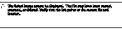


**From:** John Cannella [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CD667C6D53774DD0A749783BB02AE89D-JOHN CANNEL]  
**Sent:** 2017-08-29 6:21:51 AM  
**Subject:** Today's News - Tuesday, August 29, 2017



## Today's News

powered by: 

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Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2017  
Edited by: John Cannella ( [John.Cannella@ieso.ca](mailto:John.Cannella@ieso.ca) )

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## IESO Mentions

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#### Province set to announce 'pick-and-pay' hydro options

CTV Toronto News - Tue Aug 29 2017

The province is set to unveil a pilot project that will allow hydro customers to tailor on and off-peak billing times to their lifestyles, CTV News Toronto has learned. Likened to pick-and-pay cable packages, the government is looking to help ...

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286027862

### **Some Ontario utilities to test new electricity pricing**

National Post - Mon Aug 28 2017  
Byline: The Canadian Press

TORONTO - Three utilities in Ontario will run pilot projects to explore different pricing structures for electricity bills. The Ontario Energy Board says the projects include testing alternatives to the current time-of-use ...



265558408

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Canada Newswire - Mon Aug 28 2017

Canada NewsWire TORONTO, Aug. 28, 2017 TORONTO, Aug. 28, 2017 /CNW/ - The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) today announced a number of pilot projects that will explore different ways of giving residential customers greater choice in the price they ...



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Byline: S&C Electric Canada Ltd.

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The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a major environmental certificate for a new transmission line originating in Quebec and extending through New Hampshire that will take clean Quebec hydroelectric power to the New England grid.The Final ...

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## **IESO Mentions**

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cite59a53eb38d892

### **Province set to announce 'pick-and-pay' hydro options**

CTV Toronto News - Tue Aug 29 2017

The province is set to unveil a pilot project that will allow hydro customers to tailor on and off-peak billing times to their lifestyles, CTV News Toronto has learned.

Likened to pick-and-pay cable packages, the government is looking to help consumers feel like they are saving money by paying in a way that makes sense for them.

Sources told CTV News Toronto that the new hydro packages in the pilot will be tailored to different lifestyles, with peak and off-peak pricing options that accommodate different schedules for cooking, doing laundry and entertaining.

For example, one option dubbed "The Overnight" would allow a customer to implement a "super off peak rate" that would be much lower between midnight and 6 a.m. That package would benefit shift workers and those who charge electric cars overnight when usage is at its lowest.

An "enhanced" option would allow customers to implement on and off peak prices with a much sharper price discrepancy, so that on-peak would cost about four times as much as off-peak.

That option could benefit people who restrict most of their usage to off-peak times. The "Dynamic P" option would introduce variable peak prices between 3 p.m. and 9 p.m., with all other usage times billed at an off-peak price that is 25 per cent lower than the current off-peak price.

Yet another plan being tested involves "seasonal time of use" where consumers would get a single flat rate in spring and fall, and off and on-peak prices in winter and summer. The time of use pricing in the plans will be set by the Ontario Energy Board.

The plans are also expected to make use of smart meters, smartphones and smart thermostats so that local distribution companies can warn customers before prices are set to rise, allowing customers to remotely adjust their usage.

The \$17.5 million pilot project is set to be announced Tuesday and will begin within the next few months for 18,000 customers in Oshawa, York Region, Barrie and London.

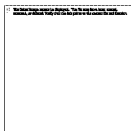
The province will be looking to the pilot to gauge customer acceptance, understanding and willingness to pay for certain price points. If the pilot is successful, the new billing options will eventually be rolled out across the province.

The funding for the pilot project is coming from the conservation fund of the Independent Electricity System Operator. Sources told CTV News Toronto that all the plans are revenue neutral, meaning they won't bring in extra money to government coffers.

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## Industry News

### Full Articles



286027862

#### **Some Ontario utilities to test new electricity pricing**

National Post - Mon Aug 28 2017

Byline: The Canadian Press

TORONTO - Three utilities in Ontario will run pilot projects to explore different pricing structures for electricity bills.

The Ontario Energy Board says the projects include testing alternatives to the current time-of-use pricing and giving customers smart thermostats.

Alectra Utilities, which serves the Hamilton and St. Catharines, Peel, Simcoe and York Regions, London Hydro and Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. were selected for the pilots.

