

Infomart Newsletters

From: Infomart Newsletters
Sent: April 25, 2018 7:54 AM
To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Morning News Clippings - Wednesday, April 25, 2018

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018
 Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 17 Results



MPP McNaughton Questions Minister of Finance on Natural Gas Costs, April 24, 2018 - YouTube

www.youtube.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

[Permalink](#)

Paul Crawford noted on Tuesday, April 24, 2018

OEB is mentioned.

MPP Monte McNaughton questions Ontario's Minister of Finance regarding the Kathleen Wynne government's cap-and-trade carbon tax and it's lack of transparency at Queen's Park on April 24, 2018.



PDI sale terms won't change: CAO; Hydro One has agreed to resume talks after earlier walking away from potential deal

Peterborough Examiner - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Byline: TAYLOR CLYSDALE PETERBOROUGH THIS WEEK

Ad Value: \$1,293

Reach: 19693 **Page:** A3

The sale of **Peterborough Distribution** Inc. (PDI) to **Hydro One** is back on, but the City of **Peterborough** is emphatic that the main points of the deal remain unchanged. It was revealed at a ...



Utility sale flip-flop leaves us with too many questions

Peterborough Examiner - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Ad Value:\$779

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"Unpack" used to be something you did after getting home from vacation. Now, a verb traditionally associated with sorting through two weeks worth of dirty laundry also refers to an analytical dive into the meaning and implications of complex ...



Orillia's electrical utility 'is not yours to sell,' citizen says - OrilliaMatters.com

www.orilliamatters.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

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More than two dozen concerned citizens attended Monday night's city council meeting in what was billed as a rally to urge council not to appeal the recent Ontario Energy Board (OEB) decision that nixed a potential deal between the city, Hydro One ...



Natural gas moving ahead in unserved area | Kincardine News

www.kincardineneews.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

Permalink

Further applications will be necessary now that EPCOR Utilities was recently chosen by the Ontario Energy Board to bring natural gas services to the South Bruce area.



HYDRO-MEDDLING'S PRICE

The Globe and Mail - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: James Kennedy

Ad Value:\$3,125

Reach: 309154 Page: A16

Re Bad Books (April 21): Your investigation into the "**Fair Hydro Plan**" (a.k.a. the Get Wynne ReElected **Plan**) was good to know, sad to read. Our increasing **electricity rates** were not ...



Do you have an overdue hydro bill? | CTV Northern Ontario News

northernontario.ctvnews.ca - Wed Apr 25 2018

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The province's ban on hydro companies disconnecting customers for late payments during the winter months comes to an end on May 1st.



West says NDP backs cap-and-trade

Sudbury Star - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Jamie West

Ad Value: \$300
Reach: 14934 **Page:** A10

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Wynne and Ford leave Ontario's outlook bleak



Tillsonburg News - Wed Apr 25 2018
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Bruce Power signs almost \$1B in major contracts



Owen Sound Sun Times - Wed Apr 25 2018
Tone: **Positive**
Byline: Rob Gowan

Ad Value: \$505
Reach: 13178 **Page:** A1 / Front

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Enbridge faces new Line 3 setback in Minnesota ruling - The Globe and Mail

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Enbridge Inc. shares tumbled more than 5 per cent Tuesday after a Minnesota ruling sparked fears about the viability of chief executive officer Al Monaco's signature growth project.



Greenpeace Stages Pipeline Protest

CTV NEWS CHANNEL - POWER PLAY WITH DON MARTIN - Wed Apr 18 2018, 5:00pm ET
Tone: **Neutral**
Byline: DON MARTIN

DON MARTIN: Well a protest at Canada's high commission was organized by Greenpeace. The program director there is Pat Venditti, and he joins us from our **London** bureau. Pat, first of all, how the heck did you guys get to the top of the ...



Braid: Is Canada 'broken' or just badly bent? | Calgary Herald

calgaryherald.com - Wed Apr 25 2018
Tone: **Neutral**
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Paul Crawford noted on Wednesday, April 25, 2018
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UCP Leader Jason Kenney recently prompted a Twitter uproar with one short

sentence: "Canada is broken."



