

John Bozzo

From: John Bozzo
Sent: November 21, 2017 8:51 AM
To: ##Clippings_Distribution_List
Subject: Morning News Summary - Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Good morning,

Here's the summary of today's news clippings:

Main highlight:

[Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal: Energy rate meeting Nov. 29](#) (OEB mentioned)

- Story teeing up **OEB's community meeting** in Thunder Bay next week re: rate application by Hydro One Remote Communities
- Includes details of meeting, how ratepayers can participate and possible bill impacts (very similar to the media advisory we issued about the upcoming meeting)

Other news of note:

[Global News: Analysis – The power of change in Ontario's Power](#)

- Analysis piece that says Ontario's energy industry could be on the verge of disruption, much like other sectors such as transportation (taxis/Uber) and video (Blockbuster/Netflix)
- Says developments in energy storage could shake up power plant owners, meaning fewer ratepayers to share the burden of costs of transmission lines, nuclear refurbishment, etc.
- Says that's a problem that future provincial governments will have to contend with

[National Post: Sell surplus electricity at a discount to Ontario businesses, rather than exporting at loss, province urged](#)

- Ontario Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE) released a study saying cheap exports of surplus nuclear, solar, wind and hydro could have cost the province \$1.25 billion over 21 months
- OSPE says instead of incurring such losses, Ontario should make its surplus clean electricity available to businesses at a discount

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Morning News Clippings

powered by: **infomart**

Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2017

Edited by: Paul Crawford (Paul.Crawford@oeb.ca)

[Contact Editor](#)

Clippings Summary

News - 14 Results



Energy rate meeting Nov. 29 | Local News | chroniclejournal.com

www.chroniclejournal.com - Mon Nov 20 2017
Tone: **Neutral**
[Permalink](#)

The Ontario Energy Board will be in Thunder Bay on Nov. 29 as part of a rate review process that could affect Hydro One customers.



Ontario urged to discount clean power to businesses

National Post - Tue Nov 21 2017

Tone: **Negative**

Byline: Geoff Zochodne

Ad Value: \$5,024

Reach: 159480 Page: FP4

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Town hall time for Wynne

Toronto Sun - Tue Nov 21 2017

Tone: **Neutral**

Ad Value: \$2,438

Reach: 171076 Page: A6

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Wynne faces voters at adversarial town hall; Issues at Toronto meeting ranged from health care to college strike to Hydro One

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Reach: 361323 Page: A8

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Premier Wynne takes town hall questions on college strike, hydro | Globalnews.ca

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thespec.com - Tue Nov 21 2017
Tone: **Negative** Reach: 90600

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northernontario.ctvnews.ca - Tue Nov 21 2017
Tone: **Neutral**
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A local Sudbury corner store, Gloria's Convenience, has been around for 65 years and will soon be closing its doors.



'Greening' our power grid could boost competitiveness while cutting carbon emissions

The Globe and Mail - Tue Nov 21 2017
Tone: **Positive**
Byline: DARWIN SMITH, THOMAS BAKER

Ad Value: \$17,781
Reach: 309154 Page: B4

The importance of unlocking a new wave of transformational infrastructure investment in Canada is critical across nearly every facet of our economy. Nowhere is this truer than within the **energy** sector where the debate has been dominated ...



Canada split over Keystone XL pipeline approval

THE NATIONAL - Mon Nov 20 2017, 10:00pm ET
Tone: **Positive**
Byline: RACHEL NOTLEY; LARRY WRIGHT JR.; BARACK OBAMA; JIM CARR

ROSEMARY BARTON (HOST): - It's Monday, November 20th and this is "The National." Tonight, Keystone XL is closer to moving Alberta oil to market, but is the controversial pipeline even necessary? - All right, now on to a major decision that could ...



'We are very pleased:' Notley says Nebraska's Keystone OK means energy security | CTV News

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Energy East is mentioned.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says Nebraska's decision to allow TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline to run through that state brings North

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Full Articles



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Cheap exports of surplus nuclear, **solar**, **wind** and **hydro power** could have cost **Ontario** as much as \$1.25 billion over 21 months, according to a new study released Tuesday by the **Ontario** Society of Professional Engineers (OSPE).

Depending on what the situation calls for, **Ontario**, Canada's most populous province, exports and imports **electricity** to and from neighbouring places such as Manitoba, Michigan, New York and Quebec, with exports outnumbering imports by roughly threeto-one in 2016 and the first nine months of 2017, the study showed.

But OSPE, a non-partisan group, said the province's exports of "clean" **electricity** over those 21 months - generated from **power** plants and sources that give off nearly zero greenhouse **gas** emissions - were worth plenty more than what **Ontario** received.

