BENZIE: Well, I mean, and Mike wasn't incorrect. The eight percent for parts of the plan are worth eight percent. But, this 25 percent plan, Matt, it includes the existing eight percent cut that that kicked on the harmonized sales tax in January. But, the Liberals are very desperate. It's an election 66 weeks from tomorrow and they count every day at Queen's Park. They are very far behind in the polls, behind Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown. Some of the public polls say that it's a 20 point range. I have heard internal polls that show it's closer to 10 points. Either way, they're behind. It – time is of the essence. Hydro has been a lightning rod. Even though here in the city it's not as big a deal, MPPs from all three parties tell me privately that they don't hear as much about hydro bills at the door for constituents. But, because the issue is so talked about in other parts of Ontario and is on the radio and is on television and is in the newspaper all the time, it's become that focal point for dissension in the ranks and people are mad at Kathleen Wynne. They can't figure out why they're mad at her, but they're mad. So, the hydro bill thing is the thing that they glom onto.

CBC: Is 25 percent enough to turn things around for them?

BENZIE: I was speaking to a pollster the other day who said that they could give you a free hydro for a year and the Liberals would still be in terrible trouble. He is [inaudible], so he would say that. But, I think that there are still quite a lot of time for the Liberals to possibly change leaders. I don't think that's going to happen personally, but I'm always wrong about these things, Matt, as you know. But if that happened, let's say they had a quickie leadership race and Kathleen Wynne isn't at the top of the ticket in June 2018, I think the Liberals could win an election again. They might win with her at the top. I don't know. But, the problem is if a person becomes a lightning rod, it's very difficult. I think both the New Democrats and the Tories have made a mistake in making hydro their be all end all because if the Liberals do manage to put out this fire with a 25 percent cut, it's going to be hard to talk to voters a year from now saying, "Oh yeah, you're hydro bill is so high," and people say, "Wait a minute. It's lower than it was." Wynne herself has become the [inaudible] in the lightning rod. I'm not, I don't personally think she is going to leave but who knows.

CBC: It's interesting that we had Andrea Horwath on the program yesterday. She talked about the plan to address hydro costs through looking at somewhere around the range of maybe 30 percent if all of the pieces fell into place and many of them rely on other levels of government, particularly the federal government, stepping in and taking the sales tax off hydro. But how does that plan, which she has presented yesterday, compared to what the Liberals are moving forward on?

BENZIE: It was very different. From Ms. Horwath's plan, which also included the eight percent existing, it was mostly about 17 percent there. I think there are a few people that they calculated wouldn't receive 30 percent, but they relied quite heavily on a five percent cut from the federal government, the federal Liberal government of Justin Trudeau, cutting the HST off of bills. I don't pretend to be a political expert, Matt, but I think if Kathleen Wynne's Liberals can't get Justin Trudeau's Liberals to cut fight the five percent federal share of the HST off of your hydro bills, I really doubt an NDP government would be able to do it. As far as I know, the Liberals here at Queen's Park have not been able to convince Bill Morneau and Justin Trudeau to cut that five percent.

CBC: What about Patrick Brown? Progressive Conservatives have been hammering the Liberals on energy costs. What is his plan?

BENZIE: He doesn't have one yet or if he has one it's very secret. I think that that's quite deliberate. I'm not making light of Mr. Brown's coyness. I think that he's so far ahead in the polls that anything he says can and will be used against them. So, I think they're going to wait till they have a policy convention in November. I'm sure they will have some kind of electricity plan. We asked him yesterday what number he would like to see, he wouldn't even give us a rate number in reduction that he'd like.

CBC: You're just going to force his hand?

BENZIE: They don't have a plan.

CBC: Do you think this will force his hand?

BENZIE: Yeah, I'm sure it does because if this takes effect tomorrow, the "What would you do?" questions would kind of become relevant, right? He will have to answer those questions. I mean, to fair to Ms. Horwath, her party has put a plan out. It's 13 pages long. It's longer than their platform in the 2014 election. So, I think that the pressure will now be on Brown and the Tories, who are leading mostly for theoretical reasons. People want -- people appear to want to change, according to pollsters, but they don't really know why other than maybe they're sick of the Liberals after 14 years in power.

CBC: It's interesting. If you do, as I said earlier, if you travel across the province, the hydro rates are the thing that has driven people up the wall. You hear these horror stories of people and they don't know whether to pay for this or pay for the hydro. It is a real life issue.

BENZIE: I think, yeah, it's and it's one of those of tangible pocketbook issues. The thing is other -- your cable bill has gone up; your phone bill has gone up, if you still have a landline; your cell phone bill has gone up, all of these other things have gone up but you can't really vote out Rogers or Bell or any of these companies. You can, however, vote on the government and the government has a role in electricity rates and electricity prices. So I think that that's it's become such a lightning rod and I think one of Wynne's greatest problems has been that she has been so focused on sort of big picture issues that maybe some of the more mundane kitchen table issues, pocketbook issues, have fallen by the wayside. I think they realize that. That's why they're working on this plan, which is, you know, a very dramatic move on their part.

