

Message

From: Jordan Penic [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D23BCD450594583BB40B447B35485DA-JORDAN PENI]
Sent: 2018-05-30 8:10:17 AM
To: Andrew Dow [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=6268b334c119488b888395bba8b155d9-Andrew Dow]
Subject: Re: Today's News - Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Thanks

From: Andrew Dow
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 8:07 AM
To: Jordan Penic
Subject: Fwd: Today's News - Wednesday, May 30, 2018

FYI Maybe I should have flagged this coming for John but not sure how it wouldn't show up in the ieso mentions on infomart with us mentioned. I'll talk to John about it.

Sent from my Bell Samsung device over Canada's largest network.

----- Original message -----

From: Adam Butterfield <Adam.Butterfield@ieso.ca>
Date: 2018-05-30 8:03 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: Andrew Dow <Andrew.Dow@ieso.ca>, John Cannella <John.Cannella@ieso.ca>
Cc: Richard Duffy <Richard.Duffy@ieso.ca>, Samantha Depoorter <Samantha.Depoorter@ieso.ca>
Subject: FW: Today's News - Wednesday, May 30, 2018

Hi guys,
With all of last week and this week's effort on this, we're a bit surprised this article wasn't included this morning.
Regards,
Adam

From: Richard Duffy
Sent: May 30, 2018 07:52
To: Adam Butterfield; Marko Cirovic; Dirk van de Waal; Natalia Perdomo; Samantha Depoorter; Rob Rorabeck; Paulo Antunes; Jeff Moore
Subject: FW: Today's News - Wednesday, May 30, 2018

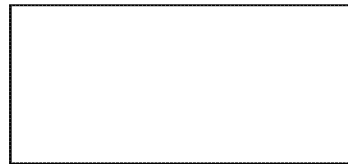
Unfortunately this 'Today's News' version does not contain reference to the following article:

<https://globalnews.ca/news/4237041/ontario-liberals-ignored-advice-could-save-billions-green-energy/>

Enjoy the read.

Richard

From: John Cannella
Sent: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 6:16 AM
Subject: Today's News - Wednesday, May 30, 2018



Today's News

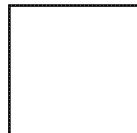
powered
by: 

Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2018
Edited by: John Cannella (John.Cannella@ieso.ca)

Contact Editor

Industry News

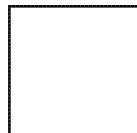
News - 8 Results



Ontario's Wynne says she regrets handling of electricity prices; One of the leading sources of discontent among Ontario voters has been a rapid rise in the province's hydro prices

theglobeandmail.com - Tue May 29 2018, 7:49pm ET
Byline: Justin Giovannetti

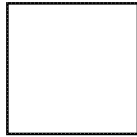
In her five years as Ontario's Premier, the one thing Kathleen Wynne truly regrets is her government's handling of electricity prices. The Liberal Leader, whose election campaign over the past week has turned to a strategy of "sorry, not sorry" - ...



Lies, damned lies, and hydro plans; Parties' various proposals shuffle costs around

National Post - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: David Reevely
Page: A4

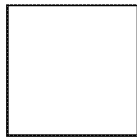
The Ontario New Democrats' very bad plan for electricity will make consumer hydro bills shoot up, the Progressive Conservatives charged Tuesday. As opposed to the Tories' very good plan, which will make bills shoot up later. "Today we ...



NDP's faulty hydro math; Plan to buy back power corp and cut rates ridiculous

Toronto Sun - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: Brian Lilley
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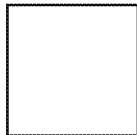
"We're just gonna, ya know, print money and buy 'em all back." That's how NDP candidate Joanne Belanger answered when asked by her local radio station, CJBQ in Belleville, how her party would buy back Hydro One. Belanger was ...



Ontario Greens would close nuclear plant this summer

CBC.CA News - Tue May 29 2018, 3:58pm ET
Byline: CBC News

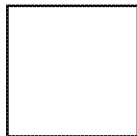
The Pickering Nuclear Generating Station would close this summer if the Green Party of Ontario formed a government, according to leader Mike Schreiner. Speaking on CBC Radio's Ontario Today, Schreiner said while 1,900 jobs would be lost if the ...



