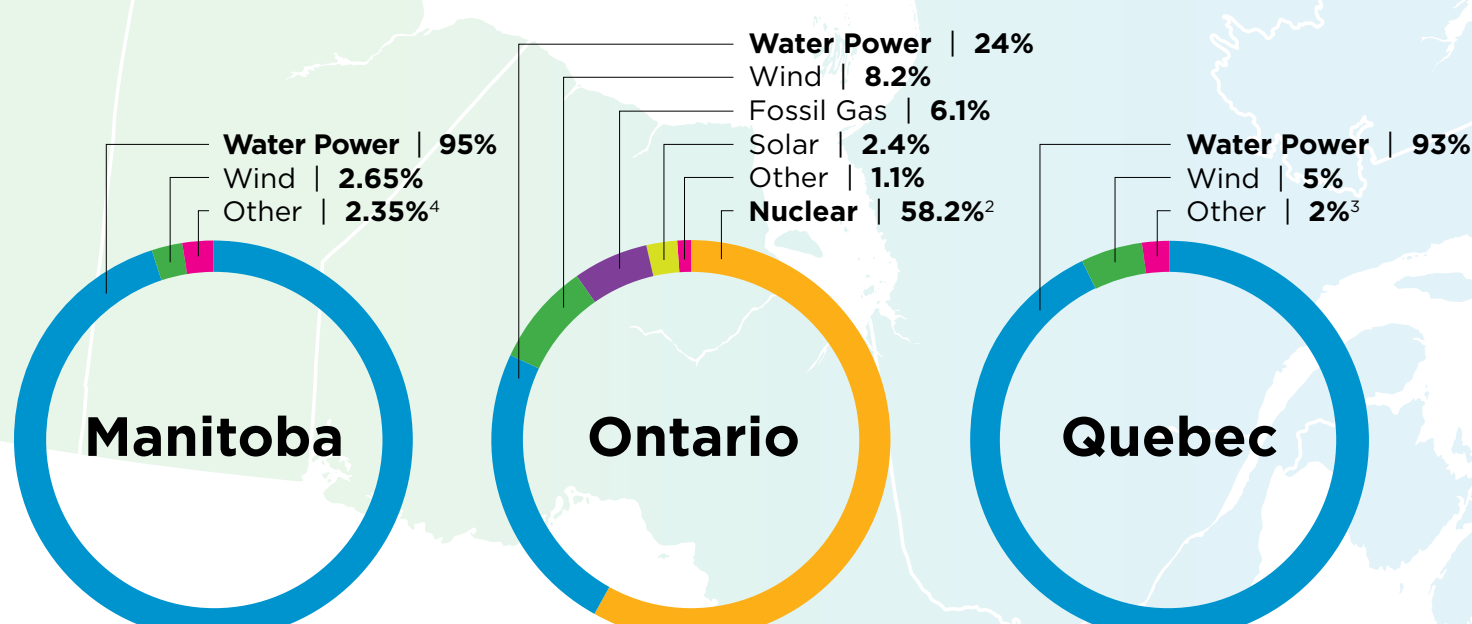


Lowering Our Electricity Bills by Defunding Nuclear

Ontario's residential electricity rates are up to **90% higher** than Quebec's and up to **50% higher** than Manitoba's due to our dependency on high-cost nuclear energy.¹

Quebec and Manitoba get more than **90%** of their electricity from low-cost water power. Ontario, on the other hand, gets **24%** of its electricity from water power — and **58%** from nuclear energy.

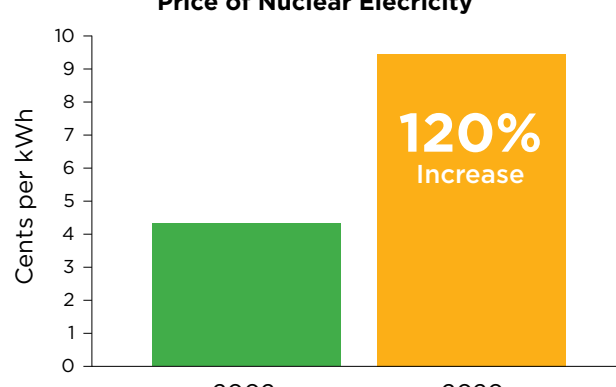


Ontario has two giant nuclear power companies, **Ontario Power Generation (OPG)** and **Bruce Power**. These companies have a tight grip on electricity planning in Ontario and have ensured that a series of governments have largely made decisions that are in the best interest of their corporate bottom lines rather than of electricity consumers. Ontario has paid a huge price for its reliance on nuclear energy.

