

RE: Tuesday Afternoon Huddle...

From: "Berry, James (ENERGY)" <james.berry5@ontario.ca>
To: "Teliszewsky, Andrew (ENERGY)" <andrew.teliszewsky@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)" <colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca>, "Campbell, David (ENERGY)" <david.campbell2@ontario.ca>, "Whittington, Matt (ENERGY)" <matt.whittington@ontario.ca>, "Baker, Carys (ENERGY)" <carys.baker@ontario.ca>
Date: Thu, 18 May 2017 13:59:34 -0400

Hi Andrew: below is the Minister's statement we've drafted in response to the FAO's assessment. Thought it would be good to have a draft version ready in advance of this afternoon's 4:30 p.m. FHP meeting.

Today, Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy, issued the following statement regarding the Financial Accountability Officer's (FAO) assessment of Ontario's proposed Fair Hydro Plan:

We welcome the FAO's report on our government's plan that would bring significant and sustained relief on electricity bills for Ontario families this summer, if the proposed Fair Hydro Act, 2017 is passed. We expanded the FAO's oversight last fall, which improved his office's access to information, making it even easier to provide important analysis.

[Draft language pending final report: We are pleased that the FAO's analysis supports the goal of our proposed legislation. This includes dramatically lowering electricity bills now by sharing costs more fairly with future generations of electricity ratepayers. The report also affirms our commitment that any increases to electricity bills would be held to the rate of inflation for four years ensuring predictability and stability over the medium term. The FAO's projection of electricity costs reflects a point-in-time estimate that demonstrates how we can ensure greater fairness in our electricity system. Later this summer, our government will release the next Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP). In the 2017 LTEP, we will focus on taking additional costs out of our electricity system, and address affordability beyond the short and medium term for all Ontario ratepayers.]

Since Premier Wynne announced the Fair Hydro Plan nearly 80 days ago, we've been clear and transparent about our plan that would cut electricity rates by 25 per cent on average for all residential consumers and as many as half a million small businesses and farms across the province, with any increases being held to the rate of inflation for four years. Through our proposed plan, low-income Ontarians and those living in eligible rural and Northern communities would see savings of up to 40 to 50 per cent. Families in the province have asked for real and immediate relief on their electricity bills and that's why we would deliver the largest rate reduction in Ontario's history.

Over the past several months we have been working carefully and thoughtfully with external and government legal and accounting firms, including KPMG and Ernst & Young, with the Provincial Controller and other experts to ensure our proposed legislation would deliver the savings and fairness in our electricity system that we committed to. The external accounting firms were instrumental in developing the proposed Fair Hydro Act, 2017 and have provided expert advice to address the matters the FAO has highlighted in his report.

Premier Wynne committed to providing significant and real relief on hydro bills for people across Ontario, and our government would deliver on this pledge, if the proposed Fair Hydro Act is passed.

From: Teliszewsky, Andrew (ENERGY)
Sent: May-18-17 10:59 AM
To: Killorn, Bill (OPO); Forgione, Andrew (OPO); McEachern, Gillian (OPO); Bevan, Andrew (OPO); Codd-Downey, Beckie (GHLO); Ghiassi, Ali (MOF); Jancik, Mike (TBS); Pichelli, Jason (TBS); Beaudry, Jennifer (OPO)
Cc: Whittington, Matt (ENERGY); Berry, James (ENERGY); Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY); Campbell, David (ENERGY); Baker, Carys (ENERGY); Noursi-Scott, Diana (OPO); Marangoni, Emily (OPO)
Subject: Tuesday Afternoon Huddle...

Good Morning:

ENE DM will get a final draft of the FAO report on Tuesday morning (in advance of this on Wednesday). While we have already begun planning the issues management frame for next week and will provide preview at our weekly OFHP Implementation Meeting (held this afternoon), we will probably also be sending an invite for a special meeting of the OFHP implementation team for Tuesday afternoon to ensure folks are aligned and coordinated.

Many thanks, in advance.

Andrew Teliszewsky

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Subject: FW: MEDIA ADVISORY: The Financial Accountability Officer of Ontario will Release an Assessment of the Fiscal Impact of the Province's Fair Hydro Plan on Wednesday, May 24, 2017



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MEDIA ADVISORY

**THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICER OF ONTARIO
WILL RELEASE
AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FISCAL IMPACT OF THE
PROVINCE'S FAIR HYDRO PLAN ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 24,
2017**

Media Briefing: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., May 24, 2017
Room 230, Ontario Legislature

News Conference: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., May 24, 2017
Media Studio, Queen's Park

(TORONTO) May 18, 2017 - On Wednesday, May 24th, Stephen LeClair, Ontario's Financial Accountability Officer, will release *An Assessment of the Fiscal Impact of the Province's Fair Hydro Plan*. Mr. LeClair will discuss the report at a 9:00 a.m. news conference in the Media Studio at Queen's Park.

In advance of the news conference, there will be a background briefing for *accredited

media at 8:00 a.m. in Room 230 at the Legislature (*Accreditation is available through Gerald Christopher, Room 387A, 416-325-7922 or via email at gchristopher@ola.org).

At the media briefing, senior officials from the Financial Accountability Office of Ontario (FAO) will provide a review of the report and answer questions on a not-for-attribution basis. Copies of the report will be available for the media at the start of the briefing. The report will be posted on the FAO website <http://www.fao-on.org/en/> at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 24th .

About the FAO

Established by the Financial Accountability Officer Act, 2013, the Financial Accountability Office (FAO) provides independent analysis on the state of the Province's finances, trends in the provincial economy and related matters important to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Visit our website at <http://www.fao-on.org/en/> and follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/InfoFAO> .

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[For further information or to arrange interviews, please contact:](#)

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