Edward Keenan: We own Toronto Hydro. We should know what it's doing

[thestar.com](https://www.thestar.com) - Tue May 29 2018
Byline: Edward Keenan

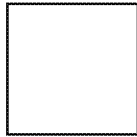
Over two years ago, according to the Toronto Star's reporting([https://www.thestar.com/»](https://www.thestar.com/)), Toronto Hydro spent some money, and may have ...



Rooftop solar project proposed for Venture13 centre

Northumberland News - Thu May 24 2018 Page: 1

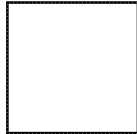
COBOURG - A rooftop solar installation that would generate about a third of the electricity required to run Cobourg's new Venture13 innovation centre has been proposed to the town. The project was outlined on May 22 during a ...



Utility recognized for 'innovative'system

Kingston Whig-Standard - Wed May 30 2018
Byline:Steph Crosier
Page: A1 / Front

Utilities Kingston has been recognized by the Canadian Electricity Association's Centre of Excellence for its transfer trip communications, remote monitoring and control over its fibre optic network. "We're proud to be recognized, not ...



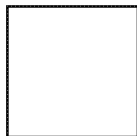
Is U.S. coal powering up London-area smog?; Coal use stm dedmmg because of higher cost

London Free Press - Wed May 30 2018
Byline:Jane Sims
Page: A1 / Front

It used to be that hot, humid weather and air pollution went together like peanut butter and jelly. For years, a sweltering summer day meant fast formation of ozone from multiple air pollutants, spiking the air quality health index and triggering ...

Industry News

Full Articles



Ontario's Wynne says she regrets handling of electricity prices; One of the leading sources of discontent among Ontario voters has been a rapid rise in the province's hydro prices

theglobeandmail.com - Tue May 29 2018, 7:49pm ET
Byline:Justin Giovannetti

In her five years as Ontario's Premier, the one thing Kathleen Wynne truly regrets is her government's handling of electricity prices.

The Liberal Leader, whose election campaign over the past week has turned to a strategy of "sorry, not sorry" - that is, she's genuinely sorry people don't like her but not sorry about her accomplishments - admitted to failings on the file during a meeting with The Globe and Mail's editorial board on Tuesday.

"I probably reacted later than I should have, I probably should have acted more quickly, but we were looking for ways to reduce prices that were responsible. It took some time, it meant that people were pretty angry, and rightly so, about how quickly their electricity prices had gone up," Ms. Wynne said.

Acknowledging the Liberals' third place in the polls, Ms. Wynne said she will have time after the provincial election on June 7 to reflect on what she could have done differently since she took over the Premier's office in 2013.

"I'll have lots of time to ask those questions of myself once we get through the election. I'm very focused on taking our plan to the people of the province, 20/20 hindsight is wonderful and there will be lots of people who will be analyzing what did or didn't happen," she said.

Ms. Wynne is deeply unpopular and facing a difficult re-election bid. Her party has been in power for 15 years, the first two-thirds of that time under Dalton McGuinty. The Liberal Leader dismissed the widely argued view that she is struggling in a campaign where most voters have said they want change, under either Progressive Conservative Leader Doug Ford or New Democratic Leader Andrea Horwath. While her two rivals have been jockeying for the lead in most polls, Ms. Wynne was realistic about her chances but said she still maintains hope that she can win.

"It's tempting to say change for the sake of change is necessary, but I really do think we have to carefully think about change to what? I do think that going into this election there was a sense that 'It'll be okay, whatever the change is.' But I don't believe people feel that any more," she said.

According to Ms. Wynne, the election now has a "volatile dynamic" as voters have second thoughts about Mr. Ford and reflect on the more intense scrutiny surrounding Ms. Horwath and her party's candidates.

One of the leading sources of discontent among Ontario voters has been a rapid rise in the province's hydro prices.

Off-peak electricity rates rose by 149 per cent between 2006 and 2017, driven by a surge of investment in new generating capacity and transmission lines. The hikes coincided with the closure of Ontario's coal-fired power plants and Ms. Wynne's controversial decision to privatize transmission utility Hydro One. Facing daily anger over hydro bills, the Liberals

announced in March, 2017, that they would cut rates by 25 per cent.