The pilot projects include testing having a larger difference in price between off-peak

and on-peak periods, which the OEB says will test how customers respond to a higher incentive to shift their electricity consumption to the lower-priced periods.

Other pricing projects include having a lower-priced period from 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. year round with higher mid- and on-peak rates; eliminating the mid-peak period for three months each in the summer and winter with a higher critical peak rate for when demand is forecast to be highest.

The utilities are also testing giving customers smart thermostats to help them control electricity usage.

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265558408

## **Electricity Pricing Pilots Test More Choice for Residential Consumers**

Canada Newswire - Mon Aug 28 2017

Canada NewsWire

TORONTO, Aug. 28, 2017

TORONTO, Aug. 28, 2017 /CNW/ - The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) today announced a number of pilot projects that will explore different ways of giving residential customers greater choice in the price they pay for electricity at different times, and more tools to help them better understand and manage their electricity use.

The OEB has selected Alectra Utilities, London Hydro and Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. to run these pilots, which are part of the OEB's on-going review of the Regulated Price Plan (RPP) under which it sets prices that apply to more than 90% of the province's electricity customers.

The Chair of the OEB, Rosemarie Leclair, says "These projects will allow the real-world experience of an expected 18,000 customers to inform how electricity is priced for RPP customers in the future, unlocking more value for them and the electricity system as a whole in the process."

"Customers want more choice in how they pay for electricity," says Ceiran Bishop, manager of strategic policy for the OEB. "The pilots will help us in our redesign of RPP prices, so they can better match customers' preferences and give them greater control over their electricity costs while also helping to improve system efficiency."

The OEB-approved pilots will test several alternatives to the current approach to time-of-use (TOU) pricing, such as one of the pricing plans that Alectra is testing. It retains the current TOU periods but has a larger difference between off- and on-peak prices. This will test how customers respond to an enriched incentive to shift consumption into lower-priced periods. Customers who wish to opt out of any of the pilots can do so at any time.

Details of the pilots being run by Alectra Utilities will be available tomorrow morning in Barrie from the Minister of Energy Glenn Thibeault and the President & CEO of Alectra Utilities, Brian Bentz.

## About the Ontario Energy Board

The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) is an independent and impartial public agency. We make decisions that serve the public interest. Our goal is to promote a sustainable and efficient energy sector that provides consumers with reliable energy services at a reasonable cost.

## Contact Us

For more information, please visit the OEB website at [oeb.ca](http://oeb.ca) or contact us directly.

Ce document est aussi disponible en français.

SOURCE Ontario Energy Board

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286104961

## **Businesses may save; Program could cut energy costs by hundreds of thousands of dollars a year**

Sudbury Star - Tue Aug 29 2017  
Byline: Jennifer Hamilton-McCharles  
Page: A4

Some of the biggest employers in North Bay will see a significant cut on their hydro rates.

Ontario Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault was in North Bay Monday to announce the recent expansion to the Industrial Conservation Initiative under Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan.

Canadore College is the most recent business that has signed up for the program and is expecting to save up to one-third of its hydro costs.

The college is hoping to reduce its electricity bill by \$250,000 to \$1 million spread over the next three years.

Thibeault said the Liberals have expanded the program to allow more businesses to benefit from the cost savings.

Businesses consuming one megawatt and those with an average monthly peak demand greater than 500 kilowatts in the manufacturing and greenhouse sectors will benefit from the program.

"This program started a few years ago at five megawatts and then it was dropped to three megawatts. When I took over as energy minister I looked at dropping it even more to help businesses and lower it to one megawatt. Through the Fair Hydro Plan some specific companies can qualify now after using 500 kilowatts."

When asked whether he would consider lowering it even further to allow more businesses to tap into the savings, he said he wasn't sure if that would happen.

"I'm not sure if lowering the threshold would make a difference."

Todd Wilcox, chief executive officer at North Bay Hydro, thinks so.

He said under the current eligibility there are 10 to 15 customers that might be able to participate. Initially, one customer was eligible before the province lowered the threshold.

"I'm hopeful that they will lower it down even further so more customers can participate in this program. If I had my way I would lower it down to 50 kilowatts, which would open up the program to 300 or 400 small businesses in North Bay."

Wilcox said the program is good news for the city and for business.

He said four of the larger businesses in the city are signed up, however a further four or five businesses are eligible.

