

Draft Remarks for Ministry Meetings with Stakeholders

Minister's Office:

- Thank you for taking the time to join us this morning.
- As you are likely aware, this morning Minister Thibeault made an important announcement and we wanted to provide an opportunity to ensure that you are aware of the announcement and to address any questions you may have.
- Before we begin, I'd like to introduce representatives from the Ministry [and IESO]:
 - *Introduce other MO staff, DM, ADM CRED, Director REFO, [IESO rep]*
- On September 1st the Independent Electricity System Operator published its Ontario Planning Outlook, which analyzes a variety of planning scenarios for the future of the province's energy system.
- The outlook states that Ontario will benefit from a strong supply of electricity over the coming decade to meet projected demand.
- Given this supply situation and in order to help reduce the cost of electricity for Ontarians, the Minister announced that he has directed the IESO to suspend the planned Large Renewable Procurement II and the Energy from Waste Standard Offer Program.
- This direction to the IESO follows the government's recent announcement to rebate provincial taxes from electricity bills, and to expand programs that reduce rural delivery charges and industrial business costs.
- Suspending the LRP and Energy from Waste Standard Offer Program will save up to \$3.8 billion in costs for the electricity system. The typical residential electricity consumer would save an average of approximately \$2.45 per month on their electricity bill, relative to previous forecasts.
- As the Minister noted, this is not a decision that was taken lightly.
- However, the government is committed to do everything it can to reduce electricity system costs and responsibly manage a clean, reliable supply of power.
- Ontario currently has about 18,000 MW of wind, solar, hydroelectric and bioenergy capacity contracted or online. This capacity is contributing to a diverse supply mix and has helped Ontario eliminate the use of coal for electricity generation.

Kaili:

- Later this fall, the Ministry of Energy will begin consultations on the government's renewed Long-Term Energy Plan.
- These consultations will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to contribute to an updated Long-Term Energy Plan, including consideration of what further investments may be required.
- We would strongly encourage you to participate in the upcoming Long-Term Energy Plan consultations by attending stakeholder or public sessions, which will be held in communities across the province. There will also be an opportunity to provide your views and suggestions in writing.
- Further details about the consultation process, including dates and locations of sessions, will be available soon.
- We anticipate that the updated Long-Term Energy Plan will be issued in Spring 2017. Once issued, the Ministry and its agencies – including the IESO and the OEB – will work to implement the plan.
- We would be happy to take any questions you may have at this time.