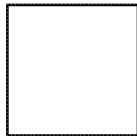
The government borrowed billions of dollars to lower bills through the end of the decade. Hydro rates will then rise over the next two or three decades to pay for the borrowing.

The discontent around bills, according to Ms. Wynne, was due to "a real failing of my ability to explain to people that if we had not built the electricity system up, we wouldn't have a reliable electricity grid, it's as simple as that," she said. "We didn't explain that very well and we probably didn't explain it soon enough and act soon enough."

Mr. Ford and Ms. Horwath have both sought to capitalize on the public's anger with hydro bills during the past three weeks of campaigning. The Tory Leader has promised to fire Hydro One's chief executive and reduce bills by 12 per cent, largely by shifting costs to taxpayers. Ms. Horwath has said she would cut hydro bills by 30 per cent and buy back Hydro One's shares to make the utility a government-owned entity again.

Follow this link to view this story on globeandmail.com:
Ontario's Wynne says she regrets handling of electricity prices
www.theglobeandmail.com

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Lies, damned lies, and hydro plans; Parties' various proposals shuffle costs around

National Post - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: David Reevely
Page: A4

The Ontario New Democrats' very bad plan for electricity will make consumer hydro bills shoot up, the Progressive Conservatives charged Tuesday.

As opposed to the Tories' very good plan, which will make bills shoot up later.

"Today we want to shine light on the consequences of the NDP's real hydro policies and how they will hurt you," Nepean Tory candidate Lisa MacLeod said in Toronto, with fellow incumbent MPP Todd Smith. They're the Tories' former and current energy critics, potential future ministers.

Specifically, MacLeod and Smith said, the NDP would cancel the Liberals' "Fair Hydro Plan" bill reductions, and that would cost consumers a lot of money.

The Liberals cut retail hydro prices by 25 per cent last year, for no other reason than that Ontarians want cheap power.

They're doing it by literally putting the costs of electricity on credit for a while. According to the auditor-general, this will save \$24 billion on our bills over the next few years, but then cost us \$21 billion extra in interest by the 2040s.

The New Democrats want to not do that.

"We will cancel the Liberals' borrowing scheme that adds billions in new debt to finance short-term bill reductions," their platform says. "It was a desperate move, and completely unsustainable."

It's a multibillion-dollar pledge, dealt with in passing and not mentioned anywhere in a separate document outlining the NDP's hydro plan specifically.

The thing is, the Liberals have already done some of this stuff.

They're making Ontario Power Generation, the utility that runs nuclear plants and hydro dams, borrow the money to cover the difference and OPG is already in hock \$900 million because of it, on 15- and 20-year loans at about 3.5 per cent interest. Hydro bills are lower now, as you're aware if you pay one.

The NDP could stop the borrowing from here on out. But if the government stopped subsidizing hydro prices, we'd no longer get subsidized hydro prices.

The Tories say cancelling the Fair Hydro Plan will make bills increase 25 per cent. (To get back to where they used to be, they'd increase 33 per cent. The NDP aren't the only party that buggers up simple math.)

"I invite everybody to take a long look at their most recent hydro bill before they vote," MacLeod said.

"If you believe you should be paying more, then the NDP are for you."

The Tories, in contrast, will keep borrowing money to lower bills temporarily just like the Liberals. Without magic, those loans will come due for the Tories, too. In the legislature, MacLeod has (rightly) called the scheme a "shell game" and labelled it the "unfair hydro plan" and now it's her party's policy.

The NDP say they'll find a way to make it work.

"We are going to wind up the Fair Hydro Plan in a way that's responsible and protects consumers to keep bills from going up, and in fact ensure they go down, by gradually taking private profit out of the hydro system," NDP spokesperson Andrew Schwab said by email, when asked how an NDP government would keep bills from rising if the government stops subsidizing them.

"The mechanics of wrapping up the Fair Hydro Plan, and replacing it with our priorities that deal with the underlying costs (as outlined in our plan) will have to be developed with ministry, OPG and our panel of energy, planning and financial experts," he added.