The **electricity** cost the province's **power** system a combined \$1.885 billion to produce, the study suggested, enough **energy** to **power** more than two million homes for an entire year. In return, somewhere in the range of \$637 million and \$1.15 billion in revenue was earned for the **power**, leading to a loss of between \$732 million and \$1.25 billion.

Rather than just taking those losses, the engineers say **Ontario** should make its surplus clean **electricity** available to businesses at a discount of less than two cents per kilowatt hour, allowing them to ditch fossil **fuels** they use for space heating or other forms of thermal storage, as well as to **power electric** vehicles and produce cleaner-burning hydrogen.

"Instead of exporting surplus clean **electricity**, our province has a special opportunity to use this **energy** as an economic driver - stimulating all-new waves of made-in-**Ontario** innovation and growth," says the report. "Failure to address these concerns encourages the migration of investment, industry, and jobs to neighbouring jurisdictions - including significant engineering positions and talent."

OSPE said its findings are based on an analysis of publicly available data put out by the agencies that run and regulate **Ontario's power** grid and **electricity** industry. The report notes that export revenue can help **Ontario** reduce losses, but that the province may be able to find a better use for the **power**.

"When we export clean **electricity** at low prices **Ontario** consumers and businesses are effectively paying for **electrical** capacity that contributes to the clean up of the **energy** systems of other jurisdictions," the report says.

This news is likely to grate on Ontarians, who have paid some of **North America's** highest **electricity** prices in recent years. The province's Liberal

government enacted a **plan** earlier this year that cut the household **power** bill by an average of 25 per cent, a direction that will cost billions of dollars in debt.

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Town hall time for Wynne

Toronto Sun - Tue Nov 21 2017

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Premier Kathleen Wynne fielded questions Monday night at a town hall on the college strike and **hydro**.

The event was the first in a series of town halls the premier will hold across the province to discuss fairness, a theme in her messaging this year and which will likely form a key part of her re-election platform.

Several of the roughly 200 attendees were college **students**, who return to classes Tuesday after a five-week strike by faculty.

The premier defended not intervening sooner by saying she was acting on advice she was given, though some **students** vocally disagreed.

The premier took about 90 minutes of questions on a wide variety of topics, from her government's marijuana policy to affordable child care and systemic anti-black racism.

She sparred the most with a representative of **Ontario** Proud, a largely social media-based anti-Wynne group that will be an official third-party advertiser in next year's election.

He asked how Wynne could justify the \$4.5-million compensation received in 2016 by **Hydro** One CEO Mayo Schmidt.

Wynne started talking about how her government reduced **hydro** bills by 25%, though he countered that bills will significantly increase following the election.

Another questioner criticized her privatization of **Hydro** One, which Wynne justified by saying it raised needed funds for infrastructure.

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Wynne held her first town hall at the Concert Hall on **Toronto's** Yonge St. on Monday night, facing 200 people - a few friendly, but many adversarial - and taking their questions for almost 90 minutes.

"I'm very upset about the way the health-care system has been gutted," said a man named Harold, who uses a motorized scooter after having "a chunk of my

foot amputated."

"That shouldn't have happened," Wynne told him.

Another man who has watched two massive **wind** turbines erected near his Priceville farm in Grey County complained the green-**energy** projects have "poisoned" the water table.

The premier asked him to leave his research paperwork with her staff.

Others in the audience bemoaned the Tarion home warranty program, the lack of \$10-a-day child care, anti-Black racism, HIV policies, the sale of the majority of **Hydro** One and **Ontario's** decision to have the government control the recreational cannabis market.

Ironically, one of the easiest questions for Wynne to answer came from an activist with **Ontario** Proud, an anti-Liberal Facebook group that backs the Progressive Conservative Party.

Brandishing a protest sign about excessive **electricity** bills, the young man asked Wynne why the CEO of **Hydro** One, which is still 49-per- cent owned by the province, earns \$4.5 million, 10 times the salary of his counterpart at **Hydro-Quebec**.

Because the young man's query echoed common Tory talking points, that allowed the premier to fall back on the well-worn responses she gives during question period in the Legislature about how the government is reducing **hydro** bills by 25 per cent.

Wynne faced far more difficult and emotional questions from college **students** furious that her government allowed the strike by their teachers to last five weeks.

"I'm so sorry," the premier told a weeping **student**.

Moderated by former Globe and Mail reporter Jane Taber, it was a well-organized event, but hardly as choreographed or scripted as a campaign swing would be.

