



Bill 150: Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009

Presented by: Bernadette Corpuz

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Bill 150: Green Energy & Green Economy Act, 2009

- Introduction
 - February 23, 2009 – First Reading
 - March 11, 2009 – Second Reading
 - Currently before Standing Committee on General Government
- Objectives
 - New investment
 - New green economy jobs
 - Protect environment

First 3 years – 50,000 jobs



Bill 150: Green Energy & Green Economy Act, 2009

- Main tenets:
 - Renewable Energy
 - Conservation
- Facilitating themes:
 - Increased investor certainty
 - Removal of barriers



Key Definitions

- “Renewable Energy Source”
 - Wind
 - Water
 - Biomass
 - Solar
 - Geothermal
 - Other (by regulation)



Key Definitions

- “Smart Grid” means the advanced information exchange systems and equipment that when utilized together improve the flexibility, security, reliability, efficiency and safety of the integrated power system and distribution systems, particularly for the purposes of,
 - enabling the increased use of renewable energy sources and technology, including generation facilities connected to the distribution system;
 - expanding opportunities to provide demand response, price information and load control to electricity customers;
 - accommodating the use of emerging, innovative and energy-saving technologies and system control applications; or
 - supporting other objectives that may be prescribed by regulation.



Renewable Energy Generation

- Key focus of Bill 150
- Certain provisions aimed at ensuring development and use of renewable energy sources
- a) Access to Grid
 - “priority access”
 - mandatory connection



Renewable Energy Generation

b) Purchaser

i. Feed-in Tarriff Program

- eligible projects – wind, hydro, solar, bioenergy
- pricing – differentiated by technology and size
- designed to permit recovery of cost of building and maintaining project, and earning reasonable ROR

i. RFPs, procurement initiatives (Minister directions to Ontario Power Authority)



Renewable Energy Generation

c) Streamlined Approvals

i. Municipal approvals

- most planning approval requirements removed
- extended leases, easements, mortgages (40 years)

ii. Environmental approvals

- new class of approval for renewable energy projects (REPs) – Renewable Energy Approval
- REPs exempt from normal course permitting under EPA & OWRA, subject to certain conditions
- appeal rights – “serious and irreversible harm”



Renewable Energy Generation

- d) Renewable Energy Facilitation Office
 - i. Renewable Energy Facilitator
 - ii. Object – facilitate development of REPs and assist project proponents with approval and procedural requirements
 - e.g. Renewable Energy Approval



The Grid

- Can it take all of this?
 - System Enhancements; System Plans
 - Investment in system as licence condition
 - Distributors required to plan
 - Rate Implications
 - Who will pay?
 - Protection for certain rate classes



The Grid – A Smart Grid

- What kind of grid?
 - Not what we have today
 - Sensors, monitors, information technology
- How will we get there?
 - Mandated transmission & distribution infrastructure investment
 - Coordinated approach
 - Continued and increased research and development (Ontario Centres of Excellence)



The Grid – A Smart Grid

- Why?
 - Better integration of renewables and distribution generation
 - More efficient use of energy infrastructure and energy losses
 - Empower customers with increased participation in conservation and demand response
 - More reliable distribution service with reduced outages and quicker response times

Source: Report of the Ontario Smart Grid Forum



Investors and Project Proponents

- Opportunity
 - Many barriers removed
 - streamlined approvals
 - mandatory connection; priority access
 - Certainty increased
 - Feed-in Tarriff Program; required infrastructure investment
 - Still some questions
 - detail will be in regulations



Thank you



Toronto, Associate

Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP

Business Law

Telephone: (416) 369-4641

Fax: (416) 862-7611

Bernadette.corpuz@gowlings.com

See also [Gowlings Executive Briefing on the Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009](#)