

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: November 9, 2017 10:34 AM
To: ##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Thursday, November 9, 2017

d\plain Good morning,

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d\plain Here's the summary of today's clippings:

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d\plain Flagging for possible discussion:

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[d\plain Ottawa Citizen: Yauch: It's the end of energy regulation in Ontario as we know it](#) (Note OEB references)

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• Column by Brady Yauch, executive director of the Consumer Policy Institute, that asserts the Fair Hydro Act gives the energy minister the authority to arbitrarily set electricity rates

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν• Argues that FHA takes away one of the last areas of independence at OEB – setting of electricity rates – and breaks the relationship between the cost of generating power and the price consumers pay for it

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d\plain Other News:

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[d\plain Lexology.com: The LTP: A Fundamentally New Planning Approach](#)

8.720.01-360.01.01 • **References LTP's directives to OEB** re: implementation plans for identifying opportunities for distribution investments and focusing on innovation in the energy sector

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d\plainStories about OEB winter disconnections ban here:

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[d\plainAirdberlis.com: OEB Again Bans Winter Disconnections of Residential Electricity Customers](#)

[d\plainKincardine News: United Way applauds permanent winter electricity disconnection ban](#)

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[d\plainCKDR: OEB Holding Public Meeting Tonight On Sioux Lookout Hydro Increase](#) (**Note OEB reference**)

8.720.01-360.01.01 • Story from Tuesday setting up OEB community meeting in Sioux Lookout re: Sioux Lookout Hydro rate application (includes links to our site on how consumers can participate in process)

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d\plainOrangeville Banner: Orangeville Hydro advises about 500 customers 'aren't being billed twice' (Link not available, story below – **references OEB**)

8.720.01-360.01.01 • Only noting this because while this shows as being published on Nov. 8, this appears to be an old story from Aug. 18, word for word: [https://www.orangeville.com/news-story/7509657-orangeville-hydro-advises-about-500-customers-aren-t-being-billed-twice-/](https://www.orangeville.com/news-story/7509657-orangeville-hydro-advises-about-500-customers-aren-t-being-billed-twice/)

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d\plainChatham This Week: \$264-million Union Gas project complete; New pipeline extends 41-kilometres from Dawn-Euphemia to Dover (Link not available, story below)

8.720.01-360.01.01 • **One reference to OEB** saying that Union Gas received approval for natural gas expansion project in February

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainMorning News Clippings

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainDate: Thursday, November 9, 2017
Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) [Contact Editor](#)

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainClippings Summary

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainNews - 20 Results



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain](#) [Ontario's regulation of electricity has lost its spark; Price consumers pay for power is now a political decision, says Brady Yauch](#)

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOttawa Citizen - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: **Positive**
Byline:Brady Yauch.

Ad Value:\$6,690
Reach: 114846 Page: A10

The price consumers pay for **power** in **Ontario** is now a political decision, rather than an economic one. That's the result of new measures introduced in the **Fair Hydro** Act, which will allow the ...



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[Time to pull the plug on Ontario's unduly painful electricity policies](#)

Waterloo Region Record - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ross McKittrick; and Elmira Aliakbari

Ad Value: \$3,444

Reach: 63465 **Page:** A8

Ontario manufacturers are feeling the pinch from high **electricity** prices. But how high are the province's industrial **electricity rates** relative to other jurisdictions? **Ontario** has the highest ...



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[HORWATH: Ontarians pay hydro price for Liberal smoke-and-mirrors | Toronto Sun](#)

torontosun.com - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

In September, the NDP got its hands on and released internal government documents showing that Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government is on a \$5.5-million spending spree for ads promoting their hydro-borrowing scheme.



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[Should Ontario pull the plug on its electricity related policies? - Scott Thompson Show - Omny.fm](#)

omny.fm - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

Should Ontario pull the plug on its electricity related policies? Our rates are among the highest in North America due to policy decisions. So what can be done?



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[OEB Holding Public Meeting Tonight On Sioux Lookout Hydro Increase | CKDR.net](#)

www.ckdr.net - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

Sioux Lookout Hydro customers will have a chance Tuesday night to comment on a proposed rate increase.



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Orangeville Hydro advises about 500 customers 'aren't being billed twice'](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOrangeville Banner - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value: \$180

Reach: 23500 Page: 1

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOrangeville Hydro is advising about 500 customers to only pay one of the two bills they received in the mail this week. Due to bill print changes directed by the **Ontario Energy Board** and ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain The LTEP: A Fundamentally New Planning Approach - Lexology](#)

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.lexology.com](#) - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat15\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, November 9, 2017 OEB is mentioned.