Lack of pipelines, refineries will lower Canadian quality of life: analyst - 660 NEWS

www.660news.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

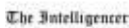
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Earth can be protected with resources used

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Byline: Don O'Neill

Ad Value: \$321

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Full Articles



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The sale of **Peterborough Distribution** Inc. (PDI) to **Hydro** One is back on, but the City of **Peterborough** is emphatic that the main points of the deal remain unchanged.

It was revealed at a special council meeting Monday that negotiations between the two parties had reignited, after it was announced on March 9 that talks had ended.

Although the reasons behind the ceasefire of negotiations has not been publicly discussed, chief administrative officer Allan Seabrooke said they won't affect the deal moving forward. "What council approved and what the offer was, that was our basis, and that has not changed," he said.

That deal included a sale of \$105 million with a five-year **rate** freeze for customers, as well as protections for jobs.

The CAO said those conditions cannot change during negotiations, and if they do the deal would have to go back to council for approval.

"Those are really the only two courses of action that could happen," he said, adding if a deal were reached outside those parameters "we would not have authority to be signing."

Seabrooke also gave some insight as to how the deal restarted.

He said that since the end of negotiations with **Hydro** One, ongoing since council approved the sale in 2016, both parties continued talking behind the scenes. Through those conversations, it was mutually agreed to continue work on the deal.

But Seabrooke emphasized that **Hydro** One won't gain an advantage in negotiations by temporarily calling off the transaction. "I don't think it changes anything," he said.

Seabrooke said it's too early to say if negotiations will stretch into 2019.

"When we have something concluded either way we will report it at that time," he said.

The decision to sell the **utility's distribution** to **Hydro** One was unpopular among some residents.

Sandra More is one of them. She's part of a citizen-activist group called Save PDI.

When she heard **Hydro** One was calling off the deal in March, she said, she was initially excited, but she's disappointed to hear it's back on. More says her group will continue to fight against the deal and to keep local **utilities public**.

The next steps, she said, will likely involve renewed conversations among the

group and an appearance at the next city council meeting on Monday.

"I'm not for privatizing publicly owned **utilities**," she said.

Coun. Keith Riel agrees.

He's been a vocal opponent of the sale since it was first introduced and he says at the special committee meeting he was "blind-sided" by the news the deal was still on.

"As far as I was concerned, it was a done deal," he said of the negotiations ending.

When **Hydro** One announced it was ending talks the city should have moved on, he said, especially since the majority of the **public** is against it.

He also said he learned Mayor Daryl Bennett met with **Hydro** One CEO Mayo Schmidt to continue negotiations, something he did not know about beforehand.

Why **Hydro** One would announce the deal was dead then return to the table with is unknown, adds Riel, but he said the company likely didn't see profit to be made in **Peterborough**.

Ron Butterworth, who worked in **Peterborough's utilities** for more than 30 years, said he's tired of negotiations happening behind the scenes and says the city has been using "backroom tactics" to get what it wants.

He also questioned why the city would not reconsider selling PDI after **Hydro** One announced it would not continue to seek a deal.

"Can they do this or should it be a fresh process, transparent and open to all?" he said.

Butterworth also says the city should have started a bidding process for the sale of PDI as there were other buyers who were locked out from making offers due to the closed process.

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Utility sale flip-flop leaves us with too many questions

Peterborough Examiner - Wed Apr 25 2018

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"Unpack" used to be something you did after getting home from vacation.

Now, a verb traditionally associated with sorting through two weeks worth of dirty laundry also refers to an analytical dive into the meaning and implications of complex situations.

Situations like **Hydro** One's on, then off, and now on again attempt to buy **Peterborough's electricity distribution** network.

How to "unpack" that one?

Hydro One first approached city-owned **Peterborough Utilities** Inc. (PUI) nearly four years ago with an offer for its "poles and **wires**" business.

Just six weeks ago, the behemoth **utility** company suddenly announced it was no longer interested in the \$105-million deal it had agreed to.

PUI officials were mystified. So was city council, which had narrowly approved

the sale over the objections of many very vocal protesters.

A second surprise came late last week when the **Ontario Energy Board** turned down **Hydro** One's **application** to buy **Orillia's distribution** network. Terms of that deal were very similar to what was proposed here.

