

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: November 16, 2016 8:58 AM
To: Brian Hewson; Christine Long; Debra Hazelton; Elisabeth DaSilva; John Bozzo; Julie Mitchell; June Colman; Karen Nunno; Ken Quesnelle; Lynne Anderson; Martine Band; Mary Anne Aldred; Nancy Mintz; Neil Brodie; Peter Fraser; Rosemarie Leclair; Sarah Branco; Veronica Mendes
Subject: FW: OEB Morning News Summary - Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Good morning,

Here is the OEB news summary for Wednesday, Nov. 16.

OVERVIEW

Media coverage overnight and this morning related to the OEB or energy in Ontario was rather quiet.

Energy Insider blog published a short piece on the OEB's review of gasonline prices in Ontario, stating it is not at all clear what the OEB or the Government can or will do with the OEB's report on Ontario's transportation fuel market, but reinforces that Minister Thibeault is not intending to regulate gasoline pricing and the Government wants more transparency about what drives gasoline pricing.

CHEX Peterborough published another online video offering residents tips on how to save on energy and gas during the winter.

The Tillsonberg News is reporting South-West Oxford Township's energy committee is hosting an upcoming public meeting to help residents learn about how they can reduce their hydro bills.

The Timmins Daily Press published an article about the Ministry of Energy inviting input on the Long-Term Energy Plan in advance of a public consultation meeting in Timmins on Wednesday.

The National Post reports that TransCanada Corp said on Tuesday it had halted an open season for a new, fixed-price toll on its natural gas pipeline from Western Canada to southern Ontario as the bids it received did not make the project viable.

Climate change continues to be major topic in National media, with the Toronto Star and National Post reporting on the federal government's plans to reduce emissions.

FLAGGED FOR DISCUSSION

**The following items will be discussed by the communications team on the daily media and issues call.*

- There were no items of concern to flag in the media this morning.

SOCIAL MEDIA

- There are no items of concern to report on social media this morning.

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Edited by: Lyan Khazanchi (Lyan.Khazanchi@ontarioenergyboard.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 11 Results



OEB is directed to Review Ontario's Transportation Fuel Market - Lexology

www.lexology.com - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Lyan Khazanchi noted on Wednesday, November 16, 2016
OEB mentioned

On November 9, 2016, Minister of Energy Thibeault directed the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) to conduct a review and prepare a report about Ontario's retail transportation fuels market (gasoline and diesel).



Helping to cut hydro bills; South-WestOxford hostspublicmeetingto helpresidentslearn aboutwaystoreduce theirenergyusageand keephydrobillsincheck

Tillsonburg News - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Megan Stacey

Ad Value: \$567

Reach: 2347 Page: B4

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National Post - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$1,793

Reach: 159480 Page: FP5

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Mayor responds to letter with PDI sale questions

Peterborough Examiner - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$598

Reach: 19693 Page: A4

Re: Two PDI questions for council, mayor, Nov. 15, 2016 PDI faces stable revenue but increasing costs, with normal cost increases as well as infrastructure renewal in the coming years. Growth won't be able to help offset these increases under City ...

Energy Ministry inviting input

The Timmins Daily Press - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Alan S. Hale

Ad Value: \$196

Reach: 9196 Page: A3

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Tips for saving energy and cash this winter | (CHEXTV)

www.chextv.com - Wed Nov 16 2016

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Under the Paris climate accord, Canada has promised to reduce our greenhouse -gas emissions to 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030.

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Full Articles



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[Helping to cut hydro bills; South-WestOxford hosts public meeting to help residents learn about ways to reduce their energy usage and keep hydro bills in check](#)

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It's no secret that local residents are concerned about the numbers on their **hydro** bills.

South-West Oxford Township is hosting a public meeting to equip residents with all the knowledge possible to make opening those bills a bit more palatable.

The township's **energy** committee, tasked with promoting **energy** efficiency and working on municipal conservation at all levels, is hosting the event.

"We're getting a lot of people talking about (how) they didn't understand their **hydro** bill. And 'why is my hydro bill going up?' is a more common question," said Jim Pickard, township councillor and committee chair.

The work of the **energy** committee, which includes running **energy** audits on all municipal facilities and drafting an **energy** plan for the township, has been recognized with awards from **Ontario Power Authority** and RTH, Pickard added.

The session intends to dispel any mysteries around reading a **hydro** bill, and highlight ways to save money on that bill, mainly via **energy** conservation.

"We want to have a discussion about what they can do everyday to reduce their usage. A good example is time of use, using hydro when it's less expensive, (or increasing) insulation or caulking windows," Pickard said.

It's putting control back in the hands of residents - at least as much as possible when it comes to the charges on a **hydro** bill.

"The tools are already there, but we haven't given people information on how to use it. By that, I mean specifically the **smart meter**," said Jay Heaman, manager of strategic initiatives for Oxford County and one of the evening's presenters.

He's reduced usage in his own home drastically and wants to help others do the same. Six guests at the meeting will be randomly chosen to receive one-on-one consultation to help reduce usage - and by extension, their bills.

"We have to start somewhere. My experience is that once you get people logged onto their smart meter, and they start to see their own consumption show up, they make that change," Heaman said.

A 30 to 50 per cent reduction on annual usage is an attainable goal for the average household, Heaman said.

"People don't realize how significant small devices that are on 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, how much they contribute (to usage)," he said.

And it's always important to stay accountable - Heaman said his wife now notices if he forgets to unplug an appliance or turn off a light.

The opportunity to learn is not just for residents in South-West Oxford. Anyone can come to the meeting, provided they want to learn about conserving **energy**.

"We've made it very clear that the evening is not about complaining about your **hydro** bill," Pickard said. "But we are going to explain the background behind why hydro costs have gone up."

He noted that it's likely bills will continue rising in future years.

"I think infrastructure is going to continue to require improvements. That's probably the biggest reason we got to where we are now," Pickard said.

But Heaman is confident that residents with newfound conservation knowledge can spread the word to help benefit others.

"The idea is that if I work with you and you learn what it means to use your **smart meter**, and how your habits impact it, you're going to have that conversation with your friends and show them how it's done."

mstacey@postmedia.com

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TransCanada withdraws offer for gas shipping

National Post - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

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TransCanada Corp said on Tuesday it had halted an open season for a new, fixed-price toll on its **natural gas** pipeline from Western Canada to southern Ontario as the bids it received did not make the project viable. "The open season for the proposed service resulted in bids that fell well short of the volumes required to make the proposal viable," the company said.

TransCanada had asked shippers to sign up for a 10-year **contract** and pay between 75 and 82 cents per gigajoule, depending on volumes. The company also offered shippers the option to exit the **contract** after five years, with a two-year notice period. The option for a shorter term came after shippers pushed back against TransCanada's initial proposals for a 10-year toll, saying **rates** were still too high for such a long-term commitment. Reuters

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Mayor responds to letter with PDI sale questions

Peterborough Examiner - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

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Reach: 19693 Page: A4

Re: Two PDI questions for council, mayor, Nov. 15, 2016 PDI faces stable revenue but increasing costs, with normal cost increases as well as infrastructure renewal in the coming years. Growth won't be able to help offset these increases under City of Peterborough Holdings Inc. ownership since the PDI territory is surrounded by **Hydro One** territory. There will be new subdivisions built within the City of Peterborough that will actually be in **Hydro One** territory.

The situation that limits the growth of PDI is the same situation that makes the acquisition of PDI attractive to **Hydro One**. With **Hydro One** territory completely surrounding PDI, **Hydro One** growth through the acquisition of PDI can be supported through efficiencies realized by virtue of its size.

Because of our location, **Hydro One** would be willing to build a Regional Operations Centre in Peterborough to service this part of the province. This is a substantial economic development opportunity with an estimated economic impact of \$100 million to \$150 million over three years. The centre would be the base for the existing 70 **Hydro One** workers in the city, the existing 60 PDI workers plus 30 new jobs that would be created.

In addition, **Hydro One** has offered a 1 per cent distribution **rate** reduction for five years, followed by another five years with the **rate** increases capped at inflation. Over the 10-year period, a typical residential customer would save about \$500 compared to what they would be projected to pay under PDI **rates**.

Why PDI? The provincial government mandated that municipalities separate **electricity** distribution as independent companies, outside of the municipal

government. It's a business that provides a dividend to the City of Peterborough, which we use to reduce the property tax burden on residents. That dividend is decreasing. It is about \$1.2 million right now and is projected to decrease to \$700,000 in the next several years.

To stimulate more consolidation, the province is offering a time-limited tax break on the transfer of ownership. With the changing of the **electricity** distribution sector, PDI is a small company that is losing value. The longer we wait as the province encourages this shift, the more value we will lose for the property taxpayers of Peterborough.

With the \$105 million offer, we could reinvest the \$50 million to \$55 million net proceeds back into Peterborough Utilities for renewal **power** generation projects, which would generate about \$3 million in revenue annually for the City. The increased, stable, long term revenue source could be used to help with much needed capital work in our community.

Daryl Bennett, Mayor of Peterborough

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Energy Ministry inviting input

The Timmins Daily Press - Wed Nov 16 2016

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With **energy rates** and policy now heated political issues, the provincial government is currently in the process of drawing its next Long-Term **Energy** Plan.

That process is now into the public consultation phase, and there will be a meeting in Timmins on Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Days Inn.

The meeting will be more of an open house format where people will be able to come in and look at displays of information, ask questions, and leave their feedback for the government to consider.

The government has said the goal of the plan is to balance affordability, reliability, environmental impact, and First Nations engagement.

"Public discussions on the future of Ontario's **energy** system will help us build a plan to ensure the people of Ontario continue to benefit from a reliable supply of clean **electricity**," **Energy** Minister Glen Thibeault said in a statement. "I invite individuals across Ontario to share their thoughts and ideas."

For those not able to attend the meeting in Timmins on Wednesday night, there are other ways to leave your feedback.

A comment can be submitted to the Environmental registry at www.ebr.gov.on.ca using registry code 012 - 8840, by emailing ltep@ontario.ca, or by joining the online EnergyTalks discussion.

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Environment probes lack science 'rigour'; Young scientists tell PM that decision-making criteria needs to be based on facts

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A group of young scientific researchers has drafted an open letter to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expressing concern that current environmental assessments and regulatory reviews lack "scientific rigour."

The group, which purports to represent more than 1,000 researchers in Canada, makes a number of recommendations that it says will help rebuild public trust in the assessment processes.

The recommendations include having projects assessed by parties who have an arms-length relationship from proponents.

Another recommendation is that decision-making criteria be developed so decisions are based on science and fact.

The researchers also suggest that all information from the assessments should be made publicly available and that there should be public disclosure of all meetings among interested parties and members of the decision-making process.

They say they decided to draft the letter partly because they must live with the future effects of major projects that get approval.

"We are concerned that current environmental assessments and regulatory decision-making processes lack scientific rigour, with significant consequences for the health and environment of all Canadians," the letter reads.

The letter is addressed to Trudeau and several members of his cabinet.

The co-authors include researchers at the University of Victoria, Simon Fraser University, Western University, the University of Northern British Columbia and Dalhousie University.

The government set up a panel earlier this month to make recommendations on the role of the National **Energy** Board (NEB), which found itself in hot water over its review of the proposed **Energy** East pipeline project.

The NEB hearings on the project to ship Alberta oil to Saint John, N.B. was put on hold this fall after three of the panellists reviewing the project stepped down over an appearance of conflict of interest.

The project has faced stiff opposition from environmentalists and some First Nations leaders.

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Canada's emissions hypocrisy

National Post - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: Negative

Ad Value: \$7,776

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In a gratuitously spectacular display of counterproductive hypocrisy, an anticipated 225 Canadians will jet to Morocco to denounce the use of fossil fuels.

Canada's catalogue of participants is so large it takes up the better part of eight pages in the United Nations list of attendees. Australia's delegation can fit on two pages, as can China's, which has 38 times Canada's population and

immensely greater emissions issues to deal with. France, which hosted last year's conference, has five pages of names. While some Canadian delegates are footing their own bills, federal, provincial and municipal governments will pay the lion's share of costs.

The bloated size of the **crowd** extends a tradition started last year, when 335 Canadians attended the UN **Climate** Change Conference in Paris, including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who will not be at the follow-up event in Marrakech. It may be the Paris gathering was worth attending, as it supposedly set out a bold new direction for combating man-made **climate** change and signalled a global commitment to take decisive action. Optics aside, they weren't there to do serious work.

The details of a major international agreement, on **climate** change or anything else, are too complex to be solved in 10 days. The hard work is done well ahead of time, to avoid embarrassing national leaders in front of the cameras, either by problems that have not been resolved or because in the warm glow of the moment they make promises that contradict official policy or ignore the limits of the politically or physically possible.

The real issues are best solved by small gatherings of major players and senior aides. In the globalized era of the Internet, expertise can quickly be obtained by phone, email or live chat, a consideration that should have been front and centre, given delegates' professed concern about mankind's "**carbon footprint**."

The Marrakech summit is intended as a follow-up to last year's meeting, to begin to "operationalize" the Paris accord. Does that really require the presence of a small army of bureaucrats, activists, provincial and municipal representatives and security personnel, not to mention labour bosses from Unifor, the Canadian

Labour Congress, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers?

If these people are seized by the crucial matter of **climate** change, why are they not doing the hard unglamorous work of implementation, drinking bad coffee under depressing fluorescent lights in offices back in Canada?

We have seen grandiose pledges of environmental action at previous conferences going back to "Rio" (the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro) in 1992 and "Kyoto" in 1997. But governments, including our own, have consistently failed to deliver, and it is not a service to the Earth or taxpayers to pile new pledges on the heap instead of grinding out practical action plans at home. Especially given the self-indulgent atmosphere of UN conferences, which bear a greater resemblance to glittery film festivals than to a grim struggle to save the planet. Why is it they always seem to occur in glamorous tourist destinations like Paris or Marrakech rather than, say, Birmingham or Lille?

To be sure, the \$1 million Canada's government spent on Paris, including \$130,000 for meals and \$350,000 for hotels, is a drop in the \$300-billion bucket of federal spending, even if it's a worrying reminder of the disconnect between the public and private sectors, and the gap separating the privileged class from the rest of us, who lack the opportunity to blow thousands of dollars of someone else's cash on a jaunt to Morocco.

But the hypocrisy cuts deeper here. Nobody, except, oddly, the participants, could overlook the damage to the planet caused by hordes of hangers-on jetting across oceans and continents to preach restraint. It is just too easy for critics to jeer at this hypocrisy as proof that the alarmists don't really take global warming seriously. Why would any working Canadian leave their car at home and **crowd** onto a bus for the bleak commute through a wintry morning, knowing environmental evangelists think it's fine to fly 255 Canadians to Morocco for a week in the sun? Donald Trump was elected president because of disgust at

displays like this. Next time, send 20 people. Practise what you preach.

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Not a disadvantage - an opportunity

Woodstock Sentinel-Review - Wed Nov 16 2016

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: Patrick Derochie

Ad Value: \$146

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Lorrie Goldstein is wrong to suggest that the **climate** denialism of President-Elect Donald trump makes Canada ' s plan to price carbon and tackle **climate** action a competitive disadvantage. the truth is that trump ' s election presents an economic opportunity for Canada .

Neither party , democratic nor republican , committed to put a price on carbon pollution. Pricing systems in Canada ' s provinces were designed to maintain industry competitiveness without a U. s. price. there is also a global trend toward plummeting costs and surging investments in **renewable energy**. **Wind** and **solar** are fast becoming the cheapest new-build **electricity** on the planet while creating tens of thousands of new jobs. if the U. s. decides to scale back on renewables , Canada ' s **climate** policies make our country an attractive alternative for investment. the result of the U. s. election is bad news for U. s. federal emission reduction plans but it also marks an opportunity for Canada ' s leaders to benefit by building a thriving clean economy as america sorts out its priorities .

Patrick DeRochie

Environmental Defence

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