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainAlthough largely unnoticed at the time, the passage of Bill 135 fundamentally changed energy regulation in Ontario. It created a new planning process centered on the creation and implementation of government-drafted Long Term Energy Plans, or LTEPS. ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain OEB Again Bans Winter Disconnections of Residential Electricity Customers](#)

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.airdberlis.com](#) - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOn November 2, 2017, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a Decision and Order amending the licences of electricity distributors to direct that residential customers may not be disconnected during the winter season. This follows a similar OEB ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain United Way applauds permanent winter electricity disconnection ban](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Denis Langlois

Page: A3

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFrancesca Dobbyn says an **Ontario Energy Board** decision banning **electricity** companies from disconnecting **power** to peoples'homes due to non-payment in winter is something she has been pushing for ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Labour Council celebrates busy week of activities and news](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: **Positive** Page: A9

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFor the Grey Bruce Labour Council good jobs, activism and clean **energy** news all marked the week of Oct. 23, 2017. For over 20 years the delegates to the Labour Council have celebrated Health and Safety Activists from across our region ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain CTV London: Help wanted | CTV London News](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainlondon.ctvnews.ca - Wed Nov 8 2017
Tone: **Neutral**
[Permalink](#)

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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Promotion Nuclear to design and supply fuel channel mock-ups for Bruce Power](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: **Neutral** Page: A8

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBruce **Power** and Promotion Nuclear Ltd. entered into a \$4 million agreement in support of the Major Component Replacement (MCR) Project. As part of MCR's Detube-Retube Program, Promotion Nuclear Ltd. will design and supply all of the fuel ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Hydro cost sparks water rate increase](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPelham News - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: Allan Benner
Page: A24

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIncreasing **electricity** and maintenance expenses are driving up the cost of water and sewer treatment, leading to a two per cent increase in **Niagara** Region's wholesale **rates**. "Consistent with the last few years one ...



[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain \\$264-million Union Gas project complete; New pipeline extends 41-kilometres from Dawn-Euphemia to Dover](#)

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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainChatham This Week - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: Neutral
Byline: Tom Morrison
Page: A21

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainUnion Gas's natural gas expansion project from Dawn-Euphemia to Dover Township will be in service this month after more than five months of construction. The project increases the capacity of the ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Low-carbon economy will not be made by policy alone](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe Globe and Mail - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: Neutral
Byline: GLEN HODGSON

Ad Value: \$18,031
Reach: 309154 **Page:** B4

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainThe transformation to a low-carbon economy has begun. Much of the public debate has been about the policy framework and instruments for shaping a low-carbon economy. Some of the basic economic fundamentals, such as the role of ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Feds won't intervene in pipeline hearings; Trans Mountain project caught in more delays](#)

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNational Post - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: Negative
Byline: Jesse Snyder

Ad Value: \$7,358
Reach: 159480 **Page:** FP1 / Front

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNatural Resources Minister Jim Carr reiterated Wednesday Ottawa's support for the potentially delayed Trans Mountain expansion project, even after the federal government declined to participate in an upcoming hearing on the pipeline. ...



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[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Fight for clean water teen's passion | North Bay Nugget](#)

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.nugget.ca](#) - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: Neutral
Permalink

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat15\plainPaul Crawford noted on Thursday, November 9, 2017
Energy East is mentioned.

d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainAutumn Peltier's message to Canada is pretty simple.



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Jen Gerson: In a Calgary ballroom, a panel hashes out grim wake for the Energy East pipeline | National Post](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainnationalpost.com - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIn an ornate ballroom in one of downtown Calgary's few Edwardian hotels, hundreds of dark-suited men and women gathered over lunch Tuesday to hash out one of the questions festering at the heart of Alberta's politics: What really happened to ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Ottawa won't participate in Trans Mountain regulatory hearings: Carr | Ottawa Citizen](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainottawacitizen.com - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat15\plainPaul Crawford noted on Wednesday, November 8, 2017
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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNatural Resources Minister Jim Carr reiterated Ottawa's support for the potentially delayed Trans Mountain expansion project, even after the federal government declined to participate in an upcoming hearing on the pipeline.



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain National Column: Coderre's fall a signal for Montreal elite – The Morinville News](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainmorinvilnews.com - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat15\plainPaul Crawford noted on Wednesday, November 8, 2017
Energy East is mentioned.

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTo understand Denis Coderre's stunning mayoral defeat at the hands of Valerie Plante, a city councillor unknown to most Montrealers only a few months ago, it is useful to turn the clock back four years to the happier 2013 night of his first and ...

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat7\plainClippings Summary

Full Articles



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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOntario's regulation of electricity has lost its spark; Price consumers pay for power is now a political decision, says Brady Yauch

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOttawa Citizen - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Brady Yauch.

Ad Value: \$6,690

Reach: 114846 Page: A10

The price consumers pay for **power** in **Ontario** is now a political decision, rather than an economic one. That's the result of new measures introduced in the **Fair Hydro** Act, which will allow the **minister of energy** to arbitrarily set **electricity rates** as he sees fit.

Much of the **public** debate around the **Fair Hydro** Act has neglected this aspect of the legislation, although it amounts to eliminating one of the last areas of independence at the **Ontario Energy Board (OEB)**. It also caps off a decade-long march by the province to wrest decisionmaking away from the **OEB**. With the passing of the **Fair Hydro** Act, nearly every decision in the **energy** sector is now being made behind closed doors by Queen's Park through the **energy** minister.

Prior to the **Fair Hydro** Act, the method for setting **electricity rates** by **OEB** was in line with standard regulatory principles that have been in place in **Ontario** for decades. The **OEB** would forecast the cost of generating **electricity**, then set **electricity rates** accordingly, ensuring those **rates** fully recovered all costs. Under that method, consumers paid the "real" cost of generating **power**.