Maybe the **OEB** ruling cleared up the local mystery. **Hydro** One had been getting resistance from the **OEB** on the **Orillia** purchase and might have anticipated rejection. Maybe, expecting a similar loss if it took the **Peterborough** purchase to a hearing, **Hydro** One managers decided to walk away rather than waste their time and money.

Except that the opposite seems to be true. City council heard Monday that **Hydro** One is back in the game. Its \$105-million offer stands and negotiations will restart.

The reasons behind **Hydro** One's flip-flop remain a mystery, at least for now.

We'll turn our "unpacking" attention to what the **Orillia** decision could mean for **Peterborough utility** customers.

One possibility is that **Hydro** One will be forced to improve its offer.

In **Orillia**, the **OEB** was concerned that **utility rates** would go up in the long run. A guaranteed one-per-cent **rate** drop in the first year followed by a virtual freeze for the next five years - offered both here and in **Orillia** - was not good enough.

The **OEB** looked at three other **distribution networks** **Hydro** One bought recently where projections apparently now show big increases 10 years out for some customers.

Hydro One couldn't, or didn't, prove that **rates** in **Orillia** wouldn't eventually go up beyond what the local **utility** would have charged. To get the **Peterborough** purchase approved it would have to.

But maybe it didn't answer the **OEB's rate** concerns in **Orillia** because it couldn't. Maybe selling to **Hydro** One wouldn't be best for **Peterborough utility** customers, regardless of what PUI managers have said all along.

It appears the **OEB** is not interested in arguments about coming capital costs and a declining **customer** base that **Hydro** One is better equipped to handle.

With that in mind, PUI managers have to prove they are right. They, not just **Hydro** One, need to answer the **OEB's** concerns about long-term **rate** hikes and show how this sale would limit them.

Without a sale PUI would potentially be out \$1 million worth of legal and consulting costs that have piled up so far, but decades of higher than necessary **rate** increases would be even more expensive.

The would-be partners in this four-year journey need to come up with the right answers. If not, their long-delayed deal will go on permanent vacation.

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Orillia's electrical utility 'is not yours to sell,' citizen says - OrilliaMatters.com

www.orilliamatters.com - Tue Apr 24 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

More than two dozen concerned citizens attended Monday night's city council meeting in what was billed as a rally to urge council not to appeal the recent

Ontario Energy Board (OEB) decision that nixed a potential deal between the city, Hydro One and Orillia Power.

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Natural gas moving ahead in unserved area | Kincardine News

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Further applications will be necessary now that EPCOR Utilities was recently chosen by the Ontario Energy Board to bring natural gas services to the South Bruce area.

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HYDRO-MEDDLING'S PRICE

The Globe and Mail - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: James Kennedy

Ad Value: \$3,125

Reach: 309154 Page: A16

Re Bad Books (April 21): Your investigation into the "**Fair Hydro Plan**" (a.k.a. the Get Wynne ReElected **Plan**) was good to know, sad to read. Our increasing **electricity rates** were not due to **Hydro** One or solely to the **Green Energy Act**, but rather to political meddling in the **energy** sector.

Aside from billions in extra financing costs, we can look forward to the "Clean **Energy** Adjustment" on our bill in addition to the "Global Adjustment." Equally, this "Market Distortion **Plan**" does nothing to promote conservation or stimulate innovation, in fact it does the opposite.

We need more fact-over-fiction debate in **energy** and other sectors if we hope to encourage sound policy and innovation, and in **energy**, to achieve our climatechange and affordability goals.

James Kennedy

Toronto

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Do you have an overdue hydro bill? | CTV Northern Ontario News

northernontario.ctvnews.ca - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Neutral**

The province's ban on hydro companies disconnecting customers for late payments during the winter months comes to an end on May 1st.

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West says NDP backs cap-and-trade

Sudbury Star - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Jamie West

Ad Value: \$300
Reach: 14934 Page: A10

Thanks to Elaine Blacklock for asking about the NDP platform on **climate** change.

I'm happy to respond.

I'm proud the **Ontario** NDP has publicly supported **cap-and-trade** for over a decade. We are committed to improving **Ontario's cap-and-trade** system to make it more **fair**, effective and transparent.