If you're getting a sense that all the major parties'hydro plans are bad, you're right.

The Liberals'Fair Hydro Plan lowers bills now, and paying all that money back with billions extra in interest later. It leaves Hydro One as a half-privatized mutant, unsure whether it's a public utility or a private corporation.

The NDP's plan buys back control of Hydro One, removes a lot of incentives to use electricity more efficiently, and hopes the feds agree to cut sales taxes on it because, why wouldn't they? They say this adds up to a 30 per cent price cut, though from where bills were before the Liberals did their trick.

The Progressive Conservatives'plan is to fire the top people at Hydro One and transfer some expenses off hydro bills and onto tax bills. They've also repeatedly promised to "stabilize industrial hydro rates through a package of aggressive reforms" but haven't said what those are. They say this works out to a 12 per cent price cut on top of the Liberals'25 per cent price cut, though they'd have to sort things out on the tax end somehow and also pay back the same loans as the Liberals.

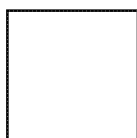
Only the Greens say yup, we'd cancel the Fair Hydro Plan and bills would rise and that's the way it should be. They are the only party talking about this issue as if we're grown-ups.

All the others shuffle costs around - into the future, or from one budget to another - without making electricity any cheaper to generate or transmit.

Nobody can do that unless they're willing to attack the wages of tens of thousands of power-industry workers, which nobody is.

So they're just offering us different ways to fool ourselves.
dreevely@postmedia.com [Twitter.com/davidreevely](https://twitter.com/davidreevely)

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NDP's faulty hydro math; Plan to buy back power corp and cut rates ridiculous

Toronto Sun - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: Brian Lilley
Page: A4

"We're just gonna, ya know, print money and buy 'em all back."

That's how NDP candidate Joanne Belanger answered when asked by her local radio station, CJBQ in Belleville, how her party would buy back Hydro One.

Belanger was laughing as she said it.

Maybe she was joking. Or maybe, like the NDP platform on energy, there just isn't the depth on this issue for a party that could form a government.

The NDP is proposing to buy back Hydro One while cutting rates by 30% and to cancel Liberal leader Kathleen Wynne's ridiculous Fair Hydro Plan.

As much as I have disagreed with Wynne's actions in the past, undoing them and cutting rates 30% is simply impossible.

Yet there it is in the NDP platform: "Reduce bills immediately."

The Wynne plan to lower hydro charges, the Fair Hydro Plan, has already reduced bills by 25%.

Sure, it did it by borrowing money, to be paid back later at huge cost to be paid later, but it reduced bills now.

NDP leader Andrea Horwath's plan would scrap that and spend billions to buy back Hydro One shares.

At current prices, it would cost more than \$6 billion to buy back the more than half of the utility that the province no longer owns.

Some Bay Street analysts say that to buy back Hydro One will require the province to pay a premium, possibly as high as 30%, to get investors to give up their shares.

Where will Horwath get the money? She won't say.

In the NDP's much vaunted "fully costed platform," the line on their hydro plan simply says "n/a" or not applicable. In essence, the NDP says its plan is fiscally prudent, yet a multibillion-dollar feature of the plan has no costing associated with it at all.

How do you scrap the Fair Hydro Plan and buy out those loans, buy back Hydro One at a cost of \$6 billion-\$9 billion and cut rates by 30%? You don't. The NDP's full plan on fixing the electricity system in Ontario was released in early 2017.

It makes lots of promises, but its "fully costed platform" doesn't offer much detail.

There are promises to end time-of-use pricing and move to the

lowest rate at all times. The plan also calls for ending the practice of charging rural customers higher delivery charges.

Both of those moves would mean costs would have to be made up elsewhere.

How? The plan doesn't say.

Strangely, there is no mention of the Green Energy Act, which the NDP has supported.

No mention of the expensive solar and wind projects that have driven up costs.

The plan does call for phasing out contracts with the private sector for natural gas electricity production and questions about nuclear reactors but no mention of ending wind and solar contracts.

The NDP also wants out of nuclear, questioning the future of the Bruce and Darlington facilities.