CBC: More to be unveiled I'm sure in the days and weeks ahead. In the meantime, thank you.

BENZIE: Thanks, Matt.

CBC: Robert Benzie, Queens Park Bureau Chief for the Toronto Star.

CBC METRO MORNING INTERVIEW WITH NDP LEADER HORWATH

Date: February 28, 2017

Station: CBC Radio (Toronto)

Length: 8:44 minutes

Speaker(s): Andrea Horwath, Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario

CBC: Hydro rates are too high. That's what Ontarians keep saying and they keep directing that anger specifically at the Liberal Party and Kathleen Wynne. You've heard it from the average person in this province; you've heard it from the politicians. Patrick Brown, Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, has been making this a key issue in his, I [Inaudible] say this, pre-campaign in the lead up to the election in about 18 months' time. Now, the New Democrats are proposing changes that they say could cut hydro bills by as much as a third. Andrea Horwath is the Leader of Ontario's NDP.

ANDREA HORWATH, LEADER, NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ONTARIO: Good morning, Matt.

CBC: You've described this as a tipping point when it comes to the cost of hydro in Ontario. How bad is it?

HORWATH: Well, it's to the point where people are making choices they shouldn't have to make and that is absolutely the case. Putting food on the table or paying the hydro bill. You know, putting money in their kids RESPs or paying the hydro bill. Those are choices that no family should have to make.

CBC: And so what are you going to do? We've heard a lot of outrage from politicians, from Ontarians. What are you going to do?

HORWATH: This is why we sharpened our pencils and for the last several months have been trying to figure out what can be changed in our system. First and foremost, the sell-off of Hydro One will only make things worse. And so, we are going to bring that back into public ownership.

CBC: Just don't just stop right there. Why is it going to make things worse?

HORWATH: Because privatization is the problem. Privatization is what has created the mess in our electricity system and it started with the Conservatives over 20 years ago now and the Liberals have continued down that wrong-headed path. That is one of our big issues. We're paying for private profits instead of just electricity.

CBC: Is there any actual connection between privatization and the hydro rates? There are a lot of people who have questioned that and say that that the private operation of something like Hydro One is going to make it run better than it would in public hands.

HORWATH: Well, you know, unfortunately that's not what the evidence shows. I mean you look at places like Manitoba, you look at places like Quebec, or book-end provinces as I like to call them, and they both continue to have fully public systems and their electricity rates are less than half of ours. You look at Nova Scotia, which privatized, you know, in the 90s, and it's one of the highest electricity rates in the country, you know, rivalling Ontario. It's quite clear that when you're building in private profits, you're paying for not only your electricity system, not only your transmission lines and your distribution and all of those things that we have to the generation, but then you're also building in a layer of private profits. Look, even in the green energy system that's something that the Liberals made a mistake with and the Auditor General was quite critical of the fact that the Liberals put green energy online in this province at a cost that was that was untenable.

CBC: There were other, and I interrupted you just to get more clarity on the privatization piece, but there are a lot of other steps that you say you're going to take. So, walk us through some of those.

HORWATH: Absolutely. Well, we're going end the time-of-use pricing in terms of it being mandatory. We're going to have a flat rate basically of, I believe it's 10.3 cents per kilowatt hour.

CBC: Why don't you think that that has worked? Time-of-use?

HORWATH: Well, I mean, it's not just us that thinks it doesn't work. I mean, again, there has been serious criticism from the Auditor General, again, that shows that, you know, if they didn't achieve what was supposed to achieve, so the amount of conservation that it was supposed to generate it didn't have occur. It didn't help people manage their bills. So, on both of those fronts it failed miserably. Don't get me wrong, there are other ways that we are going to be talking about in the future of helping people to do that conservation effort. But the time-of-use has been a dismal failure and it has created a lot of difficulty for a lot of folks. So, we're just going to get rid of that time-of-use pricing and we're going to find ways to help people actually conserve energy.

CBC: Ways that will be announced in future?

HORWATH: Yes, absolutely. I mean, this announcement was specifically about getting the bills down and so, there are a number of different initiatives, as I said. Time-of-use is one. You know, bringing back Hydro One into public hands is another. We're going to be looking through all of those private contracts and trying to squeeze out a better deal for Ontarians, both through renegotiation and if it makes sense-- because you know a number of those contracts are coming due just after the next election. Shortly after 2018 we'll start seeing a number of those contracts, you know, have their due date. And so we're going to look at, you know, do we need to speed-up the end of some of those costs? And if it makes financial sense, I mean if it does, then we'll look at that. I mean I'm not one who believes in tearing up contracts right on scene. It gets us into trouble; look at what happened in Mississauga and also with the gas plant. So we know that that's a dangerous thing, but we have to do our due diligence and see if there are opportunities to cut some better deals for people. We're going to get rid of the delivery-- the delivery charges that are not equitable in this province. And if you're in rural or Northern Ontario you're paying delivery charges that are significantly higher--

CBC: That's because it costs more money to get the power to those people.

