

Neil Brodie

From: Neil Brodie
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To: Rosemarie Leclair
Subject: Legislative Affairs

In Wednesday's meeting of the Standing Committee on Estimates, which is studying the Ministry of Energy, NDP MPP **Peter Tabuns** put forward a motion requesting the IESO, OPG, OEB and the MOE produce all documents related to the Fair Hydro Plan in a searchable PDF format within 10 days. The Liberal members of the committee voted to defer consideration of Tabuns' motion.

PC leader **Patrick Brown** released a threefold strategy to pursue an investigation into the Liberal government's "Unfair" Hydro Plan, as detailed in the Auditor General's special report.

- The PC Party is calling on the Information and Privacy Commissioner to investigate why the Wynne Liberals have delayed or refused to hand over emails related to the design of the plan to the Auditor General;
- The party is requesting the IESO to appear before the Standing Committee on Justice Policy to explain the directions it received from the government on the accounting methods behind the hydro plan; and
- Brown's chief of staff **Alykhan Velshi** wrote an [open letter](#) to Cabinet Secretary **Steve Orsini** to ensure that all emails and correspondence related to the Fair Hydro Plan are preserved.

Brown also raised concerns that a member of the media had his Freedom of Information requests [rejected by the AG](#) when seeking government correspondence between her office and the public service earlier this year.

Meanwhile, the **New Democratic Party of Ontario** is raising the alarm bell that, if elected premier, Brown would leave the Fair Hydro Plan in place. PC MPP **Todd Smith** told reporters Wednesday that the PCs would keep the plan in place while the party looked for efficiencies.

Question period

PC lead-off

Fair Hydro Plan emails

- PC leader Patrick Brown asked why the Ministry of Energy paid a law firm \$500,000 to help it compile emails for the Auditor General, but only provided her office with 13,000 of the two million emails that were identified — less than one per cent in 141 days.
 - o Alluding to the ongoing gas plants trial, Brown said it only cost \$10,000 to get Peter Faist to work his email magic.
- Brown asked if the premier's office instructed the Ministry of Energy to block or delay the release of these emails: "Who ordered the obstruction? Was it the Premier's office, or was it the Minister of Energy's own decision?"

- Energy Minister Glenn Thibeault said not all of the emails applied to the AG's actual search request. He committed to providing all additional records to the auditor by November 1.

NDP lead-off

AG report

NDP MPP Peter Tabuns asked about the extra \$4 billion Ontarians will have to pay on their hydro bills to "hide the devastating effect of [the Liberals'] \$40-billion hydro borrowing scheme from the public." He asked whether the premier personally green-lit the \$4 billion accounting trick.