

Energy Plan – Rate Relief Plan Narrative

- Electricity is an essential part of our daily life.
- Everywhere I travel, I hear from people worried about the price they are asked to pay for hydro and the impact it has on their household budget.
- For the past few 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.
- People want to know three things:
 - First, that relief – substantial relief – is on its way.
 - Second, that the relief will go to everyone
 - And third, that the relief will be lasting because it is built on a real change – that bills won't jump back up in a couple months or a couple years.
- That's why we're delivering on **all three counts** – starting with bringing down what people pay on their bills and making it **fairer**.
- Last September, we committed to reduce electricity bills with an 8% HST rebate across the board, but it hasn't been enough.
- That's why we are taking **further action** to create a more **fair**, affordable electricity system, where some Ontarians could see as much as a **40% – 50% reduction**:
 - Tripling the size of the cut we're making to people's hydro bills from 8% to an **average** of 25% for households, **farms and small businesses**.
 - Smooth the cost of the **global adjustment** over a longer period of time to reflect the true life of the energy asset.
 - Ontarians with the highest **distribution rates** will have their costs harmonized at the lowest level among eligible LDCs
 - Create a **\$200M Affordability Fund** to help Ontarians who are not eligible for the Ontario Electricity Support Program
 - Further expanding **Industrial Conservation Initiative** for large consumers and businesses
 - 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 makes it the largest cut to electricity rates in the **history of Ontario**.