"These businesses are some of the major employers in town and a major contributor to the local economy. If we get some of those companies to participate, the savings are quite significant and the money stays local," Wilcox said during a news conference at Canadore College's Commerce Court Campus.

"The electricity bill for some of the city's larger employers is around \$100,000 per month, the savings with this program could be \$25,000 to \$30,000 a month. That puts their cost per kilowatt hour competitive with almost any place in North America."

Wilcox said to participate in the program, businesses have to work to achieve the savings.

"It's not automatic. You have to avoid consumption in your facility during the five peak provincial hours. There's no telling when those five hours will occur. So you have to watch the grid, which you can do online and is usually during hot temperatures in the summer," he said.

"Once the peak occurs you want to reduce your consumption. You have to hit those five hours to enjoy the perks. So you have to turn things off and reduce consumption."

But not everyone is convinced. Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli said this announcement is another desperate pre-election attempt.

He warned voters that Premier Kathleen Wynne will raise hydro rates if elected.

"Many businesses are leaving the province. We had terrible news last week when General Electric announced they were leaving Peterborough, affecting 358 employees," Fedeli said.

"Another huge company in Chatham-Kent announced it was moving to Michigan. Wynne made Ontario the most expensive jurisdiction to do business," he said.

"Sadly we will see more and more continue to leave. Announcements like these aren't fooling the business community."

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286097280

## Railway line solar project on track

London Free Press - Tue Aug 29 2017

Byline: Laura Broadley

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Dennis German Has A Passion For Catching Rays. So Much So That He'S Determined To Put Solar Farms In Southwold, Central elgin and southwest Middlesex.

The former CN railway corridor will be the site of the projects after it was discontinued a couple of decades ago.

"It's basically sitting neglected, not really any use for over two decades," german said. "It's not considered farmland or commercial land or institutional land or conservation land. so, it's ideal for a solar project."

London-based german solar Corporation has 22 projects on the go for 2018. There will be 11 in southwold, 10 in southwest Middlesex and one in Central elgin. Right now the company is in the approvals process with the Ministry of environment and Climate Change.

"That involves environmental studies, natural heritage assessments, looking at natural heritage features, cultural heritage, archaeology, looking at water bodies, preparing construction and operations plan reports, decommissioning reports," german said.

each project is 500 kilowatts and will occupy less than three acres of land. each parcel is roughly from half a kilometre to two kilometres in length.

"We'll occupy perhaps 25 per cent of that land area with our solar farm. The rest of that land will remain as is," german said.

The solar project doesn't use permanent structures, and there will be between 1,500 and 2,000 solar modules for each farm.

"We're essentially putting in ground screws in the ground, attaching racking panels, wiring and connecting to the grid to feed in. Very efficient," german said. german's background is in environmental geosciences, and his professional career was looking at environment issues; how to protect the environment from developments and how developments can proceed with minimal environmental impact.

"as my professional life progressed and evolved, I looked at ways to improve upon limiting impacts to the environment," german said. "Renewable energy was the logical step in this evolution of my profession." german is a proponent of solar energy.

"solar has zero emissions, no fuels, no noise and they're not permanent structures," german said.

The reason the projects are located on former CN railway corridors is because it's not prime industrial land, agricultural land, commercial land or residential land.

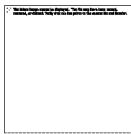
"One of the most appropriate land types is secondary industrial land or land such as we have along the CN rail," german said.

The owner of the projects is MNO solar FIT 4 LP. The other partner in this company is BrightRoof solar LP, an Ontario-based provider of equity to solar projects. They have a 20-year contract with the provincial government for the solar farms. at the end of that contract, the project is either decommissioned or the contract is renewed.

"The reality is solar panels will generate power a much longer time than the 20-year contract," german said. german said the price of solar energy has come down in Ontario significantly over the last 15 to 20 years.

"We're now able to generate electricity with reasonable size solar farms, cost competitive with the grid," german said. St. Thomas Times-Journal

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285984417

## **North Bay Hydro partners with S&C to build North Bay Community Energy Park**

PR Newswire US - Mon Aug 28 2017, 1:00pm ET  
Byline:S&C Electric Canada Ltd.

TORONTO, Aug. 28, 2017 /PRNewswire/ — S&C Electric Canada Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of S&C Electric Company, a smart grid leader shaping the future of power delivery, today announced a partnership with North Bay Hydro to deploy a microgrid at North Bay Community Energy Park.

