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Subject: Hansard: Yakabuski to Thibeault -- Hydro One Exec Salary

INSTANT HANSARD

>> MPP Yakabuski: Thank you, Speaker. Speaker, it's great that the **Premier** has decided to answer a few questions. Perhaps you'll answer this one. This is directed to the **Premier**. Perhaps you'll answer this one. Give a straightforward honest answer to this question. The Hydro One board secretly, recently secretly agreed to pay the Hydro One C.E.O. Over \$10 million in severance should he be fired. Now the **Premier** had to know of this deal because she has said herself that the province retains control of the board. The question is this. When did he know and why would she sign off on this kind of secret obscene deal?

>> Minister Thibeault: Mr. Speaker, I find it very ironic that the opposition talks about not answering questions, when their own leader refuses to answer questions of the media -- This **Premier** answers questions in the House. This **Premier** answers questions to the media. But what we saw yesterday was Mr. Ford take one question and then do the duck and dash, Mr. Speaker. He needs to put on running shoes, not dress shoes. Yet the man refuses to answer questions. Mr. Speaker, it's appalling that the opposition has no plan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'll take no lessons from the opposite party when it comes to making sure. That we take questions, answer questions and make sure that we put forward a platform and a policy that makes a difference to the people --

>> MPP Yakabuski: Speaker, we look forward to the opportunity to answer questions in this chamber. Back to the **Premier**. We'll try again. If the C.E.O. And the board of Hydro One have any respect for the taxpayers, for Ontario or for the people, they would resign today. Will the **Premier** March over to Hydro One, demand and subsequently accept the resignation of the board?

>> Minister Thibeault: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So how will that help ratepayers, Mr. Speaker? Right now we brought forward a plan that's reducing rates by 25%. 25% on average for all residences across the province and for 500,000 small businesses and farms, Mr. Speaker. The c.e.o.'s salary wouldn't take pennies off of anyone's bills, Mr. Speaker. So that's why we brought forward the fair hydro plan, and the fair hydro plan, Mr. Speaker, takes that 25% off and actually helps many Hydro One customers, customers from Chapleau, from Atikokan, customers from Innisfil hydro, from northern Ontario wires just to name a few, Mr. Speaker. They're seeing their rates reduced somewhere between 35 and 50% on average, Mr. Speaker. That is something that we actually put in place and is something that they voted against. Once upon a time, Mr. Speaker, they snuck that into the people's guarantee. Now we know where the people's guarantee went. That went to the trash, Mr. Speaker. But the fair hydro plan, this is a program that's working for the people of Ontario. They recognized it once. They should recognize it again, Mr. Speaker.

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

