
Helping Ontario Companies Manage Electricity Costs

More Than One Thousand Businesses Eligible for Expanded Initiative

NEWS

September 15, 2016

Ontario is proposing to expand the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) to more than one thousand additional commercial, institutional and industrial customers. This incentive program will help eligible businesses reduce electricity bills by up to one-third and improve their competitiveness, while providing a benefit to the electricity system.

Under this proposed measure, the current eligibility threshold of three megawatts of monthly peak demand has been lowered to one megawatt. In addition, sector restrictions would be removed and smaller institutional and commercial consumers would be eligible to participate.

ICI provides a strong incentive for participating electricity consumers to reduce their consumption during peak hours to lower their bills. By reducing the province's peak demand, ICI reduces electricity system costs by deferring the need to build peaking generation.

Helping Ontarians with the cost of everyday living and helping businesses compete are part of the government's plan to build Ontario up. The government's four-part economic plan includes investing in talent and skills, including helping more people get and create the jobs of the future by expanding access to high-quality college and university education. The plan is making the largest investment in public infrastructure in Ontario's history and investing in a low-carbon economy driven by innovative, high-growth, export-oriented businesses. The plan is also helping working Ontarians achieve a more secure retirement.

QUOTES

"Our government is committed to helping businesses compete and grow. By expanding ICI more than 1,000 newly eligible businesses stand to save up to one third on their electricity bill while also reducing cost pressures on the electricity system by incenting more consumers to lower their electricity demand during peak times. By helping our Ontario companies lower their utility costs we are enabling them to further invest in their business which will bolster Ontario's economy."

— Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

QUICK FACTS

- A manufacturing operation with an average peak demand of 2 MW that participates in the ICI program could see its electricity costs reduced from \$154 per MWh to as low as \$102 per MWh. This would translate into approximate savings of up to \$42,000 per month.
- Currently there are about 300 Class A consumers who collectively reduced Ontario's peak demand by an estimated 1,000 MW in 2015.
- The proposed ICI regulation would be in place by May 1, 2017, allowing eligible companies to benefit beginning July 2018.
- Ontario has introduced the *Ontario Rebate for Electricity Consumers Act, 2016*. This proposed legislation would rebate an amount equivalent to the provincial portion of HST from the electricity bills of residential consumers, small businesses and farms eligible for the Regulated Price Plan starting January 1, 2017.

LEARN MORE

Learn more about the ICI

[Read Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan](#)

[Find out about energy efficiency in Ontario's industrial sector](#)

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