

Ministry of Energy

ISSUES FORECAST: October 16, 2017 to November 26, 2017

Date	Risk	Issue	Tactics	Key Messages
Tue Oct 17	High	UPDATED - AG to issue special report on Ontario Fair Hydro Plan The Auditor General of Ontario, Bonnie Lysyk, will be issuing a special report on the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan. The Auditor General has expressed concerns about how the government is accounting for the money being borrowed to finance the Fair Hydro Plan. http://www.auditor.on.ca/en/content/news/remarks_standing%20committee%20on%20justice%20policy.pdf	Housebook/Issue note, Q&As	(Holding messaging) • The government worked closely with both internal government and external accounting experts. The Ministry of Energy has met with the AG to discuss Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan, and continues to work to ensure all appropriate public sector accounting standards are met. • In crafting the Fair Hydro Plan, the government consulted broadly, including: - o Ontario's Energy Agencies - o Experts across government - o External accounting experts - o External legal advisors - o Financial advisors - o Local Distribution Companies • The Ontario Fair Hydro Plan delivers on the Government's commitment to fairness, and electricity rates will come down and make life more affordable for families and businesses across the province.
Tue Oct 24	Low	Affordability Fund Launch (Hamilton) The ministry will announce the launch of the Affordability Fund, part of the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan. As part of the Ontario Fair Hydro Plan, in March 2017 the government announced the establishment of an Affordability Fund that will provide energy efficiency measures to electricity customers who do not qualify for the Save on Energy Home Assistance Program (HAP), and who are unable to undertake energy efficiency improvements without support.	Q&As	(holding messaging)• The Affordability Fund is part of Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan. The \$100 million fund is designed to help those who don't qualify for the Save on Energy Home Assistance Program and are unable to make energy efficiency improvements to their homes to help reduce their future electricity bills. • There are approximately 50,000 households in the province that could benefit from this fund. Customers can contact their electricity distributor to find out if there are eligible. • Those who qualify for assistance could receive anywhere from \$260 to \$6000 to help with their electricity bills and improve the energy efficiency of their homes and apartments. • Ontario is lowering electricity bills by 25 per cent on average for residential customers as part of a significant system restructuring that will address long-standing policy challenges and ensure greater fairness.
Thu Oct 26	Medium	LTEP 2017 Release The 2017 Long Term Energy Plan, Delivering Fairness and Choice, is being released. • Ontario's 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP), Delivering Fairness and Choice, provides information about what Ontarians can expect of the energy system over the next 20 years. • The development of the LTEP is prescribed in the Energy Act, 1998. Between October 2016 and January 2017, the Ministry of	Housebook/Issue note, Q&As	(holding messaging) • The Long Term Energy Plan (LTEP), Delivering Fairness and Choice, is a road map that sets out the direction for Ontario's energy future. The Province engaged with thousands of Ontarians to develop the plan. During engagement, Ontarians said that affordability is a top priority and that consumers

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		Energy engaged with industry experts, partners, First Nations and Métis, stakeholders, businesses and Ontarians across the province. • The Province engaged with and listened to Ontarians in the development of its plan and their feedback has led this LTEP to be focused on the consumer while ensuring a reliable energy system that is ready for the innovations expected from future generations. • The 2017 LTEP puts a focus on making energy more affordable and outlines a number of measures, programs and initiatives to give consumers more choice in the way they use the energy system, while offering ways to conserve energy and introducing new regulatory protections.		also want more control and choice over how they use and pay for electricity. • A strong long-term energy plan is an essential part of Ontario's plan to create jobs, grow our economy and help people in their everyday lives.