

Hansard: Brown to Premier -- Hydro 25% Reduction Plan

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INSTANT HANSARD

>> **Patrick Brown:** My question is for the Premier. The Premier acknowledged this morning she made a mistake. At least 6 times she used the word mistake. We know the cost of mistakes is 42 billion dollars. Mr. Speaker, whether you pay today, whether you pay tomorrow, eventually the Liberals are going to go back to raising rates. Mr. Speaker, hydro bills may go down temporarily but eventually ratepayers will have to pay this back. The question is how long and how soon is that going to be.

>> **Premier Wynne:** Thank you very much. Mr. Speaker, the reason the people on this side of the House are standing and cheering is that the People of Ontario who pay electricity are going to see a 25% reduction. That's why they're cheering. Time's up. That's all I needed to say.

>> **Patrick Brown:** Mr. Speaker, rehearsed applause for a 42 billion dollar mistake. Mr. Speaker, 42 billion dollars to make up for a mistake. The incredible thing is this government is proceeding tomorrow with more of these bad green energy contracts. Pay more to pay for bad contracts. They're proceeding tomorrow. Mr. Speaker, my question is given that you've said this morning 6 times you made a colossal mistake are you still going to proceed tomorrow with these additional bad contracts for generations we do not need. When does it stop?

>> **Premier Wynne:** Let's just get the facts on the table. What we're talking about. Mr. Speaker, is spreading the cost of the investments that have been made as a result of neglect that was in the system from all governments. For 50 years investments were not made. All governments, Liberal, NDP,

Conservative have to answer for that. We're talking about spreading those costs over 30 years. I don't know where the member got 42 billion. People across the 30 years will share the costs of those investments that had to be made.

>> Patrick Brown: This scheme does nothing to end the unmitigated disaster of the green energy act. Mr. Speaker, why does this scheme do nothing to add the bad contracts -- When is nothing being done about the green energy act and the bad contract. Is the reason they're not touching any of these old bad contracts, it is because of the donation to the Ontario Liberal party.

>> **Premier Wynne:** Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Here's what we're doing. We're putting in place relief for everyone, Mr. Speaker, because what we have all heard is that everyone across the province, whether you live in the north or south or urban or rural Ontario, everyone has seen prices go up too far too fast. That's on average 25% reduction for everyone. We also heard, Mr. Speaker, that people who live in some of the more rural and remote areas -- Paying distribution costs that are higher. We are providing relief for those people as well. And people on low income, we're expanding the electricity support program to help them. We're making structural change because people need relief right now and that's what we're delivering.

N.B.: Transcripts are captured by a closed captioning system and may contain errors.