



Office of the Provincial Controller Division

Accounting Issues Update

Briefing to Secretary of Cabinet

March 9, 2017

CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT– FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Topics for Discussion



1. Status of Key Accounting Issues
 1. Pension Accounting
 2. H1/OPG Consolidation
 3. BPS Line by Line Presentation
 4. Other (Transfer Payments, contaminated sites, Hydro One)

2. Legislated Audit Committee Initiative

1. STATUS OF KEY ACCOUNTING ISSUES

Purpose



- To provide an update on key accounting issues with significant potential fiscal impact

Summary



	Issue	Fiscal impact in 2016-17	Reflected in FES	Multi-year impact
1	Pension accounting - Reversed FES treatment for OTPP/OPSEUPP - Panel recommendations on HOOPP, CAATPP TBD	0	Yes	Yes (HOOPP, CAATPP only - TBD)
2	IFRS-US GAAP differences – OPG and H1 - Decision to adopt IFRS announced in Q3 - Public Accounts to reflect OPG 'preferred' approach	\$0.1 B	No	Yes (\$2.6B over 5 years)
3	BPS line-by-line consolidation	No	No	No-fiscal impact
4	Cap & trade proceeds - Revenue from 1 st auction to be reported in 17/18	\$478 Million	No	No
5	Metrolinx MOU with City of Toronto	TBD	No	Yes
6	Year-end transfer payments (e.g. Affordability Fund, AI)	TBD	No	No
7	Follow up audit – contaminated sites	TBD	No	Yes
8	Other GBE issues (H1 sale; unrealized gains/losses)	TBD	No	Yes

Key issues and status



1. Pension Asset Accounting

- Fiscal impact originally included in FES **for valuation allowances** was based on AG's position (\$2.2 Billion in 2016-17, higher amounts in out-years)
- Based on Panel recommendations on OTPP and OPSEUPP, the original provisions have been reversed
- Full valuation allowances on HOOPP (\$102M) and CAATPP (\$25M) were taken for PRRT based on Province's accounting analysis; Panel's report on HOOPP and CAATPP expected by end of March (results TBD)
- Status:
 - OPCD provided updated estimates of pension liability and expense in February
 - Technical briefing on Panel's recommendations held February 13, 2017
 - AG briefing in response to Panel's report held February 16 confirms disagreement with conclusions
 - Awaiting AG draft audit planning report for 2016/17 Public Accounts Audit
 - External actuarial advisor engaged to complete valuation analysis – work to commence once Panel work on HOOPP and CAATPP is complete

2. Consolidation reporting basis for Hydro One and Ontario Power Generation

(US GAAP vs. IFRS)

- FES reflected US GAAP based results for OPG and H1
- Q3 Announced adoption of IFRS based reporting for OPG and H1 effective with the 2016/17 Public Accounts
- AG notified prior to Q3 release
- The net impact of adopting IFRS (IFRS14) for the Public Accounts will reflect OPG's preferred method of valuing its nuclear asset retirement obligation
- Status
 - Updated estimates of impacts to be received from OPG by end of March
 - OPCD working with OAG, OPG and H1 on supplementary audit requirements

Key issues (continued)



3. Consolidation presentation (BPS Line by Line reporting)

- AG preference for line by line consolidation of hospitals, school boards and colleges on statement of operations, as well as consolidation of Children's Aid Societies
- Fiscal impact of changes would be immaterial with no significant enhancement to transparency
- Change in presentation would impact key performance indicators (e.g. IOD, revenue/GDP)
- Status:
 - Hospitals, school boards and colleges to be implemented on line by line basis beginning with the 2016/17 Public Accounts, including 5-year historical trend analysis
 - Plans for change communicated to OAG
 - Formal communication to ministry stakeholders outstanding
 - Impact of consolidation for CAS drafted; under consideration for future years

4. Cap and Trade accounting (accounting for 1st auction proceeds)

- Accounting analysis on recognition of \$478 M auction proceeds shared with OAG
- Revenue from first auction (March 22, 2017) to be reported in 2017-18 under both Province's and AG's accounting approach
- Status:
 - AG and OPCD disagree on revenue recognition point; however, difference would have no impact on the 2016/17 Public Accounts as it would be recognized in 2017/18 under either approach

