

[REDACTED]

From: registrar
Sent: July-27-17 11:16 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: LoC, EB-2017-0049

Importance: High

From: Stephen Lecce [REDACTED]
Sent: July-26-17 7:46 PM
To: ConsumerRelations@ontarioenergyboard.ca
Subject: Attn: Ms. Kristen Walli, Board Secretary (RE: EB-2017-0049)
Importance: High

Ontario Energy Board

P.O. Box 2319

2300 Yonge Street, 27th Floor

Toronto, Ontario

M4P 1E4

Attn: Ms. Kristen Walli, Board Secretary

RE: EB-2017-0049

July 26, 2017

To the board members of the Ontario Energy Board,

The cost of living is rising, and families and seniors are struggling to pay their hydro rates that have tripled since the Ontario Liberal Party took office in 2003. For context, this 300% increase under the Wynne Liberals has resulted in an average family paying over \$1,000 more per year.

Today, I am writing in strong opposition to the recent request for a further rate hike of \$141 per year. Parents, seniors, young workers and small businesses are in dire need of relief from soaring hydro rates that are now some of the highest and

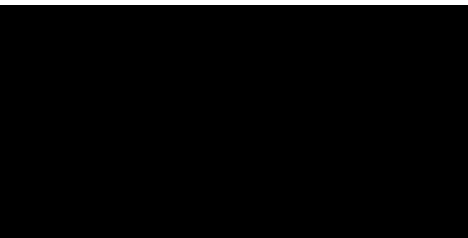
fastest rising electricity prices on the continent. As the PC candidate in King—Vaughan, I continuously see the hardship that rate increases have on all corners of our community.

The rate of increase is staggering, and according to Ontario's budget watchdog, hydro rates will further skyrocket after the 2018 election – costs that will burden all of – especially our children over the long term (\$93 billion). The Liberal plan is to put their party's interests ahead of our province; and to prioritize re-election over real relief. As the Progressive Conservative candidate in my home constituency of King-Vaughan, I am determined to fight for middle-class families who work hard and demonstrate personal responsibility by living within their means so their children and families can get ahead.

To further aggravate the mismanagement of our hydro system, Hydro One purchased Avista, an American utility company that's in the business of coal, for nearly \$7 billion. Hardworking taxpayers already on the hook for escalating hydro hikes, should not have billions of dollars redirected to a foreign company that is in the business of coal production. In Kathleen Wynne's Ontario, this means our ratepayers will unfairly shoulder the burden of ratepayers in Montana and Washington, as the Avista CEO said, "*we can spread out costs over a larger customer base.*"

The residents of King-Vaughan, like all Ontarians, deserve better. I ask that you reject this further increase on the backs of today's middle-class family, and on future generations.

Regards,



Stephen Lecce