Having the **OEB** set **rates** based on the cost of generating **power** was beneficial because it helped customers make smart economic decisions and smart political decisions.

Cost-based prices ensure that decisions made by **electricity** consumers are appropriate to the cost of generation. If the province needs higher-cost sources of generation to meet new demand, it makes sense for customers to pay higher prices, providing them with the right incentives to avoid wasting **electricity**.

Cost-based prices also ensure the **public** is fully aware of the province's decision to sign abovemarket contracts with generators, particularly those related to clean **energy**, which it says is the main reason for its 25-per-cent **rebate**. As the province signed more contracts with cleanenergy generators - as well as **natural gas** generators, needed to maintain reliability - the **OEB** repeatedly raised **rates** to ensure those generators were fully compensated for their output.

The government, then, was held to account for its decision to sign lucrative contracts with new generators, as those high costs were fully visible to consumers. The **OEB's** job was to simply ensure that all generating costs - whether incurred through the purchasing of **power** in competitive wholesale markets (as was initially intended) or through provincially determined contracting (the current reality) - were fully accounted for in the prices that consumers pay. It performed that job even as the **public** grew increasingly wary of price hikes.

The **Fair Hydro Plan** breaks the relationship between the cost of generating **power** and the price consumers pay for it and makes the **OEB** largely irrelevant in the process. It allows the **energy** minister to apply any range of "different methodologies" and "different periods of time" when setting **electricity rates**. Making those **rates** fully recover costs is no longer a necessary precondition.

By granting the **minister of energy** the **power** to set **rates** as he sees fit, the **Fair Hydro** Act turns the price of **power** paid by consumers each month into a smokescreen, where the price only reflects what Queen's Park determines is a desirable amount, lacking any concrete relationship to the actual cost of generating **power**.

Worse still, not only does the minister determine how long today's costs are kicked to the future, but he also decides who will be left holding the can when the day of reckoning comes. While the minister may decide that all customers should equally bear the costs of paying back today's **rebate**, he may just as easily embark on another round of pick-the-winner, politically motivated policies and exempt certain customers from those costs.

Suddenly, the actual cost of generating **power** has little impact on prices compared to the **minister of energy's power** to decide who pays how much and for how long. The province's **energy regulator**, which by law is tasked to "promote economic efficiency" and maintain a "financially viable" **electricity** industry, has been stripped of those duties. **Electricity** customers will be the worse for it. Brady Yauch is an economist and Executive Director of the **Consumer** Policy Institute (CPI), a division of **Energy** Probe Research Foundation.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTime to pull the plug on Ontario's unduly painful electricity policies

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainWaterloo Region Record - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Ross McKittrick; and Elmira Aliakbari

Ad Value: \$3,444

Reach: 63465 **Page:** A8

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOntario manufacturers are feeling the pinch from high **electricity** prices. But how high are the province's industrial **electricity rates** relative to other jurisdictions?

Ontario has the highest residential **electricity** costs of all **Canadian** provinces. **Ontario electricity** prices increased twice as fast as the national average over the past decade, and the average **Toronto** resident in 2016 paid \$60 more a month than the average **Canadian**.

That takes us back to industrial **electricity rates**, which are paid by industries including manufacturing (automakers, for example) and mining around the province. A recent Fraser Institute study showed that, in 2016, out of 16 major cities, **Toronto** and **Ottawa** ranked third and fourth behind only New York and Boston.

Small industrial consumers (with a **power** demand of one megawatt and monthly consumption of up to 400 megawatt hours) in the **Toronto** area paid, on average, 16.27 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh, a common unit for measuring **power**), nearly double what comparable-sized firms paid in Montreal (9.11 cents) and Vancouver (9.49 cents), and nearly three times what they paid in Calgary (6.53 cents).

And although industrial **electricity** costs in New York and Boston remain higher than those in **Ontario** cities, the differential is shrinking over time as **Ontario** cities experience faster increases. In 2010, for example, **electricity** costs for small industrial users in **Toronto** were 85 per cent lower than in New York. By

2016, the differential had shrunk to 51 per cent.

The same pattern exists with large industrial consumers. In 2016, large users (with a **power** demand of five megawatts and monthly consumption of 3,060 megawatt hours) in **Toronto** and **Ottawa** paid almost three times more than consumers in Montreal and Calgary and almost twice what large consumers in Vancouver paid. Even some select large industrial consumers (class A) that were granted **rate** reductions from the provincial government still paid higher **rates** than large users in Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia.

Between 2010 and 2016, **electricity** costs paid by large industrial consumers rose 53 per cent in **Ottawa** and 46 per cent in **Toronto** compared to 14 per cent in the rest of Canada. Montreal saw a modest increase of 10 per cent, while costs dropped in Edmonton (-7 per cent), Calgary (-5 per cent) and Chicago (-19 per cent).

Out of 16 cities examined, the fastest **rates** of increase were in Portland and Seattle. But even with their rapid growth, their **electricity** costs for large industrial consumers were significantly lower than **Toronto's** in 2016 (71 per cent lower in Portland and 62 per cent Seattle).

So what's caused surging **electricity** prices for residents and industries in **Ontario**?

Government policy choices are to blame, in particular the province's aggressive promotion of **renewable energy** sources (**solar**, **wind** and biomass). Other policy decisions - including poor structuring of long-term contracts with generators and phasing out coal - have also contributed to the pain.

To finally lower **electricity** bills for current and future **ratepayers**, the government should look at **electricity** costs in other jurisdictions and pursue meaningful policy reform.

Ross McKittrick is a senior fellow, Elmira Aliakbari is a policy analyst, at the Fraser Institute. They authored the recent study **Rising Electricity Costs and Declining Employment in Ontario's Manufacturing Sector** available at www.fraserinstitute.org. Distributed by Troy Media.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainHORWATH: Ontarians pay hydro price for Liberal smoke-and-mirrors | Toronto Sun

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plaintorontosun.com - Wed Nov 8 2017
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIn September, the NDP got its hands on and released internal government documents showing that Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberal government is on a \$5.5-million spending spree for ads promoting their hydro-borrowing scheme.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainShould Ontario pull the plug on its electricity related policies? - Scott Thompson Show - Omny.fm

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainomny.fm - Wed Nov 8 2017
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainShould Ontario pull the plug on its electricity related policies? Our rates are among the highest in North America due to policy decisions. So what can be done?

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOEB Holding Public Meeting Tonight On Sioux Lookout Hydro Increase | CKDR.net

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.ckdr.net](#) - Wed Nov 8 2017
Tone: **Neutral**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainSioux Lookout Hydro customers will have a chance Tuesday night to comment on a proposed rate increase.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOrangeville Hydro advises about 500 customers 'aren't being billed twice'

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOrangeville Banner - Wed Nov 8 2017
Tone: **Negative**
Ad Value: \$180
Reach: 23500 Page: 1

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOrangeville Hydro](#) is advising about 500 customers to only pay one of the two bills they received in the mail this week.

Due to bill print changes directed by the **Ontario Energy Board** and **Ministry of Energy**, **Orangeville Hydro's** chief corporate officer Ruth Tyrrell said about 500 customers were sent two identical bills.

"People aren't being billed twice. They are being billed once," she said. "If they could just destroy one, and pay the other."

While the printing glitch didn't impact every **customer**, Tyrrell said **Orangeville Hydro** officials have fielded "a lot of calls" about the matter this week. That's how the issue was discovered, she explained.

"We had a bit of a glitch with our system and it generated duplicate bills," Tyrrell said. "It's very rare. It doesn't happen often."

Any customers with any questions or concerns about the situation are being asked to contact **Orangeville Hydro** by calling 519-942-8000.

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The LTEP: A Fundamentally New Planning Approach - Lexology

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.lexology.com](http://www.lexology.com) - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Although largely unnoticed at the time, the passage of Bill 135 fundamentally changed energy regulation in Ontario. It created a new planning process centered on the creation and implementation of government-drafted Long Term Energy Plans, or LTEPS.

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OEB Again Bans Winter Disconnections of Residential Electricity Customers

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.airdberlis.com](http://www.airdberlis.com) - Wed Nov 8 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

On November 2, 2017, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) issued a Decision and Order amending the licences of electricity distributors to direct that residential customers may not be disconnected during the winter season. This follows a similar OEB direction last winter that was put into place after the Protecting Vulnerable Energy Consumers Act, 2017 was passed by the Ontario Legislature in February 2017 (see here).

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United Way applauds permanent winter electricity disconnection ban

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News](#) - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Denis Langlois

Page: A3

Francesca Dobbyn says an **Ontario Energy Board** decision banning **electricity** companies from disconnecting **power** to peoples'homes due to non-payment in winter is something she has been pushing for for more than a decade.

"I'm relieved," the executive director of the United Way of Bruce Grey said in an interview.

"We're exhausted. This has been a battle for years of getting these changes, getting the voices of people in our community into the hands of the decision-makers."

The **OEB** decision, handed down Thursday, bans **electricity** distributors from disconnecting or threatening to disconnect homes for non-payment from Nov. 15 to April 30 each year.

It goes a step further by banning the use of loadcontrol devices during that

period.

The **OEB** has also ordered **electricity** distributors to reconnect as soon as possible and without charge all homes that are currently disconnected due to non-payment.

In the future, homes must be reconnected by Nov. 15 each year.

The **OEB** decision comes nine months after **Ontario** MPPs passed the Protecting Vulnerable **Energy** Consumers Act in February, which gave the **OEB** the **power** to end winter **disconnections**.

A day after that legislation was passed, the **OEB** issued an order to **utility** companies to reconnect all customers that were without **power** and to not disconnect any **electrical** services due to non-payment or arrears until at least May 1.

The **OEB**, at the time, said the order was intended to be an interim measure to cover the rest of the 2016-17 winter. The **energy regulator** said it would launch a comprehensive **review** of **customer service rules**, including those related to winter **disconnections**, for **electricity** distributors.

The **OEB**'s Nov. 2 decision makes the Nov. 15 to April 30 winter disconnection ban permanent.