HORWATH: Well except that those are also people who unfortunately have much harsher winters and much more difficult time in terms of trying to not consume power because of their climate and so we're going to make sure that that unfairness in the system is taken out. And again, all of this is done inside of the electricity system. So we're not going to be reaching into other, you know, other revenue streams to deal with these problems.

CBC: There are people who have described some of what you've proposed as magical thinking. In particular looking at getting the federal government to take the tax off electricity; the sales tax in particular. That you say would cut 5-per-cent of the cost of people's bills. Why would the federal government give up that money?

HORWATH: Well I mean again none of these particular initiatives are standalone linchpins, right? I mean we're going to try to do everything we can to get the bills down. I think many, many people saw that town hall meeting where Justin Trudeau was, you know, faced with a very upset woman who was doing everything she could to pay her bills and earning money like-- she was working, working full-time, she was doing everything she could and she was in tears because she couldn't pay the bills. And he basically washed his hands of it and said it's a provincial problem. While in fact in the province of Ontario there was no tax ever on electricity until the federal government and the provincial government; at the time it was a Conservative federal government granted, and a Liberal provincial government cooked up the HST and put it on our bills--

CBC: So why would they give that money back? I don't understand how that would work--

HORWATH: So again, we are going to make the ask and we're going to make the ask and we hope that they will. If they won't, we certainly have other portions of this plan that will help people's bills be reduced by between 20 and 30-per-cent depending on where they live in Ontario.

CBC: Finally, do you think that this is what the election is going to be fought over in just over a year's time? Will it be on the issue of electricity rate?

HORWATH: Well I mean who knows. I mean it's really hard to say at this point what the next election is going to be fought on but I can tell you people are very angry, they're very frustrated, they're tired of this Liberal government and they're going to have a choice to make about future. And what I know for sure is that the cuts and privatization that comes with Conservative governments is not what we need right now. We need, you know, bold ideas that are going to not only help people today to actually live a good life here in Ontario but we need to set things up so that the next generations can build a good life in this province as well.

CBC: Alright, we will leave it there, but there will be certainly more to come. The election isn't for 15-16 months or so. Andrea Horwath, thank you.

HORWATH: My pleasure as always Matt. Take care.

CBC: Bye bye.

HORWATH: Bye bye.

CBC: Andrea Horwath, Leader of the NDP. You can read more about the proposal and some of the reactions to it. Not just from the opposition but energy critics and others, CBC.ca/Toronto is where you want to go.

From: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)
Sent: March-02-17 1:11 PM
To: Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)
Subject: RE: CBC Note

[Can you add the last benzie transcript from Ottawa morning and metro morning.](#)

[Can you also add any other oppo transcripts that have come to us for these shows.](#)

[Add in the blurbs that you are attaching those.](#)

From: Moseley-Williams, Kate (OPO)
Sent: March-02-17 11:39 AM
To: Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)

Subject: CBC Note

Media Prep Note: Rate Mitigation Interviews with CBC – Day 2

Friday March 3, 2017

Time: 7:00 – 8:30 AM

Location: CBC Toronto Studio, 250 Front Street West

Prepared by: Jennifer Beaudry

Reviewed by: Issues Team

Premier,

On Friday you will do a series of live one-on-one interviews in studio at CBC Toronto. Your first interview of the day will be with Matt Galloway the host of CBC Metro Morning. Next you will sit-down with Wei Chen of Wei Chen of CBC Ontario Morning. Your last interview will be with Robyn Bresnahan on CBC Ottawa Morning.

The purpose of these interviews is to talk to Ontarians your announcement, *Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan*, and reiterate the positive difference this will make in people's lives.

It's going to be a great morning. A note for your afternoon interviews will follow.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached on my mobile: 647-299-5435

Jenn

7:10AM – CBC Metro Morning –Live –In Studio

Host: Matt Galloway

Matt Galloway is the host of Metro Morning on CBC Radio in Toronto. You have met Matt many times to talk about various aspects of provincial politics. In September you and Matt spoke about the speech from the throne and our plan to build Ontario up for everyone. You were last on Metro Morning in November to speak about the US election results.

7:40AM – CBC Ontario Morning – Live –In Studio

Host: Wei Chen

Ontario Morning is CBC Radio's weekday, wake-up show for much of Southern Ontario. It broadcasts to centres such as London, Owen Sound, Barrie, Orillia, Peterborough, Belleville/Trenton, Brockville, Cornwall and Pembroke, as well as the surrounding rural areas. You last spoke with Wei after the US elections results.

8:10AM –CBC Ottawa Morning – Live – CBC Toronto Studio

Host: Robyn Bresnahan

Robyn Bresnahan is the host of Ottawa Morning which airs weekdays from 5:30 to 8:30 AM. You last spoke with CBC Ottawa Morning during your year-end interviews this year. Rob Benzie does a weekly interview with Robyn and frequently talks about electricity.