Message

From: Glenna Ford [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=E1C72B718A54474DACD4C68AE870F130-GLENNA FORD]
Sent: 2017-06-14 1:35:32 PM
To: Anthy Lovachis [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=42a8bb25d4b341b6aa9c16b1ddbc0790-Anthy Lovac]
CC: David Barrett [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ef6f3b035ceb494099260e6fa7603f36-David Barre]
Subject: RE: Today's News - Monday, June 12, 2017

It doesn't appear that this project went through the Conservation Fund. The proposal may be in response to the Regulation Services RFP. The reference to an initial attempt rejected in 2015 would align with the dates for the Phase II Energy Storage procurement (which I believe was managed by Edward Arlitt's team).

From: Anthy Lovachis
Sent: June 14, 2017 10:13 AM
To: Glenna Ford
Cc: David Barrett
Subject: FW: Today's News - Monday, June 12, 2017

Do you happen to know if the storage facility (first story below) applied through a Conservation program/fund?

From: John Cannella
Sent: June 12, 2017 6:46 AM
Subject: Today's News - Monday, June 12, 2017

Today's News

powered by:

Date: Monday, June 12, 2017
Edited by: John Cannella (John.Cannella@ieso.ca)

Contact Editor

IESO Mentions

News - 1 Results

Sarnia eyes energy storage project; Battery facility in Sarnia would help regulate frequency, act as a temporary backup during blackouts, Bluewater Power VP says

Sarnia Observer - Sat Jun 10 2017
Byline: Tyler Kula
Page: A1 / Front

The City of Sarnia and Bluewater Power are hoping a proposal for an energy storage hub gets the green light. Sarnia City Council recently endorsed a plan to lease land to Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Canada for the company to build a 10-megawatt ...

Back to Top

Industry News

News - 5 Results

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Toronto Sun - Fri Jun 9 2017 **Page:** A16

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Ontario changes rules for approving public sector executive raises; Ontario changes public executive pay rules

Canadian Press - Fri Jun 9 2017
Byline: Allison Jones

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The Timmins Daily Press - Fri Jun 9 2017
Byline: Michael Chen
Page: A3

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Don't sell Wasaga hydro distribution: Halton Hills mayor

Wasaga Sun - Fri Jun 9 2017 **Page:** 1

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Back to Top

IESO Mentions

Full Articles

Sarnia eyes energy storage project; Battery facility in Sarnia would help regulate frequency, act as a temporary backup during blackouts, Bluewater Power VP says

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The City of Sarnia and Bluewater Power are hoping a proposal for an energy storage hub gets the green light.

Sarnia City Council recently endorsed a plan to lease land to Renewable Energy Systems (RES) Canada for the company to build a 10-megawatt battery energy storage facility, large enough to balance out unsteady frequency from renewable sources like wind and solar, and act as a temporary backup power supply in the event of a blackout.

"We have a lot of green energy in our system," said Chris Gould, vicepresident with Bluewater Power, noting eight solar farms contribute 80 megawatts to the Sarnia-Lambton utility's distribution system.

While traditional generators - coal, gas, nuclear - are steady power producers, renewables require energy storage, like batteries, to be able to efficiently use the energy they generate when it's needed, he said.

"As many solar farms go up and as many wind farms go up, I think over the coming years you're going to see as many energy storage projects develop," he said.

The Sarnia project, proposed for the Water Pollution Control Centre on St. Andrew Street, has been submitted to the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) - the Crown corporation responsible for operating the electricity market in Ontario - for funding.

The cost isn't known yet, but it will be tens of millions of dollars to build and operate over its lifetime, Gould said.

Hopes are it gets the go-ahead in three to six months, he said.

RES Canada, which has its office in Montreal, is the bidder, but Bluewater Power and its affiliate companies are in line to do the building and maintenance, and will also have some say in the operation as it's hooked into the grid, Gould said.

"At a high level, we offer technical expertise ... and we offer what operation and maintenance of it will look like from our standpoint," he said.

City officials said the project could also help attract new energy firms and demonstration projects, positive possibilities on the economic development front.

It's the second time for the RES proposal, after it was passed over in favour of cheaper options in 2015, said Gould.

A lot has been learned since that experience, on both sides, he said.

"When the cheapest project gets awarded, it doesn't'necessarily mean the best group and the best developer was awarded the project," he said.

Renewable Energy Systems, the RES Canada parent company, has been involved in more than 100 wind and solar energy projects totaling 10,000 megawatts on four continents, city officials said.

It also operates one of the first grid-connected batteries in North America, the Amphora station in Strathroy.

The actual batteries are encased in sea containers, set in place on pillars or footings and connected to nearby transformers. The proposal calls for about a half acre's worth.

The Sarnia battery hub's proposed 10 megawatts is about five per cent of Bluewater Power's distribution system, Gould said, noting the system operates between 185 and 200 megawatts at any given time.

"I would assume that our distribution system would benefit from one of these," he said.