The **Ontario** NDP believes **cap-and-trade** revenues should: 1) assist families and communities facing disproportionate burdens during the transition to a low-carbon economy, such as lower-income, rural and **northern** communities (the NDP would dedicate at least 25 per cent of **cap-and-trade** revenues to this purpose); 2) provide for a "just transition" to a low-carbon economy for workers in high-carbon industries; and 3) fund programs to mitigate or adapt to impacts of **climate** change.

During the debate on the **cap and trade** legislation, the NDP proposed amendments to allow for direct cash rebates to low income, rural and **northern** families, and would implement such rebates if elected.

It's time to stop choosing between Conservatives - who have no **plan** to reduce carbon emissions, and Liberals - whose **plan** is hurting rural and **northern** families. Andrea Horwath and the **Ontario** NDP will make the changes to cap-and-trade that need to be made, and we will act immediately. That's change for the better.

Jamie **West**

NDP candidate, **Sudbury**

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Wynne and Ford leave Ontario's outlook bleak



Tillsonburg News - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Jim Merriam

Ad Value: \$371
Reach: 2347 Page: A4

The **Ontario** election campaign hasn't officially begun, but we have a clear symbol of the divide between the two traditional leading parties.

The symbol is **Hydro** One chief executive Mayo Schmidt, nicknamed the \$6-million man by PC leader Doug Ford.

The handle is based on Schmidt's annual salary and bonuses that total \$6.2 million. That is double his next highest-paid provincial counterpart, and 10 times that of some CEOs in smaller provinces.

As if that weren't shameful enough, the **Hydro** One board has increased any severance package.

These changes mean Schmidt would be eligible for a platinum handshake of \$10.7 million if he were terminated after a change of control of the company. The poor man would get only \$5.04 million if he were terminated under other circumstances, without a change of control.

Ford has promised to fire Schmidt and the entire board if he wins the election. That won't be easy since the Wynne Liberals sold off a majority share of the

utility, so the province does not have control.

Energy Minister **Glenn Thibeault** said Ford's **plan** will do nothing to help keep **electricity rates** low.

Schmidt's \$6 million is a drop in the bucket of the **utility**'s total annual compensation budget of more than \$400 million.

But the salary issue is more about optics than it is about saving the cash.

Ford's message is he'll be all over the financial excesses that have been a hallmark of this government.

An article in the National Post last week nailed another issue in the election. The headline read: "**Ontario** premier predicts 'vicious' election campaign, then gets vicious."

In the article, written by Kelly McParland, Wynne made it clear, as have others in her cabinet, that they're going to smear Ford as Donald Trump light, in an attempt to send him back to **Toronto** with his tail between his legs.

Wynne said her attack was to alert voters that the race was bound to be nasty. "It's crystal clear that this is going to be a vicious campaign," Wynne said.

As McParland pointed out, "to let people know things might get ugly, she got ugly."

I carry no brief for Doug Ford. In fact, he worries me.

But based on her record as an uninspired leader and incompetent manager, **Ontario** cannot afford to re-elect Kathleen Wynne.

One poll last week showed the NDP might actually finish second and the Liberals third, so low it would not retain official party status.

That NDP strength comes in part from worries about Ford and the low opinion **Ontario** voters hold for Wynne.

Andrea Horwath's actions in recent years have shown little of the promise of her early days as NDP leader, but she still might rise to the occasion.

The Trillium and Green parties have no chance of electing enough MPPs to form a government.

So, if we're stuck with Ford, we'll have to find a way to make the best of it.

The Liberals could use the next four years to lick their wounds, find a leader who actually cares about people and the entire province including rural **Ontario**, and come roaring back to save us from too much Ford damage.

It's a bleak outlook, but one to which we have no alternatives.

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THE SUN TIMES

Bruce Power signs almost \$1B in major contracts

Owen Sound Sun Times - Wed Apr 25 2018

Tone: **Positive**

Byline: Rob Gowan

Ad Value: \$505

Reach: 13178 Page: A1 / Front

Bruce **Power** has announced almost \$1 billion in contracts for its major

component replacement.

On Monday, the nuclear **power** plant operator announced advanced manufacturing contracts with four manufacturers totalling \$914 million.

