From: Kevin McCarthy <kjmmusic@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 3:56 PM

To: Gregg A. Newhouse; Howard Smith; Jennifer Maddox; Paulette Mann; Michael Medina; Travis Bullock

Cc: Chris Yakabouski; David Ross; Thomas G. Benton; Kevin Marshall; Paul D. Trampe; Timothy J. McLaughlin; Gary Skinner; Wanda Parrish; Patrick White; Paulette Mann; Dave Hammond; Sean Fogarty

Subject: "Ontario Scraps the Green Energy Act" / "Green Energy Act axed" / "Ontario without wind"

Three different takes on the same story.

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Ontario Scraps the Green Energy Act (NewsOntario.ca) `

Ontario Scraps the Green Energy Act

Will protect consumers, restore municipal authority over energy projects

December 7, 2018 11:00 A.M.

Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines

TORONTO — Ontario's Government for the People is delivering on its promise to repeal the Green Energy Act, 2009, that led to the disastrous feed-in-tariff program and skyrocketing electricity rates for Ontario families.

"The Green Energy Repeal Act eliminates a piece of legislation that introduced disastrous changes to Ontario's energy system that led to rising electricity rates for families and businesses," said Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, Greg Rickford. "By repealing this act, we're restoring planning decisions to municipalities that were stripped by previous government and ensuring local voices have the final say on energy projects in their communities."

The Green Energy Repeal Act gives government the authority to stop approvals for wasteful energy projects where the need for electricity has not been clearly demonstrated. This will put the brakes on additional projects that will add additional costs to electricity bills that the people of Ontario simply cannot afford. Along with repealing the Green Energy Act, the new legislation gives municipalities the final say over the siting of future energy projects in their communities.

"AMO is pleased that by repealing measures of the Green Energy Act, Bill 34- Green Energy Repeal Act, restores local planning powers," said Mayor Jamie McGarvey, Town of Parry Sound and President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. "Renewable energy projects should be guided by the ambitions and visions of communities and the people who live there. They should not be imposed."

The government has committed to lowering hydro bills by 12 per cent. Actions taken to date include:

- Amending the Ontario Energy Board Act, 1998, to require the Ontario Energy Board to exclude any compensation paid to Hydro One's Chief Executive Officer and other executives from customer rates for Hydro One.
- Cancelling more than 750 wasteful energy contracts to save $790 million for Ontario electricity customers.
- Establishing a new leadership team at Hydro One that will consider Ontario's electricity customers in all of its planning. This will lead to a more efficient and affordable electricity system over time.

Green Energy Act axed

Sootoday

Village Media

7 December 2018

The Green Energy Act is no more, having received Royal Assent.

That means local municipalities will have the power to block unwanted wind and solar farms, says a government news release.

"The Liberal's Green Energy Act took powers away from municipalities to stop expensive and unneeded energy projects and led to skyrocketing electricity rates for Ontario families," said Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli. "Under the previous government, energy rates tripled, driving manufacturing jobs out of Ontario and hurting hardworking families."

Fedeli says the repeal gives the government the authority to stop approvals for energy projects where the need for electricity has not been demonstrated.

"The Green Energy Act represents the largest transfer of money from the poor and middle class to the rich in Ontario's history," said Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. "Well-connected energy insiders made fortunes putting up wind-farms and solar panels that gouge hydro consumers in order to generate electricity that Ontario doesn't need.

"One of the first actions your government took was to cancel 758 expensive and wasteful energy projects as part of our plan to cut hydro rates by 12 per cent for the people of Ontario, saving $790 million for electricity customers," said Rickford. "The days of sweetheart deals for energy insiders and unpopular projects forced on local municipalities are over."

Sootoday

Ontario without wind

Energy Perspectives Blog

Parker Gallant

21 November 2018

If the then Liberal Ontario government had decided not to proceed with the GEA (Green Energy Act) which focused on wind and solar sources, one could justififably wonder how the cost of electricity might have been affected. If we had instead focused on reliability and reasonable costs, Lennox coupled with our other sources, could have easily replaced the intermittent and unreliable generation from wind turbines.

The math: Taking the wind power generation of 53.1 TWh over the nine years out of the picture would have meant those 18.7 TWh of spilled hydro and the 2 TWh of steamed-off nuclear could have reduced

the net contribution of wind to 32.4 TWh. That would have saved ratepayers $1.8 billion i.e., (cost of 20.7 TWh of IWT generation @ $135 million/TWh = $2.8 billion, less the cost of 18.7 TWh of spilled hydro @ $46 million/TWh [$875 million] and less the cost of 2 TWh steamed off nuclear @ $70 million/TWh [$140 million])

The remaining 32.4 TWh of wind power generation could have been provided by generation from the OPG Lennox plant (capacity of 2,100 MW). It would have eliminated the $800 million cost of the 6.9 TWh of curtailed wind as it would have produced power only when needed. Now if it ran at only 20 percent of its capacity (gas or oil,) it could have easily generated the remaining 32.4 TWh generated by IWY and accepted into the grid.

Note: No doubt much of that 32.4 TWh wind power generation was presented at times IESO were forced to export it at a substantial loss. For the sake of this calculation we will assume Ontario demand would have required it.

More math: As noted in the earlier article "idling" ** costs for Lennox are fixed at $4.200 per MW per month, making the annual idling costs about $106 million or $8.8 million per month. Running at 20 percent of capacity would result in idling costs per MWh of generation of about $30/MWh.

Adding fuel costs*** of about $40/MWh would result in total costs (on average) of approximately $70/MWh or 7 cents/kWh. Generation at 300,000 MWh per month on average would have generated 32.4 TWh over those nine years (2009–2017). The cost of that generation would be approximately $2.3 billion whereas the 32.4 TWh generated by IWT in those same nine years cost ratepayers about $4.4 billion.

So, without any wind power generation at a cost of $8 billion over the nine years, Ontario ratepayers would have saved almost $4.9 billion:

- $1.8 billion using spilled hydro
- $200 million using steamed-off nuclear
- $800 million paying for curtailed IWT generation and
- $2.1 billion by utilizing Lennox

Beyond the dollar savings, the lack of subsidized wind power would also have other effects like:
zero (0) noise complaints, instead of the thousands reported,
elimination of the slaughter of thousands of birds, bats and butterflies
prevented the possible disturbance/contamination of well water
Again, that cost-benefit study might have proved useful!

*1 TWh is about the amount of energy 110,000 average households in Ontario consume annually.

**Idling costs of the TransCanada gas plant next door to Lennox is $15,200 per month per MW or 3.7 times more costly than Lennox.

***Lennox has the ability to generate electricity using either natural gas or oil meaning if a fuel priced spikes, as natural gas did during the "polar vortex" in 2014, Lennox can shift to the cheaper fuel.

Kevin McCarthy

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540-412-6291 (h)

703-473-3883 (c)

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