As for the Pickering nuclear plant, which the NDP plans to close, it calls it job creation.

Yes, it sees shutting down a plant that employs thousands as job creation because someone will need to decommission and take apart the plant.

Perhaps the most far fetched part of the NDP plan is convincing the federal government to remove the HST from hydro bills and give up the 5% tax they take from you each month.

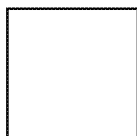
Hydro in Ontario has been a political toy for decades.

My own experience goes back to Bob Rae and Maurice Strong mucking about with things.

We could lay blame on all the parties for the chaos we are dealing with now, but the NDP plan would only make things worse.

If you like the mess that Wynne made of your hydro bill, you'll love Andrea Horwath's plan even more.

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Ontario Greens would close nuclear plant this summer

CBC.CA News - Tue May 29 2018, 3:58pm ET
Byline: CBC News

The Pickering Nuclear Generating Station would close this summer if the Green Party of Ontario formed a government, according to leader Mike Schreiner.

Speaking on CBC Radio's Ontario Today, Schreiner said while 1,900 jobs would be lost if the plant closed, others could be created by developing the plant's prime waterfront property.

The party would not close the Bruce or Darlington nuclear generating stations, Schreiner said.

"There is no way we can shut down our nuclear plants tomorrow. It's just unrealistic because (nuclear) produces 70 per cent of our power," Schreiner said, though the party does oppose rebuilding such facilities.

The Liberals and the Progressive Conservatives have also said they would close the Pickering plant, but not until 2024. Like the Greens, the NDP has vowed to start decommissioning it this year.

Schreiner would also turn to Quebec to meet more of Ontario's electricity needs. Cheap power from Quebec would help bring down hydro prices for consumers, he said.

The savings from both the plant closure and cheaper power from the neighbouring province would add up to \$1 billion, Schreiner said, which could then be invested in making homes and businesses more energy efficient, Schreiner said.

"Nobody should have to choose between putting food on the table (and) paying their electricity bill," Schreiner said.

The party would move Ontario toward a "clean economy" with technologies like electric vehicles and water conservation technology.

"I want to see us get off of oil and gas. I'm just tired of the big oil companies, big oil and big gas, having a noose around our neck," Schreiner said. "And having such disproportionate control of our economy."

Toll roads, sex-ed, and mental health also part of platform

The Greens are also proposing a toll on 400 series highways to pay for expanded transit initiatives, but Schreiner couldn't say what the cost would be to drivers.

He said the party is looking at options like dynamic road pricing, which would mean charging more during rush hour and less in off-peak periods.

Politicians need to have honest conversations with people about issues including the cost of infrastructure, Schreiner argued.

"Magic money and fairy dust isn't going to pay for this," he said.

Schreiner also said he supports Ontario's updated sex-ed curriculum to teach children about their bodies, sexual misconduct and sexting, but also the right of parents to remove their children from the classroom when the material makes them uncomfortable.

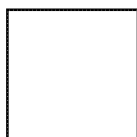
The Greens also have a four-year, \$4.1-billion plan for mental health supports which Schreiner said it would fund through an increase in the tax mining profits.

While Schreiner doesn't expect to become premier anytime soon, he said the party's goal is to be elected in one to three ridings this election.

He said possibilities for a Green breakthrough include Parry Sound-Muskoka, Kingston and the Islands and University-Rosedale, as well as his own riding of Guelph.

With files from CBC Radio's Ontario Today

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Edward Keenan: We own Toronto Hydro. We should know what it's doing

thestar.com - Tue May 29 2018
Byline: Edward Keenan

Over two years ago, according to the Toronto Star's reporting www.thestar.com, Toronto Hydro spent some money, and may have given some of it to some politically connected people www.thestar.com, to study the possibility of privatizing itself. That is, getting the people of Toronto, who through the city government are the utility's only shareholder, to sell off some or all of the company.

How much did they spend? They're keeping it a secret. Who did they pay? They're keeping it a secret. What conclusions did this study reach? They're keeping it a secret.

Did any money go to the immediate family members of executives? Was it billions of dollars? Did the consulting process include bribes for politicians?

