



Proposed Green Energy Act Attracts Industry-wide Support

February 23, 2009

"The Green Energy Act makes Ontario the leader in renewable energy policy in North America. Our call for the critical elements of a feed-in-tariff, the right to connect and community power has been answered. If the regulations and directives to follow result in a culture of conservation being created and open opportunity for greening our supply mix that also creates 50,000 manufacturing jobs, we will no doubt be able to call ourselves a world leader in installed green energy within the next decade."

**Deborah Doncaster, Chair, Green Energy Act Alliance
Executive Director, Community Power Fund**

"I must point out that our entire continent is about to undergo a green energy transformation. In his inaugural address, US President Barack Obama said that America 'will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories.' The continent's energy industry is on the cusp of a major change. And with the introduction of the Green Energy Act, Ontario will be at the forefront of progress, a dynamic force for change."

Paul Massara, Chair, Toronto Board of Trade

"Ontario's Green Energy Act and supporting initiatives are the most comprehensive renewable energy policy entered anywhere around the world. It will enact a balanced and broad-based program. Most importantly, it builds on worldwide experience to date on 'what works.' This gives us confidence that the legislation will have its intended effects on the adoption of renewable energy. It also sets an important example for other governments to adopt policies that have been shown to be effective and economical."

Michael T. Eckhart, President, American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), USA

"The Green Energy Act is a signal that the Ontario government is serious about getting down to the business of Aboriginal partnerships, respecting the environment, and providing Ontario and other consumers with a secure source of energy, not one that will leave us in the dark. We must commend Premier McGuinty and Minister Smitherman for this new Energy Act that now gives call to strategic partnerships in the private sector, Aboriginal community and government."

Chief Isadore Day, Chief, Serpent River First Nation, Lake Huron Treaty Commissioner

"The GEA will create new opportunities for our farmers to participate even more in Ontario's green energy revolution. Through their involvement in energy production Ontario farmers will create new manufacturing opportunities and fuel other economic initiatives."

Bette Jean Crews, President of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture

"Ontario's Green Energy Act represents North America's most ambitious and far reaching enabling legislation and will place Ontario as a world leader in renewable energy development, industrial innovation and climate protection."

**Dr. Hermann Scheer, General Chairman of the World Council for Renewable Energy,
Member of the German Bundestag**

"Today's introduction of a Green Energy Act is about to launch Ontario into a leadership position in the race to be the most Energy Efficient economy in Canada ... and maybe the world. While the initiatives recently introduced by President Obama in the U.S. created a lot of envy within our organization – this move by Ontario gives us a lot to be proud of."

Ken Elsey, President and CEO, Canadian Energy Efficiency Alliance

"On behalf of the working men and women of Ontario's Carpenters' Union, I congratulate Premier Dalton McGuinty and Minister George Smitherman for the Green Energy Act. This legislation, which is unprecedented in North America, will provide tangible, immediate stimulus to the construction industry and create thousands of good "green" jobs. And it will help all of us build a sustainable future for our children and grandchildren. I urge all Members of the Legislature and all Ontario residents to get behind this bill and help make the Green Energy Act become law as soon as possible."

Ucal Powell, President, Carpenters' District Council of Ontario

"Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters supports the intent of the Green Energy Act to create opportunities for manufacturers and exporters and improve the environment. We recognize the opportunities that this legislation may present for many manufacturers to develop and commercialize new, more efficient products."

Ian Howcroft, Vice President, Ontario Division, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters

"The introduction of this legislation means Ontario will be a world leader in green development and it couldn't come at a more opportune time as it directly addresses both our environmental and economic needs."

Dr. Rick Smith, Executive Director, Environmental Defence

"The Green Energy Act introduced by Minister Smitherman is an excellent move by our Minister and Provincial Government. LIUNA is excited with the prospect of 50,000 jobs being created at a time when jobs are most needed. We applaud this forward thinking to stimulate the green economy as well as the overall leadership shown in stimulating Ontario's and Canada's economy."

Joseph S. Mancinelli, International Vice President, Labourer's International Union of North America (LIUNA)

"With today's tabling of the Green Energy Act, the Ontario Government has sent a clear signal that wind and other renewable energies will play a key role in meeting the province's economic and environmental objectives going forward. The GEA is a bold, forward-thinking initiative that will accelerate wind energy investment in Ontario, benefiting the province's manufacturing sector as well as its rural communities."

Robert Hornung, President, Canadian Wind Energy Association

"The proposed changes announced as part of this Act will certainly help build a new clean economy, green collar jobs, and as well as creating a culture of conservation throughout the province... It is clear the McGuinty Government intends to open the door to make Ontario one of the world leaders as a renewable energy jurisdiction."

Elizabeth McDonald, Executive Director, Canadian Solar Industries Association

"We know that Ontario's electricity future will be very different from the past and the present. The Green Energy Act will ensure that it makes the maximum possible use of renewable energy. APPrO member companies have done most of Ontario's renewable energy projects so far – and intend to work closely with the government over the next several months to make sure that the proposed feed-in tariff is as big a success as it possibly can be. A 'best-in class renewable energy feed-in tariff' combined with streamlined approvals processes and service guarantees has the potential to help Ontario to leap forward in terms of renewable energy capacity."

