

FW: Flagging | TBS/MOF joint statement | AG Review of the Pre-Election Report on Ontario's Finances

From: "Berry, James (ENERGY)" <james.berry5@ontario.ca>
To: "Tretiakov, Iliia (ENERGY)" <ilia.tretiakov@ontario.ca>, "Nekolaichuk, Colin (ENERGY)" <colin.nekolaichuk@ontario.ca>, "Den Heijer, Kevin (ENERGY)" <kevin.denheijer@ontario.ca>, "Byrne-Krzycki, Alexander (ENERGY)" <alexander.byrne-krzycki@ontario.ca>, "Reis, Sydney (ENERGY)" <sydney.reis3@ontario.ca>, "Riggs, Matt (ENERGY)" <matt.riggs@ontario.ca>
Cc: "Feenstra, Mike (ENERGY)" <mike.feenstra@ontario.ca>, "Whittington, Matt (ENERGY)" <matt.whittington@ontario.ca>
Date: Wed, 25 Apr 2018 11:15:34 -0400

FYI below – joint statement from Ministers McMahon and Sousa. We'll share with the Minister.

From: Whytock, John (ENERGY)
Sent: April 25, 2018 11:01 AM
To: Berry, James (ENERGY) <James.Berry5@ontario.ca>
Subject: FW: Flagging

From: Miller, Amanda (TBS)
Sent: April-25-18 10:25 AM
To: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS); Whytock, John (ENERGY)
Subject: RE: Flagging

Hi, John,

Sharing the language our chief of staff and program area landed, for your awareness. They managed to land something that appropriately captures the matter without conflating rate regulated accounting and market accounts. This routed directly back to PO so we aren't looking for further review/input at this point, but wanted to ensure you're aware of what's out there.

Additionally, the approach has changed since discussed yesterday. Our MO will be issuing the joint statement from TBS and MOF to the press gallery at 10:30 followed by a walkaround at 11:00.

The Auditor General mentions two specific topics that represent ongoing conversations and technical accounting disputes between government and her office, and these two disputes have in turn led to a difference of opinion regarding deficit numbers.

The first item of dispute is the accounting treatment for a portion of the Fair Hydro Plan. We continue to believe that the government's accounting for the Fair Hydro Plan is appropriate, and specifically the use of rate-regulated accounting to account for the component of the plan recoverable from the ratepayers, is supported by United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, as Public Sector Accounting Standards are silent on this issue. The second issue is the accounting for the net pension assets of the Province's two jointly sponsored pension plans, which is supported by an expert panel of accountants, actuaries and lawyers. The government's opinion on these two matters has not changed.

From: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS)
Sent: April 25, 2018 9:20 AM

To: Whytock, John (ENERGY); Miller, Amanda (TBS)
Subject: Flagging
Importance: High

Morning John - flagging there was more back and forth on stmt and additional changes coming that we'll need your eyes on ASAP. This is moving quickly and MO PO driving so my concern is if we collectively don't get back to them quickly our window will close. We'll share asap.

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From: Whytock, John (ENERGY) <John.Whytock@ontario.ca>
Date: Wednesday, Apr 25, 2018, 6:20 AM
To: Miller, Amanda (TBS) <Amanda.Miller@ontario.ca>
Cc: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS) <Bryant.J.Sullivan@ontario.ca>
Subject: Re: Fact check on language tonight

Thanks. Our guys were leery of the OPA mention so it's just as well it's off.

Sent from a device

From: Miller, Amanda (TBS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 9:20 PM
To: Whytock, John (ENERGY)
Cc: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS)
Subject: RE: Fact check on language tonight

Actually I would say you can stand down for now. There are a lot of concerns within TBS and we are providing strong advice to delete it altogether.

I'll let you know if it picks up again.

Thanks so much for your support on this one!

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From: Whytock, John (ENERGY) <John.Whytock@ontario.ca>
Date: Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018, 9:05 PM
To: Miller, Amanda (TBS) <Amanda.Miller@ontario.ca>
Cc: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS) <Bryant.J.Sullivan@ontario.ca>
Subject: Re: Fact check on language tonight

I'll check the facts. It's grammatically incorrect (last comma).

Sent from a device

From: Miller, Amanda (TBS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 8:31 PM
To: Whytock, John (ENERGY)
Cc: Sullivan, Bryant (TBS)
Subject: FW: Fact check on language tonight

Hi, John,

Looping you in on the language below which is currently in OPCD for review. I am not familiar enough with the issue to determine whether Energy should also be engaged. I appreciate any input your ministry can provide.

It's possible the statement below just doesn't work and if either MENE or TBS has concerns I can put forward our advice to drop it.

Thanks for your help with this one,

Amanda

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From: Miller, Amanda (TBS) <Amanda.Miller@ontario.ca>
Date: Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018, 8:23 PM
To: Hosick, Sarah (TBS) <Sarah.Hosick@ontario.ca>
Subject: Fact check on language tonight

Hi Sarah,

MO has tried to rephrase the closing paragraph to the joint ministers statement and would appreciate if you could review and land approvals tonight. You'll recall this was a problematic piece of the first draft so close eyes on the content are appreciated! If it is still not correct please let me know and I will confirm with MO.

Here it is:

Changes made to the IESO's accounting practices have brought greater transparency to \$17 billion worth of transactions, and is consistent with the accounting practices of the IESO's predecessor, the OPA, the government believes the current accounting treatment is the most appropriate and transparent.

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