

Minutes from July 24 Electricity Strategy Meeting

Present: José de Echave (DSF), Jack Gibbons (OCAA), Jamie Kirkpatrick (Sierra Club), Rick Lindgren (CELA), Dave Martin (Greenpeace), Keith Stewart (WWF-Canada), Mark Winfield (Pembina), Hugh Wilkins and Robert Wright (Sierra Legal).

1. Debrief on recent events

- **EBR Submissions:** Rick will ask Blair Rohaly at the Min. of Environment regarding how many submissions they received. If a respectable number, we will consider a press release on this.
- **Press release on demand response:** No pick-up because the system handled the heat well and imports were fairly low. Could re-package and re-do later if the system runs into trouble.
- **WWF will be hiring Paul McKay** to help with media – details to follow.
- **OCAA released a report** on how to maintain coal phase-out – good article in Star.
- **EA of rad waste proposal at Bruce:** Hearing on guidelines for this EA will be held in late October, Dave will keep us updated.

2. Air Strategy Group meeting with Gord Miller on morning of July 24:

The OMA invited the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario to this meeting to talk about the government's electricity plan. Miller said that he wouldn't release a 'special report' on the electricity plan this Fall, due to capacity constraints (his annual report comes out in October) and because the announcement is so recent, but did not close the door on such a report at a later date.

He did, however, express 'surprise' that no one had yet asked his office to conduct a review of the government's announcement, given that the coal phase-out was central to:

1. Meeting Ontario's obligations under the Ozone Annex to the Canada-U.S. Great Lakes Air Quality Agreement ;
2. Ontario's Mercury Reduction strategy;
3. Ontario's NOx/SOx strategy;
4. Ontario's climate change strategy.

He said it would be reasonable to ask, in essence, where is the government's Plan B on these items if the coal phase-out was off the table, and that if he did receive such a request for review he would certainly have to act on it. Jack vigorously rebutted Miller's musings re. putting pollution control equipment on existing coal plants.

Keith (WWF) and **Hugh** (Sierra Legal) were tasked with drafting such a request, which will be circulate for health and cottager groups (as well as ENGOS) to sign on to, with a possible media event in mid- to late-August.

3. Legal Strategy Update

Rick will confer with Hugh and Robert this week on drafting a written opinion on legal options re. the EA for the IPSP.

4. Parkdale High Park by-election

Greenpeace and WWF circulated a proposed mini-campaign for the by-election by e-mail.

OCAA will act independently, by surveying candidates on if they support a legally-binding regulation to close Nanticoke by 2009, and will develop a pamphlet / fact sheet on Nanticoke for the by-election. Jack urged others to focus questionnaire on whether the candidates support a full EA of the IPSP (easy to explain, puts them on the defensive).

Jose will see if DSF wants to join the PHP working group.

Keith will see if TEA wants to join the PHP working group.

Jamie has organized a Sierra Club volunteers meeting in PHP for 7 pm on August 1.

WWF, Greenpeace and Sierra Club (plus anyone else who's interested) will meet at Greenpeace on August 3 at 3 pm to discuss plans further.

5. Liberal summer BBQs

Possible actions under consideration.

Next meeting: teleconference on August 14 at 2 p.m.

p.s. following the meeting I checked the OPA web-site re. consultation on the IPSP. The only thing they have scheduled is:

Load Forecast webconference

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When:

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Where:

Province-wide

Event Details:

TBD