

# FW: Interview requests re: Fair Hydro Plan

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**From:** "Hosick, Sarah (TBS)" <sarah.hosick@ontario.ca>  
**To:** "Veinot, Cindy (TBS)" <cindy.veinot@ontario.ca>  
**Date:** Wed, 18 Apr 2018 11:09:07 -0400

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Hi Cindy

The reporter has a fact check request, "as he understands, Cindy was on the FHP team at the same time she asked IESO to look at the issue of market accounts."

Proposed response, anything you want to add or edit?:

- In January 2017, the Provincial Controller requested IESO take a closer look at the accounting for market accounts on their financial statements, which are consolidated with the financial statements of the province. This request was unrelated to the Fair Hydro Plan that was announced in March 2017.

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**From:** Tharani, Alisha (TBS)  
**Sent:** April 18, 2018 10:41 AM  
**To:** Hosick, Sarah (TBS)  
**Cc:** Laughton, Patrick (TBS); Vrancart, Kate (TBS)  
**Subject:** RE: Interview requests re: Fair Hydro Plan

Hi Sarah,

FYI – see below for the response MO is currently reviewing re: the interview requests. Will keep you updated on the status.

Also – I received a follow-up request for a fact check request from the reporter: as he understands, Cindy was on the FHP team at the same time she asked IESO to look at the issue of market accounts.

If you wouldn't mind to get back to me on the fact check asap, it would be appreciated.

Thanks,

Alisha

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Thanks for your message regarding setting up an interview with Cindy Veinot, Provincial Controller, and Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS), with regards to the financial and accounting structure for Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan (OFHP).

As only one of the actors involved in OFHP, TBS would not be able to speak comprehensively to the financial and accounting structure without the various other relevant officials present, which may be difficult to accommodate at this time.

However, we would be happy to answer any questions you may have. We will be sure to connect with our counterparts across ministries and organizations to ensure that our responses are as comprehensive and relevant as possible.

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**From:** Tharani, Alisha (TBS)  
**Sent:** April 17, 2018 5:17 PM  
**To:** Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS); Rubin, Jack (TBS); Ue, Allison (TBS); Nelson, Dane (TBS); Laughton, Patrick (TBS); Hosick, Sarah (TBS)  
**Cc:** Sullivan, Bryant (TBS); Vrancart, Kate (TBS); Miller, Amanda (TBS)  
**Subject:** FW: Interview requests re: Fair Hydro Plan

Hi all,

FYI – please see below for the response MOF shared with the reporter (Matt McClearn, G&M) regarding MOF and signatures on Public Accounts.

Best,

Alisha

**Alisha Tharani**

Senior Issues & Media Advisor | Treasury Board Secretariat  
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**From:** Blodgett, Scott (MOF)  
**Sent:** April 17, 2018 5:10 PM  
**To:** McClearn, Matthew  
**Cc:** Tharani, Alisha (TBS); Vrancart, Kate (TBS)  
**Subject:** FW: Interview requests re: Fair Hydro Plan

Good afternoon, Matt –

I understand you were in contact with my counterparts at Treasury Board Secretariat with regards to my emailed response to you, yesterday – and I am hoping that this will clarify my response.

Ontario's Public Accounts include a Statement of Responsibility, which – as I have said in my previous email - is signed by the deputy ministers of Finance and Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS), as well as the Provincial Controller.

All of them sign the same oath, and assume and undertake equal responsibility when signing Ontario's Public Accounts.

Although Public Accounts is under the scope of all three parties involved (Ministry of Finance, TBS, Provincial Controller), the lead Ministry is TBS – as it is responsible for the process of tabling and assembling the document.

All inquiries related to Public Accounts should be directed to TBS – and I have copied my counterparts Alisha Tharani and Kate Vrancourt who will be able to help you, should you have further questions.

The Ministry of Finance continues to play a key role in the Public Accounts process, which is reflected by the Deputy Minister of Finance's signature on the Statement of Responsibility in the Public Accounts, alongside the signatures of the Deputy Minister of TBS and the Provincial Controller.

Thanks so much, Matt.

Regards,

Scott

**Scott Blodgett** / Senior Media Relations Advisor  
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**From:** McClearn, Matthew [<mailto:MMcClearn@globeandmail.com>]  
**Sent:** April 17, 2018 10:37 AM  
**To:** Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS); Tharani, Alisha (TBS)  
**Subject:** Interview requests re: Fair Hydro Plan

Lawvin, Alisha:

It's Matt McClearn from The Globe again. The Ministry of Finance is indicating that its signature on the Public Accounts is limited. (See below.) This suggests that Ms. Angus and Ms. Veinot carry greater responsibility for the financial statements. I didn't realize that. Can you please confirm the Finance Ministry's understanding? Why do they assume greater responsibility than Mr. Thompson?

In any case, I request an interview with Ms. Angus about her role in the accounting and financial structure of the Fair Hydro Plan and its impact on the Public Accounts. And I wanted to check in on the status of my request with Ms. Veinot. Thanks and regards,

Matt.



**Matthew McClearn** | Data journalist, Enterprise Team  
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**From:** Blodgett, Scott (MOF) [<mailto:Scott.Blodgett@ontario.ca>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2018 3:46 PM  
**To:** McClearn, Matthew  
**Subject:** RE: Interview request: Scott Thompson

Hi Matt –

Deputy Minister Thompson signs a Statement of Responsibility as part of the Public Accounts process, along with Helen Angus (Deputy Minister of Treasury Board) and Cindy Veinot (Provincial Controller).

He signs off solely in his capacity as the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Finance to provide reasonable assurance that transactions recorded in the Consolidated Financial Statements are within statutory authority, assets are properly safeguarded and reliable financial information is available for preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements, from the Ministry of Finance perspective.

As I said in my previous email, the Public Accounts are overseen by Treasury Board and the Fair Hydro Plan is overseen by the Ministry of Energy.

Therefore if you have any further questions about Public Accounts or the Fair Hydro Plan, we would respectfully request that you contact those ministries.

I hope this helps.

Regards,

Scott

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