

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

TO ALLOW DEFERRAL OF

GLOBAL ADJUSTMENT AMOUNTS TO BE FINANCEABLE

The IESO currently has a right to collect GA monthly from ratepayers through provisions in the *Electricity Act, 1998*. It is proposed that collection of a certain portion of the monthly GA be deferred for collection in the future, and that the right to recover the deferred GA from ratepayers be used as a basis for structured financing/securitization.

The current proposal is for a trust to be created as a financing vehicle (the “**Trust**”) in connection the deferred GA. The Trust will finance the deferral of the GA by purchasing the right to recover such deferred GA from the IESO for the principal amount of the GA being deferred. For example, if the amount of GA that is being deferred is \$200 million in a given month, the Trust will purchase from the IESO the right to future recovery of the deferred GA and the associated financing costs (including interest and transaction costs) for \$200 million in cash.

The Trust is expected to finance these purchases from the IESO through a combination of senior secured financing raised in the capital markets and subordinated financing from OPG (the funding for which will mostly be from equity injections from the OEFC/Province).

For accounting purposes, OPG will need to have the ability to direct the activities of the Trust, through a services agreement and/or through the Trust’s constating document.

Based on securitized financing raised by utilities in the US (backed by utility cost recovery orders) and the current regulatory framework in Ontario, the legislation in Ontario would need to be amended to provide the following, at a minimum:

1. The IESO will be empowered to create an asset (the “**Regulatory Asset**”) consisting of all right, title and interest in and to:
 - (a) right to recover from and bill Ontario electricity ratepayers for:
 - (i) the principal amount of GA that is being deferred for collection;
 - (ii) all interest and other financing costs incurred in respect of the deferral of the GA (whether through senior debt raised in the public markets or subordinated debt raised from OPG or others); and

- (iii) (subject to the comments in paragraph 5 below in respect of OPG's internal administrative costs only) all fees, expenses and other administrative costs associated with such financing, including up-front and ongoing financing costs and any indemnity payments;

all on such repayment/amortization schedule as agreed by the IESO and any purchaser of such right (or pursuant to a pre-defined schedule/formula in the legislation that covers all of the purchaser's principal, interest and ongoing financing costs on a monthly basis); and

- (b) all revenues, collections, claims, rights to payments, money or proceeds arising from the rights and interests set out in paragraph (a) above, regardless of whether such revenues, collections, claims, rights to payments, money or proceeds are imposed, billed, received, collected or maintained together with or commingled with other revenues, collections, rights to payments, payments, money or proceeds.

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- 3. The Regulatory Assets will not be subject to any set-off, counterclaim or other defence by the IESO or any successor or affiliated entity thereof.

4. The legislation will need to recognize the Regulatory Assets as amounts that may be recovered by the IESO (e.g. it could be designated as a “GA Deferral” and would be included in the amounts collectible by the IESO through the GA collection mechanism, and would include interest and financing costs).
5. The purchaser of the Regulatory Asset will have the right to require the IESO (or any successor) to collect the principal amount of GA deferred, together with interest, financing and administration costs, on the agreed repayment/amortization schedule. **[NTD: In the LIPA securitization rate order, if the entity that is authorized to collect rates to service the bonds ends up defaulting, there is the ability to request a court to order “sequestration” and payments of amounts owing to the owner of the Regulatory Asset. Consider whether to include a similar right here. Alternatively, consider whether a security interest over the moneys collected by the IESO could be provided to the purchaser.]**

OEB would be provided with oversight over the internal administrative costs collected by the Financing Trust. This could be accomplished by (a) providing the purchaser of the Regulatory Asset with the right to require the IESO or a successor to collect only the principal amount of GA together with interest and financing costs and third party fees and expenses, and (b) requiring the IESO to collect amounts through the global adjustment and make payments to the purchaser of the Regulatory Asset with respect to the internal administrative costs incurred by the purchaser in connection with the purchase and management of the Regulatory Asset and the Financing Trust, in accordance with the order of the OEB then in effect. Under this mechanism, the OEB would be required to review the purchaser’s internal administrative costs through a streamlined process and issue such orders in accordance with rules to be prescribed under a new regulation under the OEB Act, which would clearly limit the OEB’s scope of review and could establish the basis for the purchaser to receive an appropriate fee for its services.

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securities issued to finance the purchase of the Regulatory Asset, will have a right of action against the Province for any damages suffered as a result of such amendment.

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