

Resolution Requesting that Ontario Cancel RFP for Added Wind Power Generation

Whereas:

The Independent Electrical System Operator, under Ministerial Directive, issued an RFP for additional renewable energy generation including 300 MW of wind generation and is considering issuing further RFPs for 2016; and,

Whereas:

The December 2015 Auditor General's report confirmed that Ontario is generating surplus electricity with capacity increasing by 19% in the last 8 years while demand fell by 7.5% in the same period. Additional capacity is not required at this time; and,

Whereas:

The Auditor General also reported that the existing Feed In Tariff (FIT) contracts mean that Ontario power consumers will pay a premium of \$9.2 billion for renewable power with wind power pricing that is double the prices paid in other jurisdictions; and,

Whereas:

The Ontario Chamber of Commerce reports that the escalating price of electricity is undermining their members' capacity to grow, hire new workers, and attract investment, and that Ontario's electricity costs are among the highest in North America, making the province uncompetitive for business growth; and,

Whereas:

Adding wind to Ontario's grid drives CO₂ emissions higher. The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers estimated that wind with natural gas backup produces base-load electricity at about 200 grams of CO₂ emissions/kWh compared with the current system average level of 40 grams CO₂ emissions/kWh ; and,

Whereas:

Nature Canada reports that wind power facilities have a substantial negative impact on endangered species including migrating bats and birds as well as destroying habitat for species at risk; and,

Whereas:

Wind power is an intermittent source of electricity generation meaning that it cannot be used to replace dependable generating capacity without natural gas as a back-up ; and,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of XXXXXXXX requests:

1. That the Province of Ontario exercise its rights in Section 4.13 (12) of the current LRP I RFP to 'cancel the process at any stage and for any reason' and not issue any new wind generation contracts;
2. That the Province of Ontario hold off any further renewable procurement process until the capacity is actually required and focus on sources that will actually reduce carbon emissions;
3. That the IESO review the outstanding FIT contracts that have not achieved 'Commercial Operation', and vigorously enforce the terms of the FIT contract with a view to eliminating further expensive wind generation capacity being added to the grid.

Send to:

Clerk, Municipality of XXXXXXXXXXXX

Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario – premier@ontario.ca

cc: Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy – bob.chiarelli@ontario.ca

cc: XXXXX, MPP XXXXXXXXXXXXX

cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario - cathiebrown@amo.on.ca