Dobbyn said some companies already had in place voluntary bans on disconnecting **electricity** in winter before the Protecting Vulnerable **Energy** Consumers Act was passed.

Hydro One, for example, had a policy to not disconnect customers in arrears from Dec. 1 to March 31.

However, other companies, like Walkerton-based **Westario Power**, did not.

Dobbyn said the United Way has helped single parents with young children, seniors and others to get their **power** turned back on in the middle of winter.

She said **Westario** is required to put about \$25,000 a year into a fund to assist low-income customers with their **hydro** bills. However, that money was typically used up by March each year, Dobbyn said.

"Bruce County was running the **Westario** program and when they ran out of **Westario** money the clients came to us. And we were using our funds that we fundraise to assist **Westario** clients," she said.

The winter disconnection ban lets the United Way focus more on helping people who heat their homes with wood, oil and propane buy those heating sources in winter instead of scrambling to help **Westario** customers to have their **power** restored.

Only money that has been fundraised by the agency is available to help people buy wood, oil and propane.

Dobbyn said the United Way can also now do a better job of planning how to use its resources since the **OEB** decision includes the same winter disconnection ban period for all companies. For example, it can ensure all hands are on deck to help people once the ban period ends.

"We're a charity; we don't have a lot of staff, we don't have a lot of resources. So when we can **plan** and deploy them and genuinely help people, that makes us better at what we do," she said.

But Dobbyn said she wants to emphasize that the **OEB** decision does not give people permission to stop paying their **hydro** bill.

"You need to pay as much as you can on your bill and pay it off as much as you can every month," she said.

Assistance programs require that customers have a history of attempting to pay.

Dobbyn said it's also important for people who are struggling to pay their **hydro** bill to see the United Way or call 211 as soon as possible. The agencies can help direct those clients to assistance programs.

"We can also help with those applications," she said.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainLabour Council celebrates busy week of activities and news

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News - Thu Nov 9 2017
Tone: **Positive** Page: A9

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFor the Grey Bruce Labour Council good jobs, activism and clean **energy** news all marked the week of Oct. 23, 2017.

For over 20 years the delegates to the Labour Council have celebrated Health and Safety Activists from across our region and for the last ten years this award has been accompanied by the Labour Council Activist of the year award.

With **Ontario** Federation of Labour president, Chris Buckley, and Mike Rencheck, CEO of Bruce **Power** in attendance a celebration dinner with some seventy guests at the Tara Legion applauded Jamie Hunsburger and Shirley Hayes as the award winners for 2017.

Ahead of this event local labour leaders and labour council leadership along with PWU, Society and CNWC leaders sat down with Chris Buckley to discuss the plans the **Ontario** Federation of Labour is planning to push forward, with the help of Labour Councils, to shift the focus of **Ontario** to a full time, secure employment from the current state where precarious, **contract**, unsafe and underpaid work is so common for today's workers and is the future for our young people if the course remains unchanged.

Buckley noted how good it was to see the local situation where Bruce **Power** and it's large percentage of unionized staff exemplify what **Ontario** should be, a place where people have safe and secure work where people can afford to support families and their communities.

Grey Bruce Labour Council President, Kevin Smith, sees "the support for the Bruce **Power** refurbishment in the recently released long term **energy plan** along with Darlington and the Pickering life extension as contributors to this vision of safe and secure work while adding to **Ontario's** future of clean **energy**."

In a very full day of activities the Grey Bruce Labour Council, Chris Buckley and Rob Halpin, from the OFL, walked the picket line with OPSEU 350, Georgian College Faculty, to show support for the faculty demands for full time and secure employment "instead of the over 70% of faculty staff that are currently **contract** work" according to Labour Council VP Dave Trumble.

The full day of events on October 23rd and the release of the LTEP this week demonstrate that change is possible. October 23rd shows what workers are capable of and why workers need to make their voices heard. Trumble noted

that "input to the LTEP came from every sector of **Ontario**, but the input of workers, unions, labour councils and the **Canadian** Nuclear Workers' Council must be recognized for never faltering in their mission to make the authors of the LTEP understand that long term support for nuclear **power** will greatly assist **Ontario** in securing a reliable supply of **electricity** and environmental betterment while creating prosperity for tens of thousands of workers."

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainCTV London: Help wanted | CTV London News

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainlondon.ctvnews.ca - Wed Nov 8 2017

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPromation Nuclear to design and supply fuel channel mock-ups for Bruce Power

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainKincardine News - Thu Nov 9 2017

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainBruce **Power** and Promation Nuclear Ltd. entered into a \$4 million agreement in support of the Major Component Replacement (MCR) Project.

As part of MCR's Detube-Retube Program, Promation Nuclear Ltd. will design and supply all of the fuel channel mock-ups that are required to validate and test the numerous Detube-Retube tooling provided by various vendors.

The MCR Detube-Retube Program is responsible for the replacement of existing fuel channels, calandria tubes and associated components. These fuel channel mock-ups are essential for the MCR Project as they provide tradespeople with the foundation to understand reactor conditions that will be encountered when deploying tooling during the campaign.