Key issues and status



5. Accounting for Transit Assets (Metrolinx MOU with City of Toronto)

- FES reflects assets will be Provincially controlled (TCA, depreciation impacts vs. transfer payments)
- Accounting risk – if assets assessed as **not being controlled by the Province**, assets would be written off of Province's balance sheet and considered transfers to the City of Toronto
- Status:
 - OPCD stakeholdering with Metrolinx and MTO ongoing
 - Discussions expanded to also include PwC (Metrolinx's external auditor)
 - Metrolinx accountability to identify potential accounting risks clarified
 - Metrolinx has engaged PwC to issue an accounting opinion based on binding Agreement in Principle between Province and City that is expected to be signed before year-end

6. Accounting for transfer payments (year-end transfers)

- Audit issues during 2015-16 Public Accounts reversed planned accounting for Green Investment Fund expenditures (\$325M)
- Expenses originally planned to be reported in 2015-16 for GIF are to be reported in 2016-17 (reflected in FES)
- Status:
 - OPCD/OAG discussions occurred to confirm details of accounting treatment; documentation exchanged to confirm application of accounting standards
 - Updates on 2015-16 experience provided to financial community (FCC, FBMC)
 - Updated guidance posted on Sharepoint

Key issues and status



7. AG Follow-up audit on VFM audit for contaminated sites

- Additional liabilities of approx. \$100M identified in 2016-17 (estimate in process of being refined)
- OPCD, OIAD and ministries collaborating on updated status of responses to VFM recommendations
- Status:
 - OIAD also engaged to undertake review of contaminated sites accruals in advance of OAG fieldwork; steps being taken to optimize OAG reliance on OIAD work
 - Grassy Narrows identified by AG as 'item of interest' in recent discussion with OPCD

8. Accounting for other GBE transactions(H1 sale, Brampton Hydro sale, etc.)

- For Public Accounts, assumed OPCD will continue to consolidate Hydro One HoldCo as a GBE. PSAB's Accounting Discussion Group continues to discuss HoldCo accounting. OPCD will continue to monitor.
- Tranche 2 of Hydro One sale – included sale of shares to OPG (related party) – gain on sale of those shares will be deferred; no deferral of related transaction costs as immaterial
- Accounting for Brampton Hydro sale under consideration by OPCD.
- Status:
 - OPCD analysis of various energy sector transactions to be shared with OAG once complete; external advisors engaged to undertake review
 - Control analysis on Hydro One HoldCo to be undertaken when Province anticipates additional dispositions

OPG's Estimated ARO Differences



	31-Mar-17	31-Mar-18	31-Mar-19	31-Mar-20	
Debit (Credit) \$ Millions	Income (projected)	Income (projected)	Income (projected)	Income (projected)	Total impact 2015-2020
Province's Selected Alternative for IFRS Consolidation (OPG's Preferred ARO Estimation Approach)					
15 year historical rate – 4.95% at transition, update rate each year					
Changes in Cost Estimates	(250)	-	-	-	
Discount Rate	225	225	225	225	
Other	100	200	300	450	
Total	75	425	525	675	2,494
Discount rate	4.50%	4.30%	4.10%	3.9%	
OPG's Original ARO Methodology (superseded)					
15 year historical + 5 forward - 5.0% at transition; update at ONFA; every 5 years)					
Changes in Cost Estimates	(250)			-	
Discount Rate	1,150	-		-	
Other	100	375	400	400	
Total	1,000	375	400	400	2,590
Discount rate	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	

2. FURTHERING WORK ON A LEGISLATED EXTERNAL ONTARIO AUDIT COMMITTEE

External Ontario Audit Committee



- An opportunity was identified to enhance the existing OPS governance / relationship model between the AG and the government, though establishing a legislated External Ontario Audit Committee
- A project team has been established, with actions to date:
 - Continuing to research to identify public and private sector best practice
 - Consulting with other TBS Branches, including:
 - Legal Services Branch
 - OIAD / Audit Centre of Excellence
 - Communications
 - Public Appointments Secretariat
 - CPAGOG/ Agency Accountability
 - Developing a Business Case that can be used as a foundation for a Cabinet Submission