Ontario’s Electricity Options: A Cost Comparison

- Energy Efficiency
- Quebec Water Power – Spot Market Price: 2.1¢
- Quebec Water Power – Firm Contract: 2.2¢
- Quebec Wind Power: 5¢
- Ontario Wind Power: 6.3¢
- Ontario Solar Power: 8.59¢
- Price of Nuclear Power in 2019: 15.7¢
- Price of Nuclear Power in 2025: 16.5¢
Notes

Energy efficiency: In 2016 the Independent Electricity System Operator’s (IESO) average levelized unit energy cost (LUEC) of procuring a kWh of electricity savings was 2.1 cents. Independent Electricity System Operator, 2016 Conservation Results Report, pages 2 & 11.

Quebec water power – spot market price: In 2017 the average price of Ontario’s spot market electricity purchases from Quebec was 2.2 cents per kWh. Financial Accountability Office of Ontario, Electricity Trade Agreement: An Assessment of the Ontario-Quebec Electricity Trade Agreement, (Spring 2018), page 7.

Quebec water power – firm contract: On June 22, 2017 Hydro Quebec offered to sell Ontario 8 billion kWh per year, for 20 years, at a price of 6.12 cents per kWh. In August 2017 Hydro Quebec lowered its proposed price to 5 cents per kWh, but the Government of Ontario still refused to accept the offer. Letter from Steve Demers, Vice President, Hydro Quebec to Peter Gregg, CEO, Independent Electricity System Operator, (June 22, 2017); and Pierre Couture, “Hydro Quebec l’Ontario en ligne de mire”, Journal de Montreal, (August 16, 2017).

In 2017 the average price of Hydro Quebec’s short and long-term electricity exports was 4.7 cents per kWh. Hydro Quebec, Annual Report 2017, page 76.

Quebec wind power: In 2014 Hydro Quebec used a competitive procurement process to contract for wind power at an average generation cost of 6.3 cents per kWh. Hydro Quebec, Press Release, “Calls for tenders for the purchase of 450 MW of wind power: Hydro-Quebec Distribution accepts 3 bids totalling 446.4 MW”, (December 16, 2014).


Price of Nuclear Power in 2025: Ontario Power Generation has told the Ontario Energy Board that it will need to raise its price of nuclear power to 16.5 cents per kWh in 2025 to pay for the re-building of the Darlington Nuclear Station. Ontario Energy Board Docket No. EB-2016-0152, Exhibit N3, Tab 1, Schedule 1, Attachment 2, Table 14.

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