



121 Richmond Street West, Suite 202
Toronto, ON M5H 2K1
416.961.2339
oea@energyontario.ca

April 18, 2013

Lisa Thompson, MPP
Queen's Park
Legislative Building
Room 430
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Dear Ms. Thompson,

RE: Bill 39, *Ensuring Affordable Energy Act, 2013*

On behalf of the Ontario Energy Association (OEA), we are writing in regards to your proposed Private Member's Bill, *Ensuring Affordable Energy Act, 2013* that will begin second reading this afternoon.

After you introduced Bill 39, the OEA commissioned a market research firm to conduct executive polling with all of the Presidents and CEOs of our impacted members. Our members are united in this feedback and we would like to share their concerns with you.

Our members recognize the need for greater consultation and collaboration with municipalities; however, we do not believe that municipalities should be given full veto power over wind turbine projects. Furthermore, reducing reliance on ministerial directives as a policy-making tool would serve to increase both consumer and industry confidence in the planning and siting process. It is also important to note that Ontario's Renewable Energy Approval process has extensive consultation provisions that include a municipal consultation component. Unfortunately, the proposals in this Bill erroneously focus on one type of generation rather than address siting procedures. Our members have significant concerns with the proposed changes that would allow municipalities to enact by-laws restricting the use of goods, services, and technologies designed to promote energy conservation.

By proposing to reverse exemptions available to renewable energy projects in the *Planning Act*, and arbitrarily limit prices on renewable projects, Bill 39 is out of step with comparable jurisdictions and places significant barriers to developing future energy projects. Different sources of energy have different costs and, therefore, different prices associated with them. The prospect of price limitations would not only stifle investment, it limits the ability of industry to react to market forces. We are concerned the pursuit of short-term solutions will preempt the

development of a long-term resolution that would work for municipalities, the energy industry and most importantly benefit Ontario consumers.

Ontario's energy system is one of the most diverse and comprehensive of any jurisdiction in the world. One of our greatest strengths is that Ontario takes a province wide approach to siting and generation, something that we need to maintain while still balancing the needs of individual municipalities. In order to more effectively advance province wide generation projects, we welcome the opportunity to discuss reasonable siting protocols that includes input from municipalities. However, it is important to note that a municipal veto on its own considerably understates the complexity of these decisions.

Once again, our members recognize the need for greater consultation with municipalities when siting critical infrastructure projects. **Unfortunately, we and our members cannot support a significant number of the policy recommendations you have proposed in Bill 39. We have sent a letter to both Minister Chiarelli and Ms. Horwath outlining our members' concerns and respectfully requesting that they defeat this Bill.**

We welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with all three political parties to discuss siting new forms of generation that balances the needs of municipalities, consumers and the energy sector. Should you wish to discuss this further or require more information, please contact Tina Arvanitis, Vice President, Communications and Stakeholder Relations, OEA at 647.920.3269 or at tina@energyontario.ca.

Yours truly,



Elise Herzig
President and CEO
Ontario Energy Association

cc: Tim Hudak, Leader of the Official Opposition
Vic Fedeli, MPP, PC - Nipissing

ABOUT THE OEA

The OEA speaks with one voice to government and the public on behalf of Ontario's energy sector. The OEA has more than 150 corporate members who represent the full diversity of the energy industry in Ontario – power producers, firms that transport, transmit and deliver natural gas and electricity, marketers and retailers, manufacturers, contractors, service providers, and energy consultants.



April 18, 2013

The Hon. Bob Chiarelli
Minister - MINISTER'S OFFICE
Hearst Block
4th Flr, 900 Bay St
Toronto ON M7A 2E1

Dear Minister Chiarelli,

RE: Bill 39, *Ensuring Affordable Energy Act, 2013*

On behalf of the Ontario Energy Association (OEA), we are writing in regards to the proposed Bill 39, *Ensuring Affordable Energy Act, 2013* that will begin second reading this afternoon.

When Bill 39 was introduced, the OEA commissioned a market research firm to conduct executive polling with all of the Presidents and CEOs of our impacted members. Our members are united in this feedback and we would like to share their concerns with you.

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Once again, our members recognize the need for greater consultation with municipalities when siting critical infrastructure projects. **Unfortunately, we and our members cannot support a significant number of the policy recommendations in Bill 39. We hope that you will consider defeating this Bill.**

In conclