

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: January 16, 2018 9:07 AM
To: ##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject: Morning News Summary - Tues. Jan. 16, 2018

d\plain Good morning,

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d\plain No highlight today; more of a mixed bag of news with the OEB mentioned tangentially.

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[d\plain North Bay.ca: OPINION: Neal McNamara, The Hydro Edition – Part 2](#)

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν • The OEB is mentioned at the beginning of the article which summarizes the author's previous opinion piece about utilities' financial reporting to the OEB. North Bay Hydro is the utility that the author takes issue with:

d\li1440\fi-360\plaino The President of North Bay Hydro, Todd Wilcox, advised the media that the \$1.12 million **losses that they reported to the Ontario Energy Board date back to 2008.**

d\li1440\fi-360\plaino However what they reported to the OEB, what North Bay Hydro quoted as their debt (\$22M), salary increases and that they wrote off \$1.26M in uncollected bills does not add up to the figure reported to the OEB.

d\plain The author writes about a solar microgrid that is being installed at the local YMCA and the controversies around this.

δ.:λ1720.:φ1-360.:πλα1ν • The author also writes about the Hydro One loan to North Bay – (loss of \$1M dividend per year to the city and the incursion of debt to the bank).

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[d\plain Sudbury Star: Hydro sale possible \(story below\)](#)

δ.λ720.φι-360.πλαιν• The Town of Espanola and the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers accepted a letter to sell Espanola Hydro to North Bay Hydro Distribution Ltd.

δ.λ720.φι-360.πλαιν• Espanola currently owns 81 per cent of Espanola Hydro and Sables-Spanish Rivers the remaining 19 per cent. It serves 3,289 customers.

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d\plain*Same story ran in the North Bay Nugget (story below)

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[d\plainEast York Mirror: Liberals select activist and organizer Li Koo to run in Toronto-Danforth](#)

δ.λ720.φι-360.πλαιν• According to the news release, Koo is the founder of the community arts and culture centre known as 918 Bathurst, and has also served on boards including the Ontario Energy Board and the Women's Hockey Club of Canada. (*note: not clear as to whether she in fact did work at the OEB. Following up on this and will correct if not accurate)

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News Clippings

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainDate: Tuesday, January 16, 2018
Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) [Contact Editor](#)

d\intbl\itap2\cbpat8\plainClippings Summary

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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) **OPINION: Neal McNamara, The Hydro Edition – Part 2 - BayToday.ca**

[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainwww.baytoday.ca](#) - Mon Jan 15 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat13\plainPaul Crawford noted on Monday, January 15, 2018
OEB is mentioned.

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainIn my last article of 2017, I addressed some concerns and deficiencies noted in the financial statements at North Bay Hydro.



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) **Hydro sale possible**

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainSudbury Star - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Ad Value: \$189

Reach: 14934 Page: A3

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainThe Town of **Espanola** and the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers accepted a letter to sell **Espanola Hydro** to **North Bay Hydro Distribution** Ltd. The municipalities and ...



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d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plain North Bay Hydro in talks with Espanola

d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plainNorth Bay Nugget - Tue Jan 16 2018
Tone: **Positive**
Ad Value: \$264
Reach: 11505 Page: A3

d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plainThe Town of **Espanola** and the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers (the municipalities) have announced accepting a letter of intent from **North Bay Hydro Distribution** Ltd. The municipalities and ...



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Tone: **Positive** Page: 1

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d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plain Be wary of Liberal promises; Remember hydro when election platform is revealed

d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plainToronto Sun - Tue Jan 16 2018
Tone: **Negative**
Byline: Rick Nicholls

Ad Value: \$3,913
Reach: 171076 Page: A6

d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plainFor Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberals, 2017 wasn't a good year. Wynne's approval ratings have barely budged, and most people have a very low opinion of her government. This is reflected in recent polling. As of late last year, polling firm Abacus ...



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Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: SHAWN McCARTHY

Ad Value: \$19,968
Reach: 309154 Page: B1

d\\intbl\\itap3\\cbpat8\\plainThe Liberal government is set to introduce carbon-tax legislation that will give breaks to industrial emitters as **Ottawa** seeks to limit the economic impact of an ambitious environmental agenda to be enacted this year. Environment ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) Ottawa launches detailed carbon-tax plan; Every Province

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainNational Post - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Geoffrey Morgan

Ad Value: \$5,874

Reach: 159480 Page: FP1 / Front

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainLike it or not, every province will soon see some form of carbon tax trickling through its economy as the federal government pushed ahead with detailed plans for a countrywide carbon price on Monday. Environment and **Climate** ...



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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) OPG updates Saugeen Shores Council; DGR support wavers for one councillor

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainShoreline Beacon - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Frances Learment

Ad Value: \$550

Reach: 3769 Page: A4

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[d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain](#) Food for thought related to energy consumption

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainThe Brockville Recorder & Times - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Steven Manders,

Ad Value: \$409

Reach: 11123 Page: A6

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainA lot is said these days about saving **energy**, money and the planet. It often focuses on replacing incandescent lights, which we have already done, thus it is almost irrelevant information. I used to own a number of mid-size apartment ...

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Full Articles



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d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain OPINION: Neal McNamara, The Hydro Edition – Part 2 - BayToday.ca

[d:\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainwww.baytoday.ca](#) - Mon Jan 15 2018

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main focus is to ensure affordable, reliable and sustainable **electricity** to both communities. "This sale ensures the infrastructure upgrades which are required to ensure the long-term dependability and reliability of our **service** will continue while minimizing the impact on our **distribution rates**. We are confident that **North Bay Hydro** will bring value to the community in terms of **distribution rates** and **customer service**" states **Espanola** Mayor Ron Piche. **Espanola** currently owns 81 per cent of **Espanola Hydro** and Sables-Spanish Rivers the remaining 19 per cent. It serves 3,289 customers.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain Liberals select activist and organizer Li Koo to run in Toronto-Danforth

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainEast York Mirror - Mon Jan 15 2018
Tone: **Positive** Page: 1

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainThe **Ontario** Liberals have picked a candidate for **Toronto**-Danforth: Li Koo, a community activist and educator who has won the party's nomination to run against incumbent New Democrat MPP Peter Tabuns in the 2018 provincial election.

"As a woman, a mother and a person of colour, I know we need representation that reflects the diversity of our community," said Koo in a news release announcing her successful nomination.

"Real change happens when people with different lived experiences are at the table. It's time for kids to grow up seeing themselves represented at all levels of government."

Koo lives in the riding with her spouse Mary, a teacher, and their daughter.

According to the news release, Koo is the founder of the community arts and culture **centre** known as 918 Bathurst, and has also served on boards including the **Ontario Energy Board** and the Women's Hockey Club of Canada.

Koo is a member of the Refugee Committee at the Metropolitan United Church, and also of the 519 Community **Centre** and the International Resource **Centre** for Performing Arts.

She has served in senior communications role with **Ontario**'s Attorney General, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and of Aboriginal Affairs, and Legal Aid **Ontario**.

"I am excited to join Premier Kathleen Wynne's team to fight for fairness by raising the minimum wage, bringing in free tuition, and making prescription drugs free for children and youth," Koo said in the news release.

Ontarians go to the polls June 7, 2018.

Editor's Note: In a previous version of this story, Li Koo's name was mis-spelled in the headline.

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Be wary of Liberal promises; Remember hydro when election platform is revealed

Toronto Sun - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: Negative

Byline: Rick Nicholls

Ad Value: \$3,913

Reach: 171076 **Page:** A6

For Premier Kathleen Wynne's Liberals, 2017 wasn't a good year.

Wynne's approval ratings have barely budged, and most people have a very low opinion of her government.

This is reflected in recent polling. As of late last year, polling firm Abacus Data found 53% of Ontarians strongly disapprove of the Wynne Liberals. Only 11% "somewhat approve."

But, get this. Only 1% of Ontarians "strongly approve" of the Wynne Liberals.

It's for good reason people are not impressed.

Let's start with the **hydro** file.

Between 2008 and 2015, **electricity** costs in **Ontario** rose four times the **rate** of inflation, and our **hydro** bills jumped higher than in any other province in Canada.

Meanwhile, **Ontario** has accrued a huge surplus of **energy**. But we're either giving it away or selling it at a massive loss. Last year, according to the **Ontario** Society of Professional Engineers, we exported enough **power** to run 2 million homes.

Let me explain why this is outrageous.

Hydro is so expensive for the average person that we're now seeing record numbers of **disconnections** and arrears.

Since Wynne became premier four years ago, **hydro disconnections** have risen by about 20%. There are now just under 400,000 accounts in arrears, and that's an increase of 30% since Wynne came to **power**.

It's also egregious that the Liberals don't want the people of **Ontario** to know that **hydro rates** have helped create a new Millionaire's Club at **Hydro One**. We now have the highest paid **Hydro One** CEO in the history of **Ontario**. And he's the highest paid CEO of his type in the entire country.

But exorbitant **hydro** isn't the only way the Liberals have been grinding **Ontario** down.

Inflation-adjusted growth in **Ontario** is stalled at about half the **Canadian** average. Growth in disposable income lags significantly behind that of every other province. And private-sector investment in business has become anemic.

Apparently, though, the Wynne Liberals believe their policies represent social justice and fairness.

If this is their idea of fairness, I'd hate to see what they think is unfair.

We're now five months from the next election.

Between now and then, the Liberals hope you'll forget about their economic abuses and their special treatment to insider friends.

They hope that you'll ignore the mess they've made at Queen's Park.

They hope that a new round of vote-buying schemes will trick you into enduring another four years of incompetence and waste.

However, the people of **Ontario** don't want waste. We are tired of seeing the political equivalent of handing out tax money with a leaf blower.

We don't want crooked accounting practices to cover up **Ontario's** enormous debt.

We rejected the fire sale of **Hydro** One. And we shook our heads at the shameful borrowing scheme to make our grandchildren pay for our **hydro** bills. When the **Ontario** parliament resumes in February, the Liberals will probably introduce their budget early. This will be the basis of their election platform.

My advice to Ontarians is: don't be fooled.

Nicholls is PC MPP for Chatham-Kent-**Essex**

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain Liberals to offer tax breaks for industrial emitters as national carbon pricing nears

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainThe Globe and Mail - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: SHAWN MCCARTHY

Ad Value: \$19,968

Reach: 309154 Page: B1

The Liberal government is set to introduce carbon-tax legislation that will give breaks to industrial emitters as **Ottawa** seeks to limit the economic impact of an ambitious environmental agenda to be enacted this year.

Environment Minister Catherine McKenna and Finance Minister Bill Morneau on Monday released a draft legislative proposal outlining key elements of the "carbon price backstop" that will apply only in provinces that do not have their own levy or have one that fails to meet federal standards.

Legislation will be tabled after the House of Commons resumes work later this month, with the goal of having it passed by the summer recess in June. **Ottawa** will also be assessing provincial plans over the next eight months and will indicate after Sept. 1 in which provinces it will impose the federal levy, either in whole or in part.

"Canadians know pollution isn't free and last year we saw that extreme weather events are costing us billions of dollars - trillions if you look at what is happening around the world," Ms. McKenna said in an interview. "And we know a price on pollution is the best way to fight **climate** change and also get clean innovation. But of course, competitiveness is a key part of it."

Under the **plan**, the government will set an emissions cap for large industrial plants and they will pay the carbon tax only on greenhouse **gases** that they emit

above that threshold. The cap will be based on an industry average, and the most efficient facilities will pay no tax and may even generate credits.

The system is designed to avoid driving industry out of the country to jurisdictions that have no carbon pricing, which would both cost Canadians jobs and result in no environmental benefit for the planet, the minister said.

Ottawa will set the levy at \$10 a tonne this year, and increase it annually in \$10 increments until it is \$50 a tonne in 2022, a level that would drive up **gasoline** prices by roughly 11 cents a litre.

The Liberal legislation may have more political ramifications than economic ones. The four largest provinces - Quebec, **Ontario**, Alberta and British Columbia - have adopted their own carbon levies and will not be impacted by the federal tax.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is battling Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall, who says his province has no intention of adopting the tax and will fight any attempt by **Ottawa** to impose one. The Liberal government could also find itself in conflict with premiers from Manitoba and Atlantic provinces, who have not committed to meeting federal standards on carbon pricing.

As well, **Ontario** Premier Kathleen Wynne and Alberta's Rachel Notley face elections in the next 16 months, and both have uphill battles to hold onto government. As a result, the federal carbon tax may become a hot political issue in those provinces, especially in Alberta where United Conservative Party Leader Jason Kenney has vowed to abolish the provincial levy.

The carbon tax is part of an ambitious environmental agenda to be completed this year as the Liberal government moves in the opposite direction from U.S. President Donald Trump and the Republican-led Congress, who have cut taxes and are slashing regulations in the United States.

Ms. McKenna and her cabinet colleagues **plan** within the next several weeks to introduce a major overhaul of environmental-assessment legislation, which the Liberals argued was undermined by the former Conservative government that was seeking to fast-track resource industry projects. As well, the minister is expected to finalize **rules** that would restrict methane emissions in the oil and **gas** sector, lay out a **plan** to protect endangered caribou in the boreal forest and move forward with proposed clean-**fuels** regulations.

Conservative opposition MPs and some economists warn that the Liberal government is putting at risk Canada's industrial competitiveness by proceeding with a series of environmental laws and regulations that will impose additional costs.