Ratepayers wouldn't see a noticeable difference in their bills, he said.

City officials said the lease is $5,000 per year over a 10-year period. It starts when and if the contract is green-lighted, Gould said. tkula@postmedia.com

Back to Top

Industry News

Full Articles

Why we support the Fair Hydro Act

Toronto Sun - Fri Jun 9 2017 Page: A16

Unlike Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown and NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, we support Premier Kathleen's Wynne's so-called Fair Hydro Act for one reason only.

That is that Ontarians need help paying for their outrageous electricity bills right now.

Senior citizens having to choose between food and electricity is unacceptable.

Businesses having to close because of high electricity bills is unacceptable.

Ontarians need immediate help on an emergency basis and we are not going to argue against giving it to them.

What we are going to do, heading into next year's provincial election, is to remind you why the Liberals are the last political party anyone should trust to fix the mess they've made of the electricity file.

When the Liberals say that unlike them, the opposition parties have no plan to address skyrocketing hydro rates, they sound like a child who, having murdered his parents, asks the court for mercy because he's an orphan.

It was the Liberals who created the electricity crisis by blundering into so-called renewable energy, without a clue as to what they were doing.

Everything they've touched on this file - from their Green Energy Act, to the FIT contracts, to the Samsung deal, to smart meters, to the cancelled gas plants that were supposed to back up unreliable and absurdly expensive wind and solar power - has turned into a disaster.

None of which was necessary to replace coalfired electricity, which the Liberals actually did with nuclear power and natural gas.

All you have to do is read the annual reports of Ontario's auditor general to understand the incredibly reckless way the Liberals have managed the hydro system.

So much so that to give people emergency relief, the Liberals have simply kicked the crisis down the road.

This by giving Ontarians a temporary break on their hydro bills that could cost up to

$93 billion, according to Ontario's Financial Accountability Officer, for $24 billion of rate relief.

Given this, the idea that the Liberals are the best qualified party to clean up the mess they've made following next June's election is laughable.

But for now, Ontarians should have no qualms about accepting the emergency aid the Liberals are offering, before kicking them to the curb next year.

Back to Top

Ontario changes rules for approving public sector executive raises; Ontario changes public executive pay rules

Canadian Press - Fri Jun 9 2017
Byline: Allison Jones

TORONTO - The Ontario government is changing the way it approves pay increases for public sector executives, following some controversial raises.

Treasury Board President Liz Sandals sent a letter Friday to broader public sector organizations, telling them that the government must now approve the comparators they use when determining appropriate salaries, the caps on the salaries themselves and the overall rate of increase for all executives.

The government previously sent colleges back to the drawing board, after many of them compared their salaries to those at much larger organizations then proposed large raises.

Premier Kathleen Wynne also told Ontario Power Generation to come up with a more reasonable salary cap than the $3.8 million it proposed, but OPG declined to change that figure.

The government ultimately approved it. Raises for about 80 executives will total up to $8 million.

OPG said its board "took great care" in arriving at the $3.8-million cap, but voluntarily set the maximum compensation for the CEO much lower at $1,937,500 - with the target at $1.5 million, equal to the current salary.

The power agency, which operates two nuclear sites and is responsible for more than $40 billion in assets, was granted permission by the government to use private-sector comparators because of its unique size and scope.

As a wage freeze lifts, all broader public sector agencies have until September to post their proposals for new executive compensation packages under a framework that caps salaries at the 50th percentile of "appropriate comparators."

Sandals' letter said broader public sector organizations now must get their comparators approved before posting proposed executive compensation changes.

Some organizations will also be allowed to boost salaries each year, though the annual raises can't exceed the Ontario public sector wage increase trend - this year at 1.3 per cent - or the average rate of increase for an organization's non-executive managers.

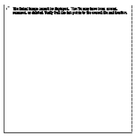
Metrolinx, the Greater Toronto Area transit agency, also previously got their plan approved that would boost the CEO's pay by up to $118,000, to a maximum of $479,500.

But following public outcry over the OPG and Metrolinx raises, Sandals sent a memo in February to the more than 300 broader public sector organizations saying it expected any increases to be "modest."

The government would deny "unreasonable adjustments to compensation," according to the memo. The approvals for Metrolinx and OPG came after that memo.

Other organizations so far to have new executive compensation packages approved include the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the University of Windsor, St. Joseph's General Hospital Elliot Lake and Manitoulin Health Centre.

Back to Top



Outrage as Hydro applies to hike rates

The Timmins Daily Press - Fri Jun 9 2017
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Page: A3

Hydro One's recent application to increase rates in 2018 will cancel out the savings consumers were promised by the Liberals in their Fair Hydro Plan.

If approved, the application would result in an $141 increase to the average household's annual hydro bill, according to PC Leader Patrick Brown.

"This hydro rate increase, which begins Jan. 1, 2018, is extremely unfair and unaffordable," Brown writes in a June 6 letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne.