The answers to those last three questions, I would guess, are probably all "no." I have no reason whatsoever to suspect that any of those particular bad things happened. But, we can't know, can we? Toronto Hydro is keeping it all a secret.

They maintain that a strange loophole in securities law

prevents Toronto Hydro, as a debenture-issuing company, from releasing this information to the Star in response to a Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act request. They will neither confirm nor deny that any records of such a process even exist. And this spring, an adjudicator in the information and privacy commissioner's office upheld their contention decisions.ipc.on.ca. They don't have to release such information, he ruled, and in fact cannot confirm to us whether or not it exists because of rules that are meant to prevent insider trading.

This is not good. That's our company. It is spending our money. In our name. Its employees and managers work for us. It shouldn't be operating in secret.

I have read the ruling, and think I understand the logic in it, even though I'm not sure I agree with all of it. The adjudicator no doubt knows the law and how it technically applies better than I do. But if the adjudicator is interpreting the law correctly in this case, then the law is a bad one.

Governments, their agencies and government-owned corporations should be making virtually all information public by default. They should be posting all of these itemized receipts, lists of contractors hired, and deliberative documents and reports on their websites for the general public to see every quarter or every year, as a matter of course, not in response to expensive and time-consuming media requests. They should do that, though they do not - instead they act as if information should be concealed by default and often go to great lengths to fight requests from the press.

Provincial politicians should get to work immediately after the election to ensure government-owned companies are bound to release information of this nature swiftly and broadly, modifying the Securities Act as needed.

But before that happens - and frankly, I'm not going to leave the car idling while I wait for legislation - there's another loophole that means we could know that information. Right away.

It was pointed out directly in the tribunal arguments by Toronto Hydro.

The utility seems to be advised on this matter by Bay Street lawyers from Norton Rose Fulbright Canada. They are, I would guess based on their reputation, very expensive lawyers. How expensive? Well, we don't know, because Toronto Hydro is fighting the Star's request to reveal how much of our money they've spent defending this. But they are an international firm, top notch, obviously. I suspect Toronto Hydro finds itself well advised, legally, on this matter.

And, according to the adjudicator, in response to the Star's

argument that the utility could just issue a news release to the general public containing this information in order to remove any chance of insider trading of its bonds that might come from giving information to one party first, Toronto Hydro's own argument was that "any decision to release material information to the public is an issue for Toronto Hydro's board of directors alone."

Well, OK. That can work. The members of that board of directors are our representatives overseeing the management of the company. They are appointed by Toronto city council (and three of them actually are city councillors). They work for us.

According to Hydro's own argument, the decision about whether to release the information - not to the Toronto Star, but to the general public in a news release or some other broad announcement fulfilling the requirements of the Securities Act - is up to the board of directors to make. I suggest they ought to make it.

Now, right now. If they don't want anyone to suspect that there was something shady, or wasteful, or otherwise contrary to the public interest going on, release all the documents related to this. Then we'll see for ourselves.

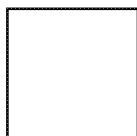
It's been a long time since Mayor John Tory, CEO of the company's only shareholder, declared that the idea of privatizing Hydro was no longer an option - off the table as long as he was mayor. So these are historical documents we want to see. They show what deliberations our employees took on our behalf about a possibility that no longer exists.

It seems natural that they would have discussed this and studied it at some point. Nothing wrong with that. But what raises suspicion is the apparent impulse to hide it, and to spend years and dollars finding legal cover to keep the public from seeing it.

Make the information public. Then change the law to require things like this to be made public in the future. Give us confidence that our assets are in good hands.

Edward Keenan is a columnist based in Toronto covering urban affairs. Follow him on Twitter: [@thekeenawire](https://twitter.com/thekeenawire) twitter.com

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Rooftop solar project proposed for Venture13 centre

Northumberland News - Thu May 24 2018 Page: 1

COBOURG - A rooftop solar installation that would generate about a third of the electricity required to run Cobourg's new Venture13 innovation centre has been proposed to the town.

The project was outlined on May 22 during a presentation to Cobourg council by Dereck Paul, the president and CEO of Lakefront Utility Services Inc. (LUSI) and Leonard Allen, from Solera Sustainable Energies Company Ltd. (Solera).