"In the next few years, **Canadian** businesses will be facing major competitiveness challenges as the United States moves forward with its **plan** to reduce regulation, lower taxes and invest in **coal-fired electricity** to reduce **energy** costs," Conservative environment critic Ed Fast said in an e-mailed statement.

"The Trudeau government appears to be oblivious to these challenges as it layers additional regulations on top of a federal carbon tax which will discourage capital investments in the **Canadian** economy." Ms. McKenna insisted the national effort to reduce greenhouse **gases** will spur the growth of **Canadian** clean-technology companies that will provide the jobs of the future, while noting the provinces that have introduced carbon taxes have seen solid growth in recent years.

However, New Democratic Party MP Linda Duncan questions the environmental commitment of the Liberal government, saying it has enacted few concrete measures in more than two years in office.

She said the government has already "kowtowed to industry" by delaying proposed methane regulations that would force oil and **gas** companies to adopt better monitoring and reduce emissions of the powerful greenhouse **gas**.

As well, some environmentalists question the fairness of providing carbon-tax breaks to corporations, particularly for the oil and **gas** sector, which accounts for 25 per cent of the country's emissions.

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain Ottawa launches detailed carbon-tax plan; Every Province

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainNational Post - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Geoffrey Morgan

Ad Value: \$5,874

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

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainLike it or not, every province will soon see some form of carbon tax trickling through its economy as the federal government pushed ahead with detailed plans for a countrywide carbon price on Monday.

Environment and **Climate** Change Minister Catherine McKenna and Finance Minister Bill Morneau released the government's carbon tax framework and a draft of the Greenhouse **Gas** Pollution Pricing Act for **public** comment.

The legislation includes new charges on **consumer fuels** such as **gasoline**, diesel, propane and **natural gas**. It would also set an emissions limit for industrial facilities such as oil and **gas** projects, pulp and paper mills, chemicals facilities, cement plants, mines, fertilizer facilities and steel mills.

Any facility that emits more than its limit will need to pay, and those that emit less could be eligible for carbon credits that could be sold to bigger polluters.

The government is also considering ways to apply carbon taxes to the offshore oil and **gas** sector and to **electricity** generation. The release said the government may eventually extend the tax to other sectors of the economy.

Alberta, B.C., **Ontario** and Quebec have all implemented carbon-pricing systems that satisfy the federal government's requirements but **Ottawa** could impose the new set of **rules** on other provinces - such as Saskatchewan and the Atlantic provinces - unless they develop their own carbon-tax system by September.

For provinces that don't develop their own carbon tax or don't adopt the federal **plan**, the legislation would allow **Ottawa** to directly disburse carbon rebates to residents of those provinces, bypassing provincial governments, in a move that is likely to escalate tensions with Saskatchewan.

"Four out of five Canadians live in jurisdictions that already have a price on carbon - and right now, those provinces are leading Canada in job creation," McKenna said in a statement.

Morneau described the carbon-tax system as positive for middle-class jobs - something that has been hotly contested in Alberta, where carbon taxes rose this month, and in Saskatchewan, where the government has vowed not to implement a carbon tax.

"To help Canadians succeed today and in the economy of tomorrow, we are making long-term investments to grow the economy in a way that ensures good jobs, healthy communities and clean air and water," Morneau said in the release.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall said in a video last week that his province would not adopt a price for carbon.

"Our government's made in-Saskatchewan **climate** change **plan** does not include a carbon tax," he said. "We're going to stand up for this province, and that means no carbon tax," he said. Wall did not respond to a request for comment Monday.

The federal government said it intends to implement the federal backstop in whole or in part on Jan. 1, 2019, in any province and territory that does not have a carbon-pricing system that meets the benchmark.

"In order to minimize uncertainty for residents, businesses and investors, once the backstop goes into effect in a jurisdiction, we intend to keep it in effect until at least 2022," according to a statement.

gmorgan@nationalpost.com

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d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plain OPG updates Saugeen Shores Council; DGR support wavers for one councillor

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainShoreline Beacon - Tue Jan 16 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Frances Learment

Ad Value: \$550

Reach: 3769 Page: A4

d\intbl\itap3\cbpat8\plainOntario Power Generation (OPG) will consider additional **public** meetings on its **plan** to permanently dispose of nuclear waste at its Tiverton site where it currently stores irradiated material from the Bruce **Power**, Pickering and Darlington reactors above ground.

Lise Morton, **OPG's** Vice President of Nuclear Waste Management said they'd look for "opportunities to re-engage in terms of an open house" after Saugeen Shores Coun. Neil Manage, a retired nuclear industry worker, said he still supports a DGR for irradiated fuel, but was "losing my way" on support for storage of low-and intermediate-level waste.