"Promation, supported closely by their partner Laveer Engineering, was selected based on their experience in mock-up development, and I am confident in their ability to complete this complex project scope," said Jeff Phelps, Bruce **Power**'s vice president of major projects. "The mock-ups will be integral to the success of the Major Component Replacement Program, which will extend the operational life of the Bruce site until 2064."

To assist in delivery of this **contract**, Promation has also secured office space in Port Elgin, co-located with the Saugeen Shores Chamber of Commerce and **Service Ontario**. The new office space will help Promation continue to provide quality, timely **service** while supporting Bruce **Power**'s local economic development objectives.

"Promation Nuclear is proud to be awarded this critical scope of work for the MCR program," said Darryl Spector, vice president and general manager of Promation Nuclear Ltd. "Our team is very excited to support Bruce **Power** in this precedent-setting campaign by continuing our tradition of successful supply to

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major refurbishment programs in the nuclear industry.

Spector added they are delighted to have joined the Port Elgin community and are eager to begin a longterm contribution, with a commitment to satisfy one of Promotion's key mandates by increasing their engagement with the Saugeen and Nawash First Nations.

Bruce **Power**'s MCR Project will ensure Bruce **Power** nuclear continues to provide low-cost **electricity** for families and businesses for years to come. Bruce **Power** supplies 30 per cent of **Ontario's energy** at 30 per cent less than the average cost to generate residential **power**.

About Promotion Nuclear Ltd.

Originally founded in 1995, Promotion -a leading designer and manufacturer of high-quality tooling, automation, and robotic systems is a privately owned **Canadian Corporation** that embodies its commitment to embracing ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity within its business practices, and is proud to be an inclusive, socially responsible **corporation**. Promotion is supported by its four divisions; Nuclear, **Automotive**, Industrial, and Defence. Promotion Nuclear Ltd has been delivering custom engineered solutions to the nuclear industry for over a decade, and has been a reliable Tooling partner to Bruce **Power** since 2011.

The Nuclear division has established a local presence in Port Elgin in support of Bruce **Power**'s ongoing operations and MCR campaign.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainHydro cost sparks water rate increase

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainPelham News - Thu Nov 9 2017

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Byline: Allan Benner

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIncreasing **electricity** and maintenance expenses are driving up the cost of water and sewer treatment, leading to a two per cent increase in **Niagara** Region's wholesale **rates**.

"Consistent with the last few years one of the most significant pressures is the increase in **hydro** costs," said **Niagara's** deputy treasurer Helen Chamberlain while discussing the 2018 water and wastewater budget during last Thursday night's budget meeting.

Regional council will consider approval of the \$116.7-million water and wastewater budget on Nov. 16.

The two per cent overall increase will add \$933,014 to water treatment funding, and \$1,298,924 more for wastewater, compared to 2017.

Chamberlain said individual municipalities will determine how the Region's **rate** increases impact the water bills sent out to **Niagara ratepayers**.

She said the retail **rate** is "obviously going to have a very different impact than what we distribute to local municipalities."

"You're going to see very different outcomes in terms of how this translates to the **customer**," she said.

Chamberlain said despite initiatives designed to reduce **energy** usage, **Niagara**'s water and wastewater treatment plant **electric** bills are expected to cost about \$1 million next year.

Public works commissioner Ron Tripp later added that the Region is spending \$600,000 annually in energyefficiency programs.

"It's really not savings, it's offsetting increases," he said.

Tripp said investing in new high-efficiency equipment will also help reduce **energy** costs.

"One of our biggest **energy** drivers are our pumps, and the replacement of those pumps will ultimately take place through infrastructure renewal," Tripp said.

Fort Erie Coun. Sandy Annunziata pointed out that the increased **electricity** costs the Region is paying are entirely the result of increasing **electricity** charges, rather than increased **power** usage.

"The taxpayer is going to get hit twice now," Annunziata said.

"They're getting dinged with respect to the **hydro** bill they get every month, and now they're getting dinged on their water bill, essentially, because this results in an increase of \$1 million."

Chamberlain said repair and maintenance for facilities is also having an impact on next year's budget.

After a few years of postponing those expenses, she said the Region is "trying to get back to a more appropriate level in that area."

The budget includes a \$26-million increase in infrastructure investment, above the five-year average, "allowing us to impact some of our infrastructure backlog and the needs of the asset management **plan**."

Meanwhile, stormwater infiltration continues to plague **Niagara**'s infrastructure.

"The years where projected flows exceeded our actual, those are the years where we've experienced revenue shortfalls and they can be significant," Chamberlain said.

"Every one per cent decline in the revenue relates in a \$300,000 revenue loss."

The budget also includes funding for 7.5 full-time equivalent staff, including project managers.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain\$264-million Union Gas project complete; New pipeline extends 41-kilometres from Dawn-Euphemia to Dover

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainChatham This Week - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Tom Morrison

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Union Gas's **natural gas** expansion project from Dawn-Euphemia to Dover Township will be in **service** this month after more than five months of construction.

The project increases the capacity of the company's panhandle **transmission** system for residents and businesses from Chatham-Kent to Windsor and **Essex** County and the surrounding areas.

"This is going to make sure that the supply of **natural gas** is reliable," **Union Gas** spokesperson Andrea Stass said Wednesday. "This original pipeline was built in the '50s, so we've had some significant growth in Windsor, in Leamington in the greenhouse area and even in Chatham-Kent."

