



Sault Ste. Marie Provincial By-Election Questionnaire

Question #1: Do you support Ontario Power Generation's proposal to raise the price of its nuclear electricity by 180% to pay for the continued operation of its high-cost Pickering Nuclear Station and to re-build the Darlington Nuclear Station?

Answer:

The Ontario PCs want to see an electricity system that's affordable for both families and businesses. Accounting for roughly 60 per cent of Ontario's electricity, nuclear is a one of the most reliable, affordable and clean sources of electricity in the world. Ontario's ratepayers will benefit from the continued operation of Pickering Nuclear Station and the refurbishment of Darlington Generating Station. It also means that Ontario will have the necessary base load of nuclear power for the next 60 years.

Question #2: Should the Government of Ontario seek to negotiate a new long-term electricity supply contract for Quebec water power which will allow us to close the Pickering Nuclear Station and lower our electricity bills?

Answer:

The Ontario PCs believe that we should make it a priority to use the hydroelectric power we already have. The Wynne Liberals seem to forget we have an incredible green energy source already that we're wasting: hydroelectric.

We see examples of this throughout Northern Ontario -Whitedog Falls Station and Caribou Falls Generating System near Kenora, McVittie Generating Station in Sudbury, and Nipissing Station.

In 2015, we spilled or abandoned 4.8 billion kilowatt-hours of energy from waterpower facilities that we bought and paid for decades ago. This is all because the Wynne Liberals are prioritizing more expensive, intermittent wind and solar power that we don't need. Until the Wynne Liberals stop signing bad contracts for power we don't need, hydro rates will continue to be unaffordable.

Question #3:Should Ontario take advantage of falling costs for wind and solar power and continue to build community scale renewable energy projects?

Answer:

The Ontario PCs believe that hydro is unaffordable for families and businesses. Recently, a leaked hydro document revealed that Kathleen Wynne's unfair hydro scheme will cause rates to skyrocket to the highest they've ever been just after the election. The crux of this mess is the Liberal government's Green Energy Act – which we should really call the Bad Contracts Act. Both the Liberals and NDP support these bad contracts.

In the past eight years the Liberals have given out sweet-heart deals to wind and solar companies that have jacked-up electricity rates, and that lock us in for 20 years – all for power that Ontario doesn't need.

In 2015, Ontario generated 145 terawatt-hours of energy from three of our main sources: waterpower, natural gas and nuclear, yet the province only consumed 137 terawatt-hours. We were over generating power that year, and this doesn't even account for the wind and solar power generated. If we have enough power, we shouldn't be building more extremely expensive wind and solar projects at a cost of billions of dollars. Until the Wynne Liberals stop signing bad contracts for power we don't need, hydro rates will continue to be unaffordable.