Allen said the rooftop solar panel installation leverages otherwise unused space at the centre, which is located at the Northam Industrial Park across the street from the Cobourg Community Centre.

There would be no up front cost to the town, no moving parts and no penetration into the centre's roof, he said, adding that the project would also introduce green energy into the LUSI grid.

"The environmentally friendly nature of the clean and green renewable source in the building, adds to the innovative emphasis of the building," Allen told council, adding that Solera was founded in 1991 and specializes in solar power.

The Venture13 project would generate 150,000 kilowatt hours of electricity, Allen said, pointing out that it would be a low profile installation that would be "virtually invisible from the ground."

If the town chooses to proceed, it will have to sign one of three proposed power purchase agreements with the projects partners, after reviewing a detailed engineering report that had yet to be presented to staff.

Solera said it would build, own and operate the project at no upfront cost to the municipality, with power being guaranteed to be sold to the town at a fixed rate for 25 years.

Allen said the preferred agreement would result in roughly \$500,000 in savings over that period of time, based on a cost of 24.5 cents per kilowatt hour.

The installation will include web based monitoring that will calculate how much of a reduction in emissions there is at Venture13.

Among the projects undertaken by Solera to date, Allen said a 28 spot solar powered car port was completed last month at an airport in Kingston, Jamaica.

It generates 100 kilowatt hours to offset aviation fuel used at the airport, he said.

The innovation centre is already home to a new solar powered electric vehicle charging station.

According to Paul, this charging station is a demonstration project and will be free to all users for the next 18 months.

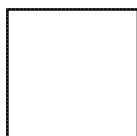
"Our partner, Sky Solar, will pick up that electricity cost," he said, adding that users will have to pay for a charge once that period is up. "In 18 months from now I estimate the actual cost of electricity needed to charge a car will probably be less than \$10, plus an administration cost."

A similar electric vehicle charging station will be built in the municipal lot behind the police station in downtown Cobourg, Paul said.

Speaking about the rooftop project, Cobourg Mayor Gil Brocanier said it's a great opportunity for the Town of Cobourg.

"I can't think of a better application than Venture13 because it's all about innovation and new technology," he said.

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Utility recognized for 'innovative' system

Kingston Whig-Standard - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: Steph Crosier
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Utilities Kingston has been recognized by the Canadian Electricity Association's Centre of Excellence for its transfer trip communications, remote monitoring and control over its fibre optic network.

"We're proud to be recognized, not only by the CEA but also by peers in our industry as well," Sean Meleschuk said Tuesday afternoon. "It shows that even though we are not a large utility - large being a Hydro One or Toronto Hydro - we show that by leveraging our multiutility model and having our own SCADA [supervisory control and data acquisition] personnel and our own engineering personnel, we can develop solutions in a cost-effective way."

The electricity association called the transfer trip communications "innovative" and "novel."

"Utilities Kingston's fibre optic communications provide the company with sophisticated, highly reliable information transfers between components of the distribution system," a news release from the CEA reads. "The high availability, high bandwidth, and low latency of the network provides the necessary foundation for transfer trip communications.

"This is integral to the protection of the distribution system in allowing generators to safely connect."

Meleschuk explained that the technology was developed internally to protect the utility's electrical grid and its crew members from personal generators when there is a power outage.

"If we have part of the grid that needs to be maintained and we have generators that are on the system - and these could be solar generators that you have at home - that generator would then feed the grid and it could potentially harm our workers or harm our equipment," Meleschuk said. "So we needed a method to ensure that we are disconnecting these generators from the grid in the event that we have a fault condition or an unusual condition."

Utilities Kingston monitors and controls the generator connections through its control centre and an internet connection provided by the company.

"We at Utilities Kingston have a networking business with fibre optics, so we were able to use the backbone of our infrastructure to enable this transfer trip protection over the Utilities Kingston fibre," Meleschuk said.

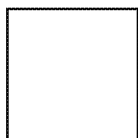
It also has a "black box" that was developed in house that provides security for the use of the customer's existing internet connection.