The construction of the pipeline started May 23 and was finished on time and on budget at a total cost of \$264 million. **Union Gas** received approval for the project from the **Ontario Energy Board** in February.

Stass said there has been a lot of demand for services in the regions where **natural gas** from this panhandle will be used.

"**Natural gas** is a real economic driver within this area, so businesses really rely on that, particularly in the greenhouse industry because it is the most affordable way to heat and to operate your business," she said.

"We get asked almost daily for **service**, so we hope this will be able to serve that incremental demand."

The panhandle will move 106,000 gigajoules of **natural gas** per day along the 41-kilometre route and connect with other pipeline systems. It will serve almost 190,000 customers Stuart McFadden, Chatham-Kent's acting director of economic development services, said the increase of **natural gas** should address issues with the region's capacity.

"We've been constrained in certain areas and we're hoping that this larger line will be able to provide more capacity for the area so that we can continue to grow businesses that need **natural gas** for their feed stock," he said.

The actual construction of the project has led to some spinoff of economic activity, said McFadden, with the workers using local businesses, including hotels and restaurants.

At its peak, as many as 600 people were working on the project.

"They've been very active and involved and we're thankful," he said.

While the panhandle will soon be online, the cleanup phase of the project will not be completed until spring.

"The construction is complete, but we have to wait until the warmer months until we can replant grass and those types of things," said Stass.

She said the company is thankful for the support of municipalities and the patience of residents during construction.

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Low-carbon economy will not be made by policy alone

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Byline: GLEN HODGSON

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The transformation to a low-carbon economy has begun.

Much of the **public** debate has been about the policy framework and instruments for shaping a low-carbon economy.

Some of the basic economic fundamentals, such as the role of consumption and investment, and the impact on growth and wealth, have been largely skipped over. Let's consider more deeply the interlinked roles of **public** policy and decisions by individual consumers and businesses.

The most obvious policy options for reducing greenhouse **gas** emissions are carbon pricing and complementary regulations.

Climate change is already having an impact on things such as the severity of floods, infrastructure adequacy and urban design, and thus policy will evolve on the mitigation front as well. Even if the United States is backing off **climate**-change commitments, Europe and China are not, so doing nothing or reversing course is unlikely to be wise policy for Canada.

Research by a number of analysts, including Canada's Ecofiscal Commission, has indicated that carbon pricing is more effective than alternative rigid regulations in terms of reducing greenhouse **gas** emissions while minimizing the impact on GDP and the underlying economy. Changing price signals, via a price on carbon, will create incentives for businesses to innovate and consumers to alter their behaviour. The federal and many provincial governments are introducing carbon pricing and other complementary policies, but so far with limited alignment and co-ordination.

Consumers are the backbone of the economy, representing 60 per cent of GDP, and vote every day with their wallets. Some consumers are led by green values, but most consumers will decide how they spend based on the usual factors - a combination of price, quality, specific attributes, **service**, availability and convenience. Once consumers make a decision, it may last for years or decades - at least for durable goods such as vehicles and fridges, or services such as home heating.

Putting a price on carbon will help to nudge consumers toward buying goods and services with lower embedded carbon costs.

That said, we expect there will be limits to what consumers (and voters) will accept as an initial level of carbon pricing, the pace of adjustment over time and the relationship to other fiscal adjustments (such as cuts to other taxes, or targeted spending in their interest). **Ontario's** recent attempt to rein in rising **electricity rates** shows the importance of reading correctly the mood of consumers/voters and their willingness and ability to adapt.

Consumer choice on **energy** use at home and on personal **transportation** are specific areas to watch. For example, consumers can lower their **carbon footprint** through changing their use of private vehicles, **public** transit and other options such as cycling or walking. Will consumers adapt quickly to lower-carbon alternatives such as **public** transit (provided adequate transit is actually available)? Will they opt in large numbers for **electric** vehicles with still-limited driving range and long charging periods, even if the purchase price is heavily subsidized?

Similarly, business decisions will determine the pace and nature of low-carbon transformation. The Conference Board of Canada's research indicates that

massive investment in low-carbon electrification will be required over decades for a low-carbon transition to take place. The combination of **public** policy and numerous business decisions will determine how quickly **electricity** production can be decarbonized in all provinces, not to mention the decarbonization of oil and **gas** production across the value chain.

Underlying business models constantly evolve; innovation, adaptation and long-term investment decisions will shape the decarbonization process. The existing auto industry, based on the internal combustion engine, isn't sitting idle - smart engineers can and will continue to find ways to reduce GHGs at all stages of production and use. Better **hybrid**- and **electric**-vehicle options will continue to be introduced. Competitive market forces will ultimately determine the pathways for reducing GHG emissions from the **transportation** fleet - guided by mandated standards and carbon pricing.

The financial services industry will play a central role in deciding where to make investment capital available in a lowercarbon world. To date, we have seen little evidence in Canada that investors and lenders treat GHG emissions, and a business's ability to adapt to carbon pricing and regulations, as central risk factors. But the game is beginning to change internationally as capital markets and regulators educate themselves on the business impacts and risks of **climate** change, especially for capital assets with a long expected economic life. Similarly, investors will want to satisfy themselves that all **climate**-related risks can be managed adequately in status quo and new businesses.