Dave Butters, President, The Association of Power Producers of Ontario

"Democracy is at work in Ontario! Homeowners, farmers, First Nations, cooperatives, municipalities and institutions have spoken up about what they want and need in a Green Energy Act. They want to be conservers and generators of clean, green, sustainable energy. It's clear that Premier Dalton McGuinty and Energy Minister George Smitherman have listened with the Green Energy Act they are introducing today."

Kristopher Stevens, Executive Director, Ontario Sustainable Energy Association

"The Canadian District Energy Association congratulates the province on its Green Energy Act initiative. As demonstrated in Denmark and Sweden, district energy is a key platform to deliver clean and green energy to Ontario's communities."

Bruce Ander, Chair, Canadian District Energy Association

"The Green Energy Act introduced today demonstrates that the government is focused on building a diversified portfolio of green energy solutions that interconnect with today's existing energy infrastructure. The Act will encourage businesses to invest in the green energy technologies that will move Ontario towards a clean energy economy."

Janet Holder, President, Enbridge Gas Distribution

The Green Energy Act will serve as a turning point in Ontario's economic history. Future generations of economists and energy analysts will look back on this Ontario-engineered Act and discover that it proactively moved Ontario to a new paradigm that was good for the pocketbook and good for the planet."

John Kourtoff, President and CEO, Trillium Power Wind Corporation.

"Waterpower proponents have been frustrated by excessive and overlapping regulatory requirements. The Green Energy Act will provide much needed certainty for investment in the responsible development of these critical renewable energy projects."

Paul Norris, President, Ontario Waterpower Association

"Ontarians have clearly demonstrated that they want to be a part of the renewable energy renaissance. The Feed-in-Tariff provides a simple, straightforward process to make that happen."

Colin Andersen, CEO, Ontario Power Authority

"I am encouraged to see that Ontario recognizes that improved water and energy efficiency are tightly inter-related. It is particularly visionary to couple this with a bold approach to promoting green energy. We have seen how standards for fixtures, appliances and other products have led to enduring water and energy savings. These moves will yield free water and energy savings to utilities and their customers across the province."

Mary Ann Dickinson, Alliance for Water Efficiency, Chicago, Illinois

"The McGuinty government has recognized a critical connection between energy efficiency and water efficiency. Taking action on eliminating water wasting fixtures and appliances will be a huge step in meeting energy efficiency goals. It also provides an opportunity to consider water efficiency labelling, which would be a first in Canada."

**Johann Manente, Supervisor, Regional Municipality of Peel,
Chair, National Water Efficiency Committee, Canadian Water and Wastewater Association**

"As an Ontario company involved in the generation of solar power, this act provides the exact framework that is required for sustainable business and employment growth in Ontario. Solar generation projects create good technology-based jobs in rural areas of the province which is good public policy from any perspective."

William A. Masek, President, Upper Canada Solar Generation Ltd.

"Addressing climate change requires a coordinated effort not only continentally but globally. Through this legislation, the Government of Ontario is moving the agenda ahead on the key issue of our time and we look forward to working with our neighbors to the north on tackling global warming."

Frances Beinecke, President, Natural Resources Defense Council, U.S.A.

"Roxul is committed to a green future for Ontario. Our insulation products help people to save money as they save the planet – by consuming less energy at home and at work. We believe that because of the Green Energy Act and its conservation provisions, the future of green manufacturing in Ontario is brighter than ever."

Trent Ogilvie, President, Roxul Inc.

"Clean Air Foundation has been working closely with the Ministry of Energy for the last two years to help increase the uptake of solar technology in Ontario. Clean Air Foundation has also pioneered some of the most successful conservation programs. We congratulate Minister Smitherman for introducing legislation that will help make it easier for Ontarians to install renewable energy and look forward to working with the province to continue to increase our energy conservation efforts."

Ersilia Serafini, Executive Director, Clean Air Foundation

"Thirty five years after Canadians coined the term 'a conserver society' we are finally seeing it embedded in meaningful legislation. Ontario's new Green Energy Act will make it easier for communities and individuals to conserve and even generate their own power. It's bringing power to the people. Right on!"

Chris Winter, Executive Director, The Conservation Council of Ontario

"The Green Energy Act provides the province with a roadmap for a sustainable and reliable electricity future. A future where large numbers of renewable generation, conservation and demand management projects will be successfully integrated into the electricity market to meet the power needs of consumers. Accelerating transmission investments and smart grid advancements will enhance the clean and efficient operation of Ontario's electricity system."

Paul Murphy, President and CEO, Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator

"Premier McGuinty's new Green Energy Act represents the change in thinking we need. Its far-reaching ecological and economic intent reflects Ontario's ambitious commitment to fight climate change and promote renewable energy. The promise of the Green Energy Act is clear - to transform Ontario into a low carbon economy and create tens of thousands of new green jobs in its wake."

Jenny Clad, Executive Director, The Climate Project, USA



Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure

Amy Tang, Minister's Office, 416-327-6747

Anne Smith, Media Relations Co-ordinator, 416-325-1810

www.ontario.ca/energy-news

Disponible en français