"Being ready to optimize the electricity system for the future means looking at new solutions for functionality and flexibility," the release from the CEA reads. "[This is] something that the Utilities Kingston transfer trip over fibre scheme accomplishes."

Utilities Kingston serves 28,000 customers in central Kingston.

Meleschuk said that "with people having wind farms or solar panels on their home, this [transfer trip] technology enables that to happen in our community." scrosier@postmedia.com
Twitter: @StephattheWhig

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Is U.S. coal powering up London-area smog? Coal use stmmg because of higher cost

London Free Press - Wed May 30 2018
Byline: Jane Sims
Page: A1 / Front

It used to be that hot, humid weather and air pollution went together like peanut butter and jelly.

For years, a sweltering summer day meant fast formation of

ozone from multiple air pollutants, spiking the air quality health index and triggering warnings and advisories.

That changed when Ontario figured out what was causing some of the jelly and, by 2013, closed both the Nanticoke and Lambton coal-fired generating stations.

There haven't been any smog advisories since 2014, until this week in Sarnia-Lambton.

And while there is no hard, fast data to point to why, there is some speculation that the United States' rekindled love affair with coal might be a possible culprit, or at least soon may be.

"If they continue to burn coal, there's going to be some air pollution concerns for southern Ontario," said Gabriella Kalapos, executive director of the Clean Air Partnership based in Toronto.

The news of a smog alert was a bit of a shock in an area that has been dutiful in recent years in recognizing the perils of climate change and pollution.

Look no further than the sometimes controversial solar and wind farms across Southwestern Ontario and the growing list of biofuel industries as a commitment to seeking energy alternatives.

In Sarnia, Mayor Mike Bradley said he discussed this week's surprise air quality warnings with two Harvard University researchers studying environmental and health issues in people living in the shadow of the Chemical Valley.

They talked about how an estimated 50 per cent of Southwestern Ontario's air pollution comes from the U.S., particularly the Ohio Valley and Michigan.

But it is hard to quantify, Bradley said: "Air quality is such a phantom when it comes to responsibility." There are some standard suspects. While emissions from industrial sources have been reduced in the bordering states because of the decline of manufacturing a decade ago, there still is a reliance on coal-fired generating stations around the Great Lakes.

Michigan has 88 coal-fired generators in 32 locations. Bradley said the state's largest power supplier aims to eliminate coal by faraway 2040, an "Alice-in-Wonderland approach," he said.

Ohio has 119 plants in 35 locations, Pennsylvania has 78 plants in 40 locations, and New York State has 48 plants in 17 locations.

"One of the problems you already run into with this crossborder stuff, we take an action or they take an action and they're not compatible. There's a negative reaction to that,"

Bradley said.

Add in U.S.

President Donald Trump's professed love of coal and the promised dis-mantling of some environmental protections, "my sense is there is no urgency to phase this out and these goals are really not goals," Bradley said.

"It is hard when you look across the river and you know that they're continuing to use coal and there's really no plan to exit except in somebody's imagination in 2040." Kalapos said ozone drives the smog alerts in Ontario and a hot summer would mean more ozone.

However, she said both Canada and the U.S. have cut coal use. In the U.S., while environmental policy focused on alternative energy sources, sheer economics lowered the use of coal.

Fracking opened a whole new market for natural gas because it is cheaper.

She said natural gas hasn't been a perfect alternative and has its own pollutants.

There is no data on whether more coal is being burned in U.S. in 2018, "If they start burning more coal, chances are we probably will (see more smog alerts)." Ontario's Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change said overall common air pollutants have decreased during the past decade.

There has been a 31 per cent decrease in fine particulate matter and a 42 per cent decrease in nitrogen dioxide.

jsims@postmedia.com twitter.com/JaneatLFP Press Smog advisories Smog advisories are based on weather and air quality forecasts. They are issued where high risk air quality health index levels are persistent and continue for three hours or more.

there were no smog days in 2014, '15 or '17. one smog and air health advisory was issued in toronto for three hours on June 18, 2016.

this year has seen a smog advisory issued for sarnia-Lambton Friday and two special air quality statements for windsor-essex-Chatham-Kent, London^iddlesex, and elgin Friday and sunday.

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