

Rick Lindgren

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Sent: Tuesday, July 04, 2006 3:23 PM
Attach: EA EBR Comment letter.doc
Subject: Minutes from today's teleconference on ontario electricity strategy

**Minutes from Conference Call on Ontario Electricity Strategy
 July 4, 2006**

Present: Mark Winfield, Julia Langer, Jose Etcheverry, Shawn-Patrick Stensil, Rick Lindgren, Jack Gibbons, Keith Stewart

1. Debrief from last few weeks
 - o Government has been astute in minimizing the nuclear component of their plan.
 - o We have gotten decent pick-up in media, but more work to be done.
 - o Insiders say decision to exempt IPSP from EA was based on a political calculation that it takes away energy from the Tories as an issue. Cabinet was split, but our side lost.
 - o Our June 22 media event went reasonably well (CP, Broadcast News and Global TV) and also kept it alive in minds of reporters/pols.
 - o Greenpeace met with John Tory on June 20. He has an interest in the process (likes Walkerton-style hearings idea) but is firmly pro-nuke.
 - o Greenpeace met with Premier on June 22. Seems like the government is primarily interested in being able to say 'we have met with Greenpeace'. Have also started saying 'I don't like nuclear but...'
 - o John Tory has started trying to get some profile in the electricity debate.
2. EBR Posting
 - o We need to get in lots of comments on exemption of IPSP on EA. **Mark** to draft suggested text for the e-mail (attached to this message as Word doc).
 - o **Shawn-Patrick** to re-circulate on Energy-vision, **Keith** to put on CAN e-list, **CELA** and **GP** to send out to their lists. Check if NDP/Tories will do so as well (**no-one** was assigned this task).
 - o **Rick** will do a FAQ on why they don't have to exempt IPSP from EA, and we will circulate as briefing note to journalists, politicians and ECO staff.
 - o If we can get lots of submissions, try to convince Gord Miller to do a special report for Fall session of legislature (opens September 25). **Rick/Mark** to follow up with ECO.
3. Additional media stuff for the next 2 months.
 - o **Keith** to draft op/ed based on our recent report/letter.
 - o **Jose** to look into a special version of Science Matters (Suzuki column) and getting into local 905 papers.
 - o **Julia** to ask for meeting with Globe / Star editorial boards for the fall. Play on fact they have already met with CNA.
 - o **Keith** to draft up a presser on Demand-Response for the next time IESO says something stupid

about keeping the lights on. Praise Toronto Hydro and challenge OPA / Hydro One / other LDCs on where is their demand response program.

- o **Julia** said WWF is considering contracting specialist to do nothing but media on electricity file.

4. Building Code

- o Energuide 80 by 2012 not good enough. Need rolling standards (constant improvement); Quebec has committed to R2000 by 2008.

5. IPSP plan development

- o **Rick** will write a letter for sign-on on the process.
- o We should all go to gather intel, push our agenda. Looks like workshops starting in August on demand forecast, then CDM, supply options and transmission in the Fall. Plan won't be done until March 2007, when it goes to OEB.

6. Standard Offer Contracts

- o OPA guy was on Metro Morning this morning trashing SOC's and saying householders putting up solar panels is a 'problem', demonstrating they really don't get it and the guy who is supposed to design SOC's doesn't want them to work.
- o **Jose** to follow up with CBC on getting entire solar revolution series on a stand-alone page and how we might be able to use it.

7. Brampton incinerator

- o **Jose** to circulate ppt from local organizer.

8. Liberal BBQs

- o **Greenpeace** is looking into developing an activist kit for people to take to Lib fundraisers over summer. Jack suggested hiring Paul McKay to organize.

9. Legal options

- o **Rick** will provide a legal opinion within a couple of weeks on whether to pursue a Judicial Review or a Rule 14 Application.
- o **No-one** was assigned to getting a motion before the OEB asking it to clarify its role in the IPSP (shall we ask David Poch to do this?).

10. WWF Proposal on longer-term strategy

- o **Julia** circulated an outline of WWF's campaign proposal and is looking for feed-back.

11. Parkdale High-Park by-election.

- o **Greenpeace** will be active in Parkdale-High Park.
- o **OCAA** is doing a new Nanticoke pamphlet in Fall, will circulate in Parkdale - High Park.
- o **Keith** will ask Sierra Club about their plans (see next message).

12. Next meetings

- o Teleconference on July 24 at 10 a.m. to talk about Parkdale - High Park by-election and Liberal summer BBQs.
- o Next face-to-face meeting: some time in August.
- o Keith Stewart, Ph.D.
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- o Fight climate change one piece of sky at a time at www.saveourclimate.ca

On June 12, 2006, the government of Ontario secretly exempted the Ontario Power Authority's proposed \$80 billion nuclear energy plan from the province's Environmental Assessment Act.

In response to the widespread criticism of this decision, the government has posted a notice of the exemption on the *Environmental Bill of Rights* website, inviting public comments on the exemption. The EBR Registry Posting is at

<http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envregistry/028017ex.htm>

It is vitally important that as many comments as possible be filed opposing the exemption by the July 20th deadline for comments. This is the best chance to get a proper public review of the Power Authority's nuclear power plan.

Address your comments to:

The Hon. Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Bldg
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

The Hon. L. Broten,
Minister of the Environment
135 St Clair Ave. W.
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5

Some key points you might want to make in your letter.

- You are writing to express your opposition to the government's exemption of the Ontario Power Authority's proposed Integrated Power System Plan from the requirements of Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act*
- a review under the Ontario Act, as was done by the government of Premier Peterson with the Ontario Hydro Demand Supply Plan in 1989, is the best way for Ontarians to understand the risks and costs of Power Authority's proposals, and to assess the viability of alternatives to them.
- the exemption granted by the government on June 12 should be withdrawn immediately, and that the Power Authority's \$80 billion plan be subject to a full provincial environmental assessment.
- The government should pursue an aggressive strategy on energy efficiency and low-impact renewable energy sources while the Power Authority's nuclear plan is under review.

Make sure you reference the EBR Posting Number in your letter (XA06E0006)

A copy of the letter must also go to the contact person listed in the Notice (Blair Rohaly, Strategic Policy Branch, Ministry of the Environment, 135 St Clair Ave. W. 11th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5 (blair.rohaly@ene.gov.on.ca))

Make sure you send a copy of your letter to the office of the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (Commissioner@eco.on.ca) as well.

Additional information on the exemption is available on the website of the Canadian Environmental Law Association at

<http://www.cela.ca/publications/cardfile.shtml?x=2654> a legal brief is available at
<http://www.cela.ca/publications/cardfile.shtml?x=2647>