

energy social programs teleconf

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Hi Cindy

A few notes from April 10 call

Energy is working to bring to Treasury Board further approvals needed with respect to implementation of three "social programs" that are a part of the Fair Hydro package. The three programs are the Rural or Remote Rate Protection (RRRP) program, the Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP –currently at 8% – this replaced the former OCEB Ontario clean energy benefit which was at 10%) and the First Nations on-reserve delivery credit. See attached NR for more, including the .

Energy will share with us (PEMD and OPCD) the draft legislation they are developing for above that will set up the framework to take these 3 programs onto the tax base from a funding point of view, to ensure the programs are subject to audit requirements (through the FAA Minister's provision), and to enable making regulations to set the details regarding things like eligibility requirements for the programs. The plan is that regs would follow the proposed legis very quickly, so that the whole structure is in place for the programs to start up by July 1st.

Two issues we know at this point that will be of interest for opcd are:

- Decisions regarding what legis sets up with respect to govt/minister of Energy's relationship to IESO's \$100M variance account (as discussed with TBS LSB last week)
- Accruals and improvements of forecasting - PEMD is looking to Energy to work with the COE to improve their modelling, including to understand the reasons behind the variance balance, and to see whether there can be more precision in go-forward mode as the 3 programs evolve – will likely include consideration of at what point it is appropriate for the ministry to book an accrual, and what rather requires new approval from Treasury Board

Ministry of Energy will be setting up weekly calls with the same OTB group in support of getting ready for a scheduled May 1 date at Treasury Board

PEMD will be leading providing info from the call to Karen in the Wednesday briefing with her

