

Actions to Reduce Energy Costs

Ontario has taken action to reduce electricity costs for families, farms and businesses, while continuing to ensure they have a clean, reliable supply of electricity. Actions taken so far include:

- A new agreement-in-principle to trade energy, capacity, and energy storage with Quebec, which will reduce electricity system costs by an estimated \$70 million over the life of the agreement, dependent on the final terms.
- Introducing strong competition between developers of large renewable projects through the first round of LRP (LRP I) to drive down price and secure clean, reliable generation for the province. As a result of lower prices and revised procurement schedules, LRP I costs were approximately \$1.5 billion lower than the 2013 LTEP forecast. This would save the typical residential electricity consumer an average of approximately **\$0.56 per month** on their electricity bill, relative to previous forecasts.
- Suspending the second round of the Large Renewable Procurement (LRP II) process and the Energy-from-Waste Standard Offer Program is expected to save up to \$3.8 billion in costs relative to the Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) 2013 forecast. This would save the typical residential electricity consumer an average of approximately **\$2.45 per month** on their electricity bill, relative to previous forecasts.
- Reducing Feed-In Tariff (FIT) prices through annual price reviews, saving ratepayers at least \$1.9 billion.
- Passing legislation to reduce electricity bills in Ontario by 8 per cent, an amount equal to the provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax, beginning January 1, 2017.
- Providing more savings through the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) program. Together, the 8 per cent rebate and the enhanced RRRP will provide eligible rural customers with a monthly savings of about 20 per cent, or **\$45 per month**.
- Removing the Debt Retirement Charge (DRC) for all residential customers, saving the typical ratepayer **\$5.25** per month.
- Renegotiating the Green Energy Investment Agreement (GEIA) with Samsung, reducing contract costs by \$3.7 billion.
- Deferring the construction of two new nuclear reactors at Darlington, avoiding an estimated \$15 billion in new construction costs.
- Maximizing the value of our existing nuclear fleet by starting Bruce refurbishments in 2020, instead of 2016, thus helping to achieve \$1.7 billion in savings relative to the 2013 Long-Term Energy Plan (2013 LTEP) forecast and by continuing to operate Pickering up to 2024, pending regulatory approvals, which could save ratepayers as much as \$600 million.
- Introducing the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) for low-income families. Qualifying households see a reduction of up to \$50 per month on their electricity bill.

Commented [EM1]: The value for 750 kWh