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Subject: Hansard: Gates to Thibeault -- Hydro Rate Reduction Plan

INSTANT HANSARD

>> MPP Gates: Mr. Speaker, my question to the **Premier**. Recently I met with a group of seniors about outrageously high hydro bills. They work hard to conserve energy but their bills keep going up. They are worried that further privatization will drive up their bills even further, like 80% of Ontarians, they want the government to immediately stop the sell-off of Hydro One. However, however this game will mean skyrocketing hydro bills after the next election. Maybe someone will leave the P.C. Party plan for hydro alone. We know they promised to privatize it last time. So my question is to the **Premier**. Why has she ignored these seniors and millions of Ontarians and sold off the public majority ownership of Hydro One?

>> Minister Thibeault: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I once again thank the Honourable member for his question. Let's be clear, Mr. Speaker. The broadening of ownership of Hydro One will not reduce one single cent off of anyone's bills in this province, Mr. Speaker. But you know what will reduce people's bills by 25%? If we can get this passed, Mr. Speaker, the fair hydro plan, Mr. Speaker. And he is right. I do agree with the member from the third party. They have a plan, Mr. Speaker. We disagree with it. We don't think it actually does anything near what we should be doing for families across the province. But it makes you wonder why, Mr. Speaker, that the official opposition can't come up with a plan to talk about what they would do to help Ontarians. They've got to wait for a magic weekend in November. Mr. Speaker, the people of Ontario can't wait for the P.C.S to come up with a plan. That's why we're acting now for Ontario families by bringing forward a plan that will reduce rates by 25% if passed.

N.B.: Transcripts are captured by a closed captioning system and may contain errors.