

Reply-To: mcclenaghan@execulink.com
Sensitivity: Normal
Importance: Normal
To: "Charlene Rogers" <charlene@lao.on.ca>
Subject: Fw: OPA and Next Week
From: "Theresa McClenaghan" <mcclenaghan@execulink.com>
Date: Wed, 7 Dec 2005 20:39:31 +0000 GMT

Please print email and attachment for file. Theresa

-----Original Message-----

From: mark winfield <markw@pembina.org>
Date: Wed, 07 Dec 2005 10:50:30
To: shawn.patrick.stensil@yto.greenpeace.org, jose@davidsuzuki.org, "Jack Gibbons" <jgibbons@pollutionprobe.org>, "theresa McClenaghan" <mcclenaghan@execulink.com>, keith@torontoenvironment.org, dave.martin@yto.greenpeace.org
Cc: kogilvie@pollutionprobe.org, rsmith@environmentaldefense.ca
Subject: OPA and Next Week

Dear All,

It looks like the OPA will deliver its 'advice' to the province on the 9th, and I would expect a Star 'leak' over the weekend and a public release on Monday or Tuesday. I am already getting quite a few media calls in anticipation.

I was thinking it would be useful to share both plans and availability next week.

We (PIAD) will do an advisory on Friday on availability to comment and again once we know the actual release date, and will try to turn around a quick analysis for release the day following when we have the document. I am still inclined to think that if we can pull off a next day media briefing at QP in response that would be best.

The best guesses on content of the OPA report are a major focus on nukes including new build, some attention to wind, and very much downplaying the efficiency potential.

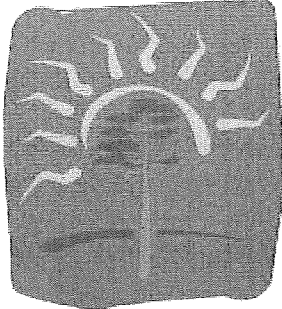
Our key ask will be process - a commitment of the OPA plan to a joint EAB/OEB hearing as Peterson did with the DSP. Please see the attached letter sent to the Premier by PIAD, EDC, PP and OCAA the week before last on this following-up our meeting with the Premier's office.

Mark

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November 29, 2005

The Hon. D. McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Whitney Block
Queens Park
Toronto, Ontario

By Fax: 416-325-9895

Dear Mr. Premier,

We are writing to follow-up our meeting with your staff and staff from the Ministries of Energy and of the Environment earlier this week. The focus of the discussion was the province's policies related to electricity.

We have strongly supported the government's commitment to phase-out coal-fired electricity generation in Ontario. We have also welcomed the government's efforts to bring greater coherence to province's electricity policies.

However, we are increasingly concerned regarding the lack of transparency in the Ontario Power Authority's (OPA) development of its supply mix advice to the government. The OPA's advice is scheduled to be delivered to the government on December 1st. We note, for example, that formal public consultations by the OPA have been limited to a single one-day invitation-only event.

The OPA's recommendations, which are expected to provide the basis for the development of a long-term integrated power system plan, are likely to imply major direct or indirect investments by the province in new electricity supplies. It is vitally important that the need for, and environmental and economic risks associated with these options, be fully analyzed in a rigorous and open manner,

before final decisions, carrying implications potentially extending over generations, are made.

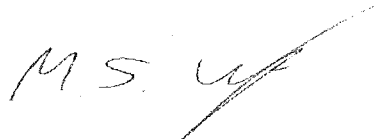
In this context, we note that in the former Minister of Energy publicly committed to an "open and public debate" on the future role of nuclear power in Ontario. Consistent with that commitment we ask that, upon receipt of the OPA's advice, the government make no immediate commitments to the directions laid out by the OPA. Rather, we request that the government commit to designating the integrated system plan to be developed by the OPA as undertaking for the purposes of the *Environmental Assessment Act*, to be subject to a joint board hearing of the Ontario Energy Board and Environmental Review Tribunal. We believe that this would be the most efficient and effective way of fulfilling the government's commitment to an "open and public debate."

In the meantime, we recommend that, consistent with its desire to establish a 'conservation culture' in Ontario, the government proceed as rapidly as possible on the 'no regrets' options of improving Ontario's energy efficiency and productivity, the rapid expansion of low-impact renewable energy supplies, and securing gas-fired (or equivalent environmental performance) base-load replacement supply for coal-fired generation.

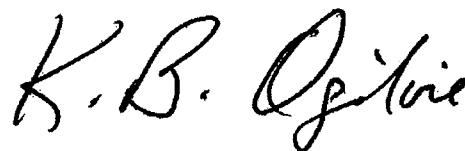
In support of these directions, the government should established aggressive minimum conservation, efficiency, renewable power and combined heat and power targets for the OPA's plans for 2015, 2020 and 2025.

We look forward to continuing to work with your government on energy and electricity policy matters. We would be pleased to discuss our views on these matters with you, the relevant ministers and their staff.

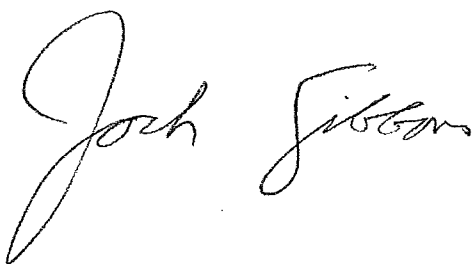
Yours sincerely,



Mark Winfield, Ph.D.
Director, Environmental Governance
The Pembina Institute



Ken Ogilvie
Executive Director
Pollution Probe



Jack Gibbons, Chair,
Ontario Clean Air Alliance



Rick Smith, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Environmental Defence Canada

Cc: The Hon.D.Cansfield, Minister of Energy.
The Hon.L.Broten, Minister of the Environment.