S&C's project scope is to engineer, procure and contract-manage an automated microgrid that combines solar panels and other energy sources, battery energy storage and the state-of-the-art GridMaster(r) Microgrid Control System. S&C is a global pioneer in the microgrid space. With industry-leading experience, S&C has deployed 17 microgrids and 21 large-scale energy storage systems over the last decade.

"This project will combine renewable generation, energy storage and S&C's GridMaster(r) Microgrid Control System to fully integrate all of the components," said Paul McMullen, vice president, S&C Electric Canada Ltd. "North Bay Hydro has been innovative enough to realize that they can gain benefits today while preparing the local grid, their utility, and indeed the community for the network of the future."

The North Bay Community Energy Park will include a solar array mounted on the city's Aquatic Centre, with the ability to operate in islanded mode separate from the main power grid. A microgrid will allow this renewable electricity to supply the neighboring Memorial Gardens ice rink. This clean solar power will also contribute to a charging station for electric vehicles. A PureWave(r) SMS-250 Storage Management System will ensure grid disruptions can be managed seamlessly, and improve resiliency by storing energy to be used when needed. The Energy Park will also include a cogeneration plant that will help to power the microgrid and heat both the Aquatic Centre and Memorial Gardens.

"This project will be for the benefit of the community: educationally, economically, and for employability," said Todd Wilcox, CEO of North Bay Hydro. "We will employ local tradespeople, run educational outreach programs in schools and provide

power independence for the community. The project is modular; therefore, expansion will be easier as the site evolves as the needs of the community change. The Memorial Gardens and Aquatic Centre will be used as a refuge point in times of crisis, a priceless community benefit. This will be one of the few complexes within a 100km radius capable of keeping the lights and heat on while sheltering people if the main grid fails, for example, due to an ice storm."

S&C congratulates North Bay Hydro for positioning itself as a forward-thinking municipality. With the introduction of a modern power infrastructure, the city can expect to attract new commercial investment to the area, benefiting the community as a whole.

For more information, please visit [www.sandc.com](http://www.sandc.com).

About S&C Electric Canada Ltd. S&C Electric Canada Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of S&C Electric Company. S&C, with global headquarters in Chicago, USA, is applying its heritage of innovation to address challenges facing the world's power grids and is thus shaping the future of reliable electricity delivery. The mission of employee-owned S&C is to continually develop new solutions for electricity delivery, fostering the improved efficiency and reliability required for the intelligent grid. Additional information about S&C is available at [www.sandc.com](http://www.sandc.com).

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SOURCE S&C Electric Canada Ltd.

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286105414

### **Major approval granted for U.S. transmission line delivering Quebec power to New England**

Energy Monitor Worldwide - Tue Aug 29 2017, 9:22am ET  
Byline: Energy Monitor Worldwide

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a major environmental certificate for a new transmission line originating in Quebec and extending through New Hampshire that will take clean Quebec hydroelectric power to the New England grid. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) from the DOE declared the Northern Pass, backed by Eversource Energy, to be the "preferred alternative" for transmission. The Northern Pass line will begin at the Canadian border across from Pittsburg, N.H. and extend 309 kilometres to Deerfield, N.H. where it will connect to the New England grid, notes a media statement released earlier this month. More than 80 per cent of the line will be located along existing transmission corridors or buried along roadways to minimize visual impacts in the White Mountain National Forest area, the statement indicates. The transmission line will be controlled by the regional system operator, ISO-New England. The FEIS concluded that the proposed Northern Pass route provides substantial benefits and will result in only minimal impacts. "We are extremely pleased that DOE has completed its FEIS and greatly appreciate the years of hard work by all of the experts involved in this thorough review of Northern Pass," said Bill Quinlan, president of Eversource operations in New Hampshire. "As this clean energy project continues to advance through the final stages of the New Hampshire permitting process, we are encouraged to have

reached this major federal permitting milestone."The statement said the Northern Pass project will create 6,747 jobs in New Hampshire during construction as well as 901 permanent jobs.The Northern Pass is now awaiting the issuance of its federal permits, including the DOE's Presidential Permit, a Special Use Permit from the U.S. Forest Service and the Section 404 Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.All major state and federal permits are expected in 2017. It is expected the Northern Pass will be substantially complete by the third quarter of 2020. Following testing, the line will be in service by the end of 2020.

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