The town hall is considered a government event, which means the costs were covered by taxpayers and not the **Ontario** Liberal Party.

There were no Liberal signs and the audience was not vetted as it would be at a partisan rally.

Wynne never once mentioned her party's name or the June 7, 2018, election - or indeed the names of Progressive Conservative Leader Patrick Brown or NDP Leader Andrea Horwath, her main rivals in the upcoming campaign.

Officials say similar town halls will be held across the province.

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'Greening' our power grid could boost competitiveness while cutting carbon emissions

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Ad Value: \$17,781

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The importance of unlocking a new wave of transformational infrastructure investment in Canada is critical across nearly every facet of our economy.

Nowhere is this truer than within the **energy** sector where the debate has been dominated by headlines related to prominent pipeline projects. But let's look at a different part of the **energy** industry - **electricity**.

Canada has one of the highest relative carbon intensities in the world, ranking 33 out of 35 OECD countries in greenhouse **gas** emissions per capita.

In a world of increased scrutiny, and costs, associated with carbon emissions, this puts us at a comparative disadvantage. Not to mention the impact of other pollutants often correlated with carbon emissions.

Of Canada's carbon emissions, fully 11 per cent comes from **power** generation, especially coal generation, which accounts for 8.5 per cent of emissions on its own.

"Greening" this generation could significantly improve our competitiveness.

However, this is not a straightforward task. **Electricity** demand and supply has a tendency to be mismatched. Renewable **electricity** sources, such as **wind** and **solar**, are intermittent; our demand is not. **Hydro** sources tend to be located far from major cities and other demand centres.

Great strides are being made in addressing historical technical and economic constraints to this challenge. **Wind** and **solar** costs have been cut by approximately twothirds over the past eight years as industry benefits from increased scale and experience. Storage is becoming increasingly prevalent as well; recent projects from the likes of Elon Musk in Australia and Puerto Rico being among the most highly publicized.

Canada has more opportunity than most to tackle this challenge.

Greening our grid is largely a **regional** challenge.

Nearly all of the coal-emitting generation capacity in Canada comes from just three provinces: Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

Meanwhile, other provinces have grids powered more than 80 per cent with **hydro** resources (Quebec, B.C., Manitoba and Newfoundland and Labrador).

Imagine a scenario where we could economically and technically transmit **power** across the country to exploit the abundance we have in some regions and relative scarcity in others. In fact, systems like this are either built or proposed in such places as China, Brazil, India and the Nordics.

Indeed, China's State Grid is in the middle of an enormous program investing around \$100-billion in more than 20 major high-voltage direct-current lines to **tie** the country's **energy** markets together.

And past generations in Canada have been pioneers in long-distance **electricity transmission**. However, a study a few years ago by the **Canadian** Academy of Engineering found that Canada had more **electrical** interconnections with the United States than between its provinces.

Despite the clear benefits and ability to improve our country's competitiveness, an initiative would still struggle to address many of the typical questions we trip up on when trying to build transformational infrastructure.

How can we work together to move projects in the national interest more quickly through environmental and other approval processes, while still meeting important obligations such as First Nations rights? How can we encourage co-operation across provinces in a sector that has traditionally been the domain of the provinces? How can we resolve competing land-use priorities? Who would pay for such an asset and who ultimately owns it, especially when government and **public-utility** budgets are tight? How are those owners compensated for their investment?

We have countrywide **networks** in most areas of our national economy. If cars, trains, airplanes, oil, **natural gas** and data packets can move easily across Canada, why not electrons?

Too often we are saying "no" to highly valuable opportunities for our country because we are not able to answer the questions above.

But we must; Canada is too big to think small.

Darwin Smith is a partner and managing director with the Boston Consulting Group and is a core member of BCG's **energy** practice; Thomas Baker is a principal with the Boston Consulting Group and is the firm's **North** American lead on clean **energy** and environment topics.

The authors are organizers of the CanInfra Challenge Ideas Contest.

The CanInfra Challenge is a sixmonth **public** contest developed by the Boston Consulting Group to seek out innovative ideas for transformational infrastructure in Canada, in partnership with other private-sector sponsors including Brookfield Asset Management. The Globe and Mail is the media sponsor. Throughout the contest period, The Globe and Mail and BCG will share a series of discussion pieces to advance the infrastructure conversation in Canada by talking with senior leaders in the infrastructure community and sharing insights from around the world.

For more details on the initiative, please visit caninfra.ca.

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Alberta Premier Rachel Notley says Nebraska's decision to allow TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline to run through that state brings North America closer to greater energy security.

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