

Question #1: Should Ontario adopt a policy of pursuing all cost-effective energy conservation and efficiency measures before spending taxpayer or ratepayer dollars on new electricity generating plants or expanded gas pipelines?

Our government has created a culture of conservation in Ontario. We know that the quickest way to lower your electricity bill is to conserve energy – which is why we take a “conservation first” approach.

Our investments in conservation programs and smart meters have saved over 1,900 Megawatts of power since 2006 -- that’s the equivalent of taking 600,000 homes off the grid.

We are currently reviewing the Long-Term Energy plan with a key focus on conservation. As we continue to build a clean, reliable and affordable system with a diverse mix of energy sources, conservation will play a leading role.

Unfortunately, the Progressive Conservatives have opposed all conservation initiatives in the past 10 years. They recently released a position paper on energy in Ontario, and did not mention the word “conservation” once.

When Tim Hudak was a Minister during the Mike Harris years, they had no plan for conservation and no plan for supply. From 1996-2003 overall installed generation capacity fell 6% while provincial demand grew by 8%. Instead of investing in conservation and clean energy sources, the PCs increased the used of dirty coal by 127%.

Question #2: Should Ontario seek to negotiate a long-term contract with Quebec for hydro-electric imports that can keep our lights on at a lower cost than new or re-built nuclear reactors?

Ontario is in the best supply situation we have been in for years. We currently export electricity, which is good for Ontario, both financially and for system reliability. In fact, in January alone we generated over \$56 Million in revenue from exporting our electricity.

Our strong supply situation allows us to generate revenue for Ontario; in January we exported to Quebec, who was experiencing record peak demand due to colder than normal temperatures.

Exports help cover system costs that otherwise would have been paid by Ontario consumers. Since 2006, electricity exports have generated over \$2 Billion for Ontario ratepayers.

Ontario needs enough supply to meet our needs on the hottest days of the summer and the coldest days in the winter.

We are currently reviewing the Long-Term Energy Plan to determine what our energy mix will look like over the next 20 year. Our commitment is to continue to build a clean, reliable, and affordable energy system.

The Mitzie Hunter Campaign