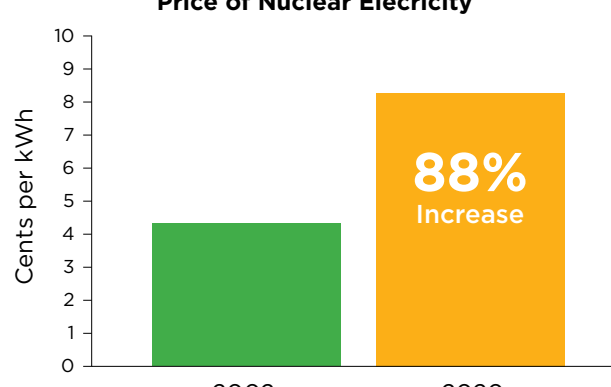
In the late 1990s the old Ontario Hydro essentially went bankrupt due to nuclear cost overruns and poor operating performance. The company was split up and consumers ended up shouldering a large part of its nuclear debt through a special charge on electricity bills. Bruce Power inherited Ontario Hydro's Bruce Nuclear Generating Station. Despite its claims that private-sector management would improve performance, Bruce Power went massively over budget on its first nuclear refurbishment projects.

Between 2002 and 2020, OPG's price of nuclear electricity has risen by **120%** from 4.3 to 9.5 cents per kWh.⁵ Bruce Power's price of nuclear energy has risen by **88%** from 4.3 to 8.1 cents per kWh.⁶

Ontario Power Generation
Price of Nuclear Electricity



Bruce Power
Price of Nuclear Electricity



OPG and Bruce Power are planning to re-build 10 of their aging nuclear reactors. If this happens **our electricity rates will skyrocket**. According to OPG, its rates must rise by **an additional 35%** (to 12.8 cents per kWh) by 2026 to pay for the re-building of its Darlington Nuclear Station.⁷

Pursuant to its long-term contract with the Government of Ontario, Bruce Power's price of nuclear energy could rise by **an additional 57%** during the next 10 years (to 12.7 cents per kWh).⁸

Fortunately, we have much **lower cost options** to keep our lights on. Energy efficiency, wind and solar power and Quebec water power can all meet our electricity needs at **less than half the cost** of re-building OPG's and Bruce Power's aging nuclear reactors, saving Ontarians billions of dollars.⁹

[Click Here for More Information about Energy Options for Ontario](#)



The solution to our rising electricity bills is simple. We must defund Ontario's **\$25.8 billion nuclear program** which aims to rebuild 10 of OPG's and Bruce Power's aging nuclear reactors, locking us into high cost nuclear power for another 5 decades. These dollars should be spent more wisely on lower-cost renewables and energy efficiency. Lower-cost supply and using less energy means lower electricity bills for households and businesses.

What you can do

Please contact Premier **Doug Ford**, NDP Leader **Andrea Horwath**, Liberal Leader **Steven Del Duca** and Green Party Leader **Mike Schreiner** and tell them that we need to defund the nuclear industry to lower our electricity bills.

Tell them that Ontario's electricity future lies instead in energy efficiency retrofits, renewable power from sun and wind, and water power from Quebec. Tell them not to waste billions on expensive, unreliable nuclear, and invest instead in a green power future.

[Click here to message all 4 Ontario party leaders](#)



References

- Hydro Quebec, *2019 Comparison of Electricity Prices in Major North American Cities*, page 4.
- <https://www.oeb.ca/sites/default/files/2019-supply-mix-data-update.pdf>
- Hydro Quebec, *Sustainability Report 2019*, page 70.
- Manitoba Hydro, *Annual Report: For the year ended March 31, 2019*, page 115.
- Ontario Power Generation, *Ontario Power Generation Reports 2002 Earnings*, (March 31, 2003), pages 7 & 8; and Ontario Power Generation, *Management's Discussion and Analysis: 2019 Third Quarter Report*, page 15.
- Bruce Power, *2004 Year in Review*, page 34; and *TC Energy, Quarterly Report to Shareholders: First Quarter 2020*, page 20.
- Ontario Energy Board Docket No. EB-2020-0290, Exhibit II, Tab 1, Schedule 2, Table 2.
- Pursuant to the Information and Privacy Commissioner's Reconsideration Order PO-4044-R, the Independent Electricity System Operator has informed the Ontario Clean Air Alliance that Bruce Power's price of electricity could rise by 1.29 times the rate of inflation between 2020 and 2030. Assuming a 2% annual average rate of inflation, Bruce Power's price of electricity could rise from 8.1 cents per kWh in 2020 to 12.7 cents per kWh in 2030.
- Ontario Clean Air Alliance Research, *Ontario's Electricity Options: A Cost Comparison*, (January 20, 2021).