So, who will drive low-carbon economic transformation? The answer is all of us - as consumers, voters and influencers, investors, and decision makers in business, society and government.

Policy alone won't make it happen, but the right policies and incentives will help.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain **Feds won't intervene in pipeline hearings; Trans Mountain project caught in more delays**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain National Post - Thu Nov 9 2017

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Jesse Snyder

Ad Value: \$7,358

Reach: 159480 **Page:** FP1 / Front

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plain Natural Resources Minister Jim Carr reiterated Wednesday **Ottawa**'s support for the potentially delayed Trans Mountain expansion project, even after the federal government declined to participate in an upcoming hearing on the pipeline.

Ottawa approved the pipeline development in November 2016.

Carr has been vocally supportive of the \$7.4-billion expansion, but the federal government has taken a backseat on regulatory proceedings.

"The responsible thing for the government of Canada to do is let the process work its way out," Carr told reporters.

"We have approved this project, we want it to proceed," he said. "We have not backed away from that judgment."

The comments come as Kinder Morgan Canada Ltd. has warned in recent

weeks that regulatory snags could set back its completion date by as much as nine months, and that the project could even be cancelled if delays persist.

Ottawa has declined to participate in hearings over the project scheduled for later this month, which could decide whether the project meets further delays or is cancelled altogether. Applications to intervene closed midnight Wednesday.

Failure to build the pipeline threatens to intensify pressure on the Liberals, who have publicly repeated their commitment to helping Canada's oil and **gas** industry gain better access to international markets for its crude.

Last month, Calgarybased TransCanada Corp. cancelled its contentious **Energy** East pipeline, citing both a three-year slump in oil prices and heightened regulatory requirements brought on by the National **Energy** Board.

The project was seen as unnecessary due to the falling production projections in Canada's oil sector, as major new capital investments are shelved or cancelled.

But analysts say if any of the three major export arteries currently proposed are cancelled - TransCanada's Keystone XL, Trans Mountain, or Enbridge Inc.'s Line 3 replacement - Canada could face a severe pipeline crunch, forcing more barrels to move by rail.

The Trans Mountain expansion would nearly triple capacity of the existing pipeline, which currently carries 300,000 barrels per day of crude from Edmonton to a port in Vancouver. Industry proponents say the line would be a vital connection to international markets that would effectively allow producers to fetch a higher price for their crude.

One year after it was approved, the project is still at risk of not being built.

Kinder Morgan Canada, the **Canadian** division of Houston-based Kinder Morgan Inc., said in an Oct. 26 filing to the National **Energy** Board that the municipality of Burnaby, B.C. was intentionally holding up construction of the project by failing to issue the necessary permits.

The company said failure to issue those permits was causing construction delays at its Burnaby and Westridge Marine terminals.

The issue will be discussed in two oral hearings hosted by the NEB on Nov. 29 and Dec. 4. The provinces of B.C., Alberta and Saskatchewan will all participate in the hearings. The federal attorney general declined to participate in the hearings in a Nov. 2 letter to the **regulator**.

Carr on Wednesday said the federal body did not traditionally participate in such hearings.

The pipeline project has technically received all of its necessary permits to move ahead.

"They do have the permission that they require," said Sarah Kiley, a spokesperson for the NEB based in Calgary.

Some First Nations and other communities along the route of the project are opposing the development through the Federal Court of Appeal, though those disputes are unlikely to be heard before construction commences.

The B.C. government, led by its new NDP premier John Horgan, will take part in the oral hearings to oppose the development of the project. Alberta and Saskatchewan will both argue in favour of the development.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley has been vocally supportive of Trans Mountain, and will be appearing in several major **Canadian** cities this month to promote

the purported benefits of the pipeline.

jsnyder@nationalpost.com

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainFight for clean water teen's passion | North Bay Nugget

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainwww.nugget.ca - Thu Nov 9 2017

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainAutumn Peltier's message to Canada is pretty simple.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainJen Gerson: In a Calgary ballroom, a panel hashes out grim wake for the Energy East pipeline | National Post

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainnationalpost.com - Thu Nov 9 2017

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainIn an ornate ballroom in one of downtown Calgary's few Edwardian hotels, hundreds of dark-suited men and women gathered over lunch Tuesday to hash out one of the questions festering at the heart of Alberta's politics: What really happened to Energy East?

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainOttawa won't participate in Trans Mountain regulatory hearings: Carr | Ottawa Citizen

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNatural Resources Minister Jim Carr reiterated Ottawa's support for the potentially delayed Trans Mountain expansion project, even after the federal government declined to participate in an upcoming hearing on the pipeline.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainNational Column: Coderre's fall a signal for Montreal elite – The Morinville News

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainmorinvillenews.com - Wed Nov 8 2017
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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat7\plainTo understand Denis Coderre's stunning mayoral defeat at the hands of Valerie Plante, a city councillor unknown to most Montrealers only a few months ago, it is useful to turn the clock back four years to the happier 2013 night of his first and only municipal victory.

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