Brown urges Wynne to reject the application until "executive compensation is reined in at Hydro One and the government has stopped signing expensive, new, unneeded power contracts.

"It was only a couple of months ago that you announced a brand new expensive hydro scheme and promised families there would be no more rate hikes," Brown writes. "It was also just a few months ago we learned that Hydro One CEO's compensation has jumped to $4.5 million a year.

"It's bad enough that under your scheme hydro bills will soar after the next election, but now it appears you will rubberstamp this massive, new rate hike to pay for even more raises and bonuses for fat-cat hydro executives, while your government continues to sign even more energy contracts."

"Hydro One's CEO is paid nearly 10 times more than similar positions in provinces like Quebec and British Columbia," Fedeli says.

He also says that while Wynne can't directly refuse the rate increase request, the government could send a directive to the Ontario Energy Board to reject the rate hike if Wynne "really wanted to."

The Liberals announced earlier this year their Fair Hydro Plan would reduce consumers'hydro costs by 25%, but Fedeli and other critics argue the plan will cost Ontarians more in the long run.

"After she announced those changes that were supposed to reduce your hydro bill, the financial accountability officer told us that it will cost $45 billion for that rate reduction," Fedeli says. "The taxpayer and the ratepayer, that means they're going to split it onto your tax bill and your hydro bill ... will pay that $45 billion."

Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault says it's possible the Ontario Energy Board may decline the rate hike application.

And Thibeault argues that Hydro One customers will not see an increase to their bills.

"Our Fair Hydro Plan provides immediate relief in the short term by reducing electricity bills by 25% on average for all Ontarians - up to 40 (or) 50% if you're a rural or low-income Hydro One customer," Thibeault says. "It then holds rates to inflation for the following four years, managing affordability in the medium term."

Thibeault criticizes outspoken detractors like Brown for not having a plan when it comes to managing electricity rates.

Back to Top

More solar panels going up on Welland streets

Welland Tribune - Fri Jun 9 2017 **Page:** A3

Two solar power ground projects being proposed in Welland will be the subject of a public hearing next week. Welland Solar Joint Venture, on behalf of the City of Welland and Welland Hydro Energy Services Corp., plans to build the 500-kilowatt solar units at 950 East Main St. and 108 Thorold Rd. The projects are expected to start in August and last until November, and will see solar photovoltaic panels, panel racking systems and solar inverters installed at the two locations. Residents will be able to meet the projects'team, learn more about plans, the regulatory process and provide input.

Back to Top

Don't sell Wasaga hydro distribution: Halton Hills mayor

Wasaga Sun - Fri Jun 9 2017 **Page:** 1

After attending the May 24 public meeting to discuss the possibility of selling, merging or keeping the status quo of Wasaga Distribution Inc., I feel compelled to express my thoughts. I have been mayor for the Town of Halton Hills for 14 years. I am also a taxpayer of Wasaga Beach and have been for the past 16 years. I was very impressed with the passion and the logic of the residents of Wasaga Beach who spoke that evening. The moderator was awesome. One of the panellists, Murray Elston, was part of an all-party Ontario Distribution Sector Review Panel. His report was written in 2012 and has been collecting dust since for five years. Many mayors, including myself, opposed this report which would have seen 73 local utilities in Ontario reduced to eight to 12 super utilities with 400,000 customers per region. Where would Wasaga Beach fit in with 8,000 plus customers in a region of 400,000? You would be swallowed up without any autonomy. In the report, one of the ways of passing cost savings to the consumer was to reduce jobs in the smaller utilities, which (means) you probably see a drop in service. Most of the panellists seemed to make it sound like it is a bad thing to have the status quo of keeping the utility. I beg to differ. Wasaga Hydro has no long-term debt. There is no pressure from the province to push municipalities to sell. No political party wants to touch this right now. Some panellists suggest there is a risk by not selling. Hmmm, there is also no risk avoidance by selling. What happens if council sells now or merges - then in a few years it is resold? All of the conditions maybe out the window. The shareholder (the town) has lost control. You can't control what you no longer own. Your local hydro is doing all the things expected of them by the regulator and the community. The Ontario Energy Board shows Wasaga Distribution Inc. is in Group 1 category as one of the most efficient in Ontario. The customer satisfaction survey proves this fact as their score was higher than all of the Cornerstone Hydro Electric Concepts Inc. By joining the Cornerstone group, Wasaga Distribution must be saving customer dollars which is one of the goals and objectives of the Elston Panel Report five years ago. Lastly, the Wasaga Distribution Inc. provides over $500,000 to the shareholder in dividends and interest. I know one community who didn't get their dividend after they merged. Selling Wasaga Distribution Inc. would be like heating your home by burning your furniture. The status quo doesn't mean you sit stagnant. It means you look for business opportunities to grow the company. As the Town of Wasaga grows, so will your customers and so will your dividends, as well as the value of Wasaga Distrubution Inc. Best of luck to the council and I hope you make the correct decision. Rick Bonnette

Back to Top