

Flash Report

TITLE:	Ontario Regulation made under the <i>Ontario Rebate for Electricity Consumers Act</i> , 2016 (ORECA) to amend O. Reg. 364/16 (Invoicing Requirements)
DEPUTY DECISION/APPROVAL:	Yes
MINISTER DECISION/APPROVAL:	Yes
DEPUTY INFORMATION ONLY:	
MINISTER INFORMATION ONLY:	
DECISION DEADLINE:	As soon as possible. Planning to have this amending regulation filed with the Registrar of Regulations in advance of July 1, 2017, in order to remove outdated messaging requirements from invoices before the proposed <i>Ontario Fair Hydro Plan Act</i> , 2017 (OFHPA) is passed.

I. HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY / KEY COMMENTS / RATIONALE FOR DECISION

- As indicated on the Regulatory Registry (posted as of May 11, 2017) and communicated to LDCs during the LDC Working Group, the Ministry is proposing to remove the outdated “8% provincial rebate” messaging requirements from electricity invoices to free-up space on the bill and avoid confusion amongst consumers before new messaging is required under the OFHPA (if passed).
- LDCs are in favour of a regulatory “clean-up” to remove these requirements, indicating they have filled the available space on electricity bills and have no room to include new messaging.
- With these amendments, the Ministry would revoke the requirement under O. Reg. 364/16 for LDCs and USMPs to:
 - (i) provide on-bill informational messaging relating to the 8% provincial rebate; and
 - (ii) issue envelopes that are marked with 8% provincial rebate messaging.
- Note, electricity invoices would still be required to display an “8% Provincial Rebate” line item and indicate the associated savings.
- These amendments would also remove spent provisions from O. Reg. 364/16 that direct the distribution of 8% rebate bill inserts (already delivered), as well as outdated transitional and revocation periods.
- This Regulation is made under ORECA’s Minister’s Regulation authority and does not require approval by Lieutenant Governor-in-Council, and can go into effect immediately. Once the amending regulation is enacted, the Ministry would inform LDCs/USMPs that the on-bill messaging and 8%-marked envelopes are no longer required by regulation.

II. DECISION(S) BEING SOUGHT (if applicable)

Approval of the amending regulation, O. Reg. 364/16, and the Minister’s signature on the enclosed version so that it may be filed with Registrar of Regulations.