"By signing these contracts today, we have secured Made in **Ontario** solutions for the components we will need to successfully complete our MCR projects, extending the life of our site to 2064," Bruce **Power** president and CEO Mike Rencheck said in a news release. "Today's announcements represent a \$914-million investment in **Ontario's** highly skilled workforce, which will create untold economic opportunities for the communities in which they operate for many years to come."

Among the contracts announced Monday were \$642 million to BWXT Canada Inc. to manufacture 32 steam generators at its Cambridge facility; \$144 million to Laker **Energy** Products for end fittings, liners and flow elements at its **Oakville** location; \$62 million for Cameco Fuel Manufacturing in Cobourg for calandria tubes and annulus spacers for all six MCRs; and \$66 million for Nu-Tech Precision Metals in Arnprior for the production of zirconium alloy pressure tubes for units 6 and 3.

The major component replacement is slated to get underway in 2020 beginning with Unit 6, with units 3 to 8 all to eventually be refurbished, extending the life of the site through 2064. Bruce **Power** plans to invest \$13 billion of its own money into the project, which actually began in 2016 with asset management program investments.

By extending the life of the site, the company has said it will create and sustain 22,000 jobs annually, both directly and indirectly, across **Ontario**, while investing \$4 billion a year into the **Ontario** economy.

Bruce **Power** spokesperson John Peevers said Tuesday that Monday's big announcement obviously has a major impact on the communities where the affected companies are located, but it is also good news for the region around Bruce **Power**.

"The further we get into the process and the closer we get to embarking on that first major component replacement the more spinoff there will be locally, the more incentive there is for some of these companies who haven't located in the area to do so," said Peevers. "We are hearing and finding that some of the people who have already set up shop in Bruce-Grey-**Huron** are looking to expand again."

So far more than a dozen suppliers of Bruce **Power** have expanded in the area, more than doubling the number of Bruce **Power** suppliers with a local presence with more expected to come.

"We are told there are more coming, and I have talked to some that are talking about expanding," said Peevers. "We expect that will continue this year."

Peevers said the contracts announced on Monday were some of the biggest for the major component replacement, but more contracts will be signed in the future.

"We have definitely knocked down some of the big ones, but there are still more to come," said Peevers. "We will continue to keep the community informed about those as we go."

On Monday, **Ontario Energy** Minister **Glenn Thibeault** called the announcement good news for the people of **Ontario**.

"Bruce **Power's** Life Extension Program makes sense for **Ontario**, and the announcements made today will create good jobs and benefit our economy for decades to come," Thibeault said in the news release. "Moving forward with the

refurbishment project is part of our government's **plan** to support care and opportunity, while producing affordable, reliable and clean **energy** for the people of **Ontario**."

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Enbridge faces new Line 3 setback in Minnesota ruling - The Globe and Mail

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Tone: **Neutral**

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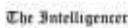
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(Re: Build long-distance **transmission** lines, April 19 edition) Cathy Orlando is at it again, arguing a case that is anti-pipeline by using inane sweeping generalities and predictions that are meant to strike fear into our hearts. She can predict into the future of the planet "long after fossil **fuels** have ceased to generate wealth."

It makes me wonder what she would say if she was working for the oil industry.

I know she means well, but someone should put a lid on her before she hurts herself with her reasoning. By that I mean she goes on to say "Canada should be building long-distance **transmission** lines to carry zero-carbon **electricity** to U.S. markets."

I would like to know where we would get that zero-carbon **energy** from and, if we have it in such abundance, why would we sell it when we can use it ourselves

and do away with our fossil and nuclear generators currently in **service**? She expounds theories about **climate** change and environmental issues like she is the only one doing anything about it.

I think we can all agree on protecting the Earth, but it can be protected while we use its vast and plentiful resources - just look at what has been done and science is developing processes that improve the **climate** around us everyday.

With the usual 'all due respect,' I think this group called Citizens' **Climate** Lobby Canada sounds like bunch of 'drum-bangers' craving attention and, in my opinion, your paper has given her more than deserved up to this point.

Don O'Neill

Belleville

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If Solar And Wind Are So Cheap, Why Are They Making Electricity So Expensive?

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