

Ministry of Energy

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Mr. Ferio Pugliese
Vice President Customer Care and Corporate Affairs
Hydro One
483 Bay Street
Toronto ON, M5G 2P5

Dear Mr. Pugliese:

I am writing to thank you for agreeing to provide your time and expertise to serve on the Advisory Committee to the Affordability Fund, announced on March 2, 2017 as part of Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan. I am aware that Hydro One has shown significant leadership in the delivery of electricity conservation programs in Ontario, including through its delivery of the Home Assistance Program and the First Nation Conservation Program, and am pleased that you are on the Advisory Committee to help ensure the success of this important new initiative.

Commented [QM(1)]: HAP equivalent for first nations

Our government heard from electricity distributors that there was a need for an additional tool to provide targeted relief to customers who are in acute hardship (e.g. in bill arrears, facing disconnection). The Affordability Fund will support energy efficiency measures for customers who are having difficulty paying their electricity bills, and who do not qualify for the Home Assistance Program. Energy efficiency improvements can help customers reduce their electricity costs and get on a more sustainable path with their bills.

The Affordability Fund will take the form of a Trust. The role of the Advisory Committee will be to advise the interim Trustee on individuals to appoint to the Board of Trustees of the Affordability Fund. I understand that Ministry staff will be reaching out to you shortly to provide additional information.

Other Advisory Committee members include Mr. Brian Bentz from Alectra Utilities, Mr. Bryce Conrad from Hydro Ottawa, Mr. Robert Mace from Thunder Bay Hydro, and Mr. Terry Young from the Independent Electricity System Operator.

Your input will be important to ensuring that the Affordability Fund can reach customers who are in need, and can build on the success of programs such as the Home Assistance Program. Thank you again for your participation.

Sincerely,

Glenn Thibeault
Minister of Energy