At the Town's Jan. 8 committee of the whole meeting Manage suggested **OPG** reexplain why underground storage - a concept supported by Saugeen Shores Council last year - is the safest permanent solution for nuclear waste.

Morton said the discussion will continue, but noted it's important to understand that low-level waste is more than rags and mops used at nuclear plants.

"We incinerate and compact and treat the rags and mops, but at the end of the day you still end up with a by-product that is left behind - whether that be incinerator ash or some large metal components... - that still need to have a final disposal solution..." Morton said, adding surface storage in perpetuity is not the solution. Coun. Dave Myette, a former **Ontario Hydro** and **OPG** employee, asked why **OPG's** priority seemed to be promotion of low-and intermediate -level nuclear waste management plans, ahead of plans for the

spent fuel DGR.

Morton said it was not a matter of supporting one over the other, but a timing issue and that a separate **OPG** company operates the Western Waste Management facility on the Bruce site. SON Discussions Morton said **OPG** continues "meaningful and respective" engagement with Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON) on the DGR after the Federal Environment and **Climate** Change minister asked **OPG** for more information about the potential affect of the DGR on First Nations.

SON's environmental office website says it has deep and long-standing concerns regarding nuclear **power** generation in Anishnaabeking, and with the DGR proposed for its Territory at the Bruce **Power** site.

It says **OPG** has committed to SON that the DGR will not go ahead without the consent of the SON communities, and would work with the SON to address the legacy issues of the current and long-standing impacts nuclear **power** production and the ongoing operations of Bruce **Power** on its People and Territory. Morton said the SON investigation could take a year.

"We continue to maintain that the DGR is the right thing to do... it protects the lake and the environment and is a lasting solution for low-and intermediate-level waste," Morton said.

WWMF Expansion Regardless of the DGR decision, Morton said **OPG** will design and construct three new buildings to manage nuclear waste at its WWMF at Tiverton Morton said the Bruce **Power**'s \$13-billion major component replacement project at Tiverton is one of the two largest infrastructure projects in Canada; the other being the \$12.8-billion clean-**energy** project at Darlington.

"There are ongoing wastes that we need to manage and to deal with; so they are not related specifically to the delays of the DGR project," she said, adding **OPG** is attempting to reduce its environmental footprint by sorting and diverting waste.

Refurbishment Projects Awaiting the DGR decision, Morton said **OPG** is proceeding with expansion plans at the above-ground storage facility following renewal of the site's licence for another 10 years. That includes new buildings either under construction or in the design phase in 2018 -two lowlevel storage buildings, three multipurpose storage buildings, two used fuel storage buildings as well as a waste processing building.

Morton said additional surface storage is needed.

"Expansion and work on the Western Waste Management Facility needs to occur regardless of the DGR project or not," she said, adding "There are ongoing wastes that we need to manage and to deal with; so they are not related specifically to the delays of the DGR project."

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Reach: 11123 **Page:** A6

A lot is said these days about saving **energy**, money and the planet. It often focuses on replacing incandescent lights, which we have already done, thus it is almost irrelevant information.

I used to own a number of mid-size apartment buildings where the units were all identical, and every tenant had their own **hydro** meter and hot water tank. Everyone would use about the same amount of heat in the winter and about the same amount of lighting, with only a few exceptions that were quite obvious.

However, some new tenants would immediately complain that their **hydro** bill was double what I indicated was the average. I was always able to track it down to their hot water consumption. The tanks all have 4,000-watt heaters, while lights today average 10 watts. It is obvious if a light is on, but it is not obvious when a **water heater** is on, using the **power** of 400 lights for up to three hours after you finish the shower. Added to this problem is the fact that the heater could run for hours at peak **rates**, even though you showered when the **rates** were low on your **smart meter**. Heat lost off the outside of a tank is not really lost, it goes to heat the unit that needed heat anyway. All of the **energy** used by a refrigerator and other appliances is ultimately given off as heat, too, which we need. Chasing all these appliances actually saves very little.

Making homes airtight traps humidity, which can cause mould on the cooler outside walls. Mould is not caused by faulty construction. Proper bathroom ventilation is essential. After a shower, the bathroom door should be closed, trapping the humidity in there until the bathroom is properly vented to the outside, and not into the rest of the unit, unless you actually want more humidity. Dehumidifiers are very **energy** efficient.

Hydro bills are complicated, but it could cost you up to \$2.50 to reheat each tankful of water, dozens of times a month. If you want to save **energy**, hot water is the only place you can find real savings and you are the one in control there.

Steven Manders,

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