
Ontario Suspends Large Renewable Procurement
Decision would save up to \$3.8 billion in electricity system costs

NEWS

September 27, 2016

Ontario will immediately suspend the second round of its Large Renewable Procurement (LRP II) process. Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault has directed the agency responsible for electricity supply procurement, the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO), to halt procurement of over 1,000 megawatts (MW) of large renewable and energy from waste projects.

On September 1, 2016, the IESO provided the Minister of Energy with the Ontario Planning Outlook, an independent report analyzing a variety of planning scenarios for the future of Ontario's energy system. The IESO has advised that Ontario will benefit from a robust supply of electricity over the coming decade to meet projected demand.

The government has therefore determined that it will suspend the second Large Renewable Procurement and the Energy From Waste Standard Offer Program. This decision is expected to save up to \$3.8 billion in electricity system costs relative to Ontario's 2013 Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) forecast. This would save the typical residential electricity consumer an average of approximately \$2.45 per month on their electricity bill.

The Ministry of Energy is launching consultations this fall on its next Long-Term Energy Plan. This will provide an opportunity for a province-wide discussion on future energy demand and the need to meet that demand with clean, reliable, affordable supply. The next LTEP is scheduled to be released in Spring 2017.

Since 2003, Ontario has established itself as a North American leader in clean energy initiatives, and has attracted billions of dollars in private sector investment. Ontario has about 18,000 MW of wind, solar, bioenergy and hydroelectricity energy contracted or online and the electricity supply is now over 90% emissions-free.

Responsible management of Ontario's electricity system is part of the government's economic plan to build Ontario up and deliver on its number-one priority to grow the economy and create jobs. The four-part plan includes 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 hospitals, schools, roads, bridges and transit in Ontario's history and is 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.

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QUOTES

“Over the course of the last decade Ontario has rebuilt our electricity system and secured a strong supply of clean power. Our decision to suspend these procurements is not one we take lightly. This decision will both maintain system reliability and save up to \$3.8 billion in electricity system costs relative to the 2013 LTEP forecast. The typical residential electricity consumer would save an average of approximately \$2.45 per month on their electricity bill. As we prepare for a renewed LTEP, we will continue to plan for our future and ensure Ontario benefits from clean, reliable and affordable power for decades to come.”

— Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy

QUICK FACTS

- Ontario currently has about 18,000 MW of wind, solar, bioenergy and hydroelectricity energy contracted or online.
- At the end of 2015, Ontario's installed wind capacity represented almost 40% of all installed wind capacity in Canada.
- Ontario is home to more than 99% of all installed solar PV capacity in Canada.
- Our commitment to renewable energy has helped Ontario replace coal-fired electricity generation. In April 2014, Ontario became the first jurisdiction in North America to fully eliminate coal-fired generation from our energy supply.
- The elimination of coal-fired generation has resulted in an annual 30 megatonne reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 2003. Ontario's electricity sector is now over 90 per cent emissions-free.

LEARN MORE

- Read the Ontario Planning Outlook
- Read Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan

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