

# The Green Energy & Green Economy Act, 2009



Presentation to General  
Committee

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# Background

- ◆ May 14-09 – Bill 150, the *Green Energy & Green Economy Act (GEA)* received Royal Assent
  - ◆ Intent to attract new investment, create green jobs and better protect the environment
  - ◆ Amendments to 20 Acts including Building Code, Electricity, Planning, Energy Conservation Leadership, Greenbelt, Places to Grow, etc.
  - ◆ Implementation details to be rolled out through regulation in the coming months
  - ◆ Two key thrusts – renewable energy and conservation
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# Renewable Energy Generation

- ◆ GEA focused on fostering growth of renewable energy projects and removing barriers to implementation:
  - Creation of the Renewable Energy Facilitation Office
  - Access of Renewable Energy to the Grid
  - Feed-in Tariff Implementation



# Feed-in Tariff Rates

## OPA Revised Price Schedule

| Renewable Fuels                     | Capacity Range    | Original Proposed Price (¢/kWh) | Revised Proposed Price (¢/kWh) |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Rooftop or Ground Mountain Solar PV | ≤ 10 kW           | 80.2                            | 80.2                           |
| Rooftop Solar PV                    | > 10 kW ≤ 250 kW  | 71.3                            | 71.8                           |
| Rooftop Solar PV                    | > 250 kW ≤ 500 kW | 63.5                            | 63.5                           |
| Rooftop Solar PV                    | > 500 kW          | 53.9                            | 53.9                           |
| Ground Mounted Solar PV             | > 10 kW ≤ 10 MW   | 44.3                            | 44.3                           |
| On-shore Wind                       | Any size          | 13.5                            | 13.5                           |
| Off-shore Wind                      | Any size          | 19.0                            | 19.0                           |
| Waterpower                          | ≤ 10 MW           | 12.9                            | 13.1                           |
| Waterpower                          | > 10 MW ≤ 50 MW   |                                 | 12.2                           |
| Biomass                             | ≤ 10 MW           | 12.2                            | 13.8                           |
| Biomass                             | > 10 MW           |                                 | 13.0                           |
| Biogas                              | ≤ 500 kW          | 14.7                            | 16.0                           |
| Biogas                              | > 500 kW ≤ 10 MW  |                                 | 14.7                           |
| Biogas                              | > 10 MW           | 10.1                            | 10.4                           |
| Landfill Gas                        | ≤ 10 MW           | 11.1                            | 11.1                           |
|                                     | > 10 MW           | 10.3                            | 10.3                           |

# Conservation & Demand Management

- ◆ CDM theme runs throughout amendments to various Acts
  - Energy Audits
  - Building Code amendments
  - Efficiency Standards for appliances
  - Public agencies – requirement to prepare energy plans and report on annual consumption, proposed conservation measures, progress & achievements
  - LDCs and other licensees subject to CDM targets as set out in directives from the Minister
- ◆ Cheapest kilowatt is a SAVED kilowatt
- ◆ Reporting of all CDM results will now be the responsibility of the Office of the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

# Benefits of the GEA

- ◆ Supports implementation and expansion of clean and renewable energy sources
- ◆ Reduces air pollution and GHGs – a key step in combating climate change
- ◆ Supports local community power generation which can stimulate local economies and create jobs
- ◆ Being situated near where power is produced may increase awareness, thereby furthering the conservation agenda



# Impacts to Municipalities

- ◆ Streamlined provincial approvals process
  - Eliminates requirements to comply with municipal official plans or zoning by-laws
  - Eliminates need for site plan approvals
  - Tree and ravine by-laws and property standards by-laws remain
  - Does not preclude application of the Building Code Act or need for a building permit
- ◆ Will allow for environmental standards and setbacks to be identified in regulation
- ◆ Will incorporate stakeholder consultation including a uniform process for proponent consultation with municipalities on site requirements and local infrastructure



# Proposed Regulations

## Appendix B – Removing Local Barriers to Renewable Energy Installations

- Designates the use of renewable energy installations including:
  - Roof or wall mounted solar PV
  - Roof or wall mounted solar thermal water/air
  - Ground source heat pump
- Also identifies local legal barriers that exist which would be permitted to continue to operate in recognition that some cultural, health, safety and environmental by-laws should be protected



# Proposed Regulations

## Appendix C – Proposed Content for Renewable Energy Approval Regulation under the Environmental Protection Act

- Outlines proposed requirements proponents must meet to obtain a Renewable Energy Approval
- Provides further detail on the proposed general requirements for all proposed renewable energy generation facilities



# Renewable Energy Approval Requirements

Project Description

Technology-Specific Requirements

Construction Plan

Provincial Policy Plans

Site Plan

Water Bodies

Stormwater Management Plan

Natural Heritage

Response Plan

Cultural Heritage

Consultation Summary

# Municipal Consultation

- ◆ Proponents required to consult on following matters:
  - Project area and boundaries
  - Road access location
  - Location/type of municipal service connections required
  - Traffic management plans
  - Construction plans
  - Emergency management procedures/safety protocols
  - Proposed site landscaping, if applicable



# Conclusion

- ◆ An opportunity for all communities across the Province to pursue renewable energy projects and further the priority of creating a culture of conservation
- ◆ Consequential modifications to various Provincial Acts and Statutes are positive in nature as they support the development of renewable energy projects through new financial incentives and a streamlined regulatory framework
- ◆ Developing renewable resources is a cornerstone of our future prosperity and key pillar in supporting a green economy

