

Ontario Introduces New Savings for Electricity Consumers

Rate Relief Plan Will Lower Costs Across the Province

NEWS

February XX, 2017

Ontario is proposing additional cost-savings to help consumers across the province, which, if passed, could save the average consumer XX to YY per cent off of their electricity bill.

The **Rate Relief Plan** includes:

- **Smoothing the global adjustment (GA)** to defer costs over a longer term period, resulting in savings of approximately \$XX a month on the average electricity bill.
- **Helping the most vulnerable** by enhancing **electricity support programs** and shifting cost onto the tax base. Consumers in the hardest hit areas will have their delivery charges lowered to approximately \$XX per month and be eligible for additional funding through social programs including:
 - Establishing an LDC Affordability Fund which will support Ontarians who are not eligible for the [Home Assistance Program](#) and struggle to pay their electricity bill.
 - Enhancing Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) to provide Delivery Charge Relief for the customers of the local distribution companies (LDC's) with the five highest delivery charges.
 - Expanding the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) to increase participation and provide further assistance to eligible participants.
 - Establishing a new First Nations Rate for electricity customers on reserve.
- **Identifying market efficiencies** through energy agencies and modernizing Ontario's electricity market through market renewal initiatives

Ontario has invested in modernizing the province's electricity infrastructure, which has resulted in rising electricity costs in the short term. The electricity assets that we have invested in will remain valuable past their contract life, so it is possible to apply those future savings to consumers now by deferring the global adjustment costs.

Ontario has a robust energy supply and is in a good position for market innovation. An adaptive energy market has the power to remove inefficiencies, increase transparency, enhance opportunities for innovation and help keep competitive tension to reduce system costs.

Reducing electricity costs is part of Ontario's plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.

QUOTES

"We have heard from ratepayers across the province that we need to do more to help reduce costs. The government is committed to ensuring an affordable energy system for all Ontarians. These new measures will have a significant impact on your monthly bill and will help the most vulnerable."

— Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy

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QUICK FACTS

- The government has taken a number of actions to reduce electricity ratepayer costs, including:
 - Renegotiating the Green Energy Investment Agreement to reduce contract costs by \$3.7 billion.
 - Reducing Feed-In Tariff (FIT) prices saving ratepayers at least \$1.9 billion.
 - Introducing a competitive Large Renewable Procurement (LRP) process to drive down costs approximately \$1.5 billion lower than the 2013 LTEP forecast.
- In September, actions were announced to reduce electricity costs by:
 - Providing an 8% rebate (\$11/month savings)
 - Updating the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) for up to \$45/month savings when combined with the 8% rebate
 - Expanding eligibility for the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) which could provide up to one-third savings for participants
 - Suspending the Large Renewable Procurement program (LRP II) and the Energy From Waste Standard Offer Program (EFWSOP), resulting in up to \$3.8 billion in costs, relative to the 2013 LTEP forecast. .

LEARN MORE

- [Estimate](#) how much you can save on your next bill
- Learn how Ontario is developing the next [Long-Term Energy Plan](#).

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