

**E8904 –Electricity Markets
Assignment #2**

Due Monday July 23, 2018 by 6:00pm. To be submitted by email to brian.rivard@ryerson.ca.

Background:

The following paper <https://www.ivey.uwo.ca/cmsmedia/3776559/the-economic-cost-of-electricity-generation-in-ontario-april-2017.pdf> provided inspiration for the enactment of the Ontario Government's enactment Fair Hydro Plan Act, which came into effect on June 1, 2017 (see <https://www.oeb.ca/newsroom/2017/fair-hydro-act-2017>). The Government enacted the Fair Hydro Plan in order to address the growing concern of many Ontario electricity consumers of rising electricity prices.

Assignment:

You are an employee at the Ministry of Energy. It is January of 2017 and the Minister of Energy has asked your Department to find a solution to the issue of rising electricity prices that might appease the angry electricity consumers and the broader voting public. Your department commissioned the authors of the above paper to study this issue and provide recommendations. Your task is to review this paper and based on its content, prepare a briefing note that includes a recommendation to the Minister.

Below is a template for a standard briefing note for the Minister. The briefing note should be no more than 2 pages. Use this template to prepare a briefing note on the issue described above.

Briefing Note for the Minister of Energy

Subject: Provide a succinct, single sentence statement of the issue.

Issue:

The Issue section should entice the Minister to read on. It describes what has happened, is happening, will happen or might happen that requires his or her attention.

Background:

The Background section:

- provides history and other information to bring the Minister up to speed on the issue;
- should not be controversial or subject to dispute; and
- sets the stage for the considerations/recommendations.

Considerations:

The Considerations section:

- outlines the different options that were considered, to address the issue, the pros and cons of each option, and the reasons for the preferred option; and
- provides the facts, arguments, opinions and analysis needed to show that the Conclusion or Recommendation is a sound response to the Issue; and

Conclusion and Recommendation(s):

This section should concisely state the Department's position and recommended course of action. The recommendation(s) should do more than state a desired outcome, it should tell the Minister precisely what the Department would like him or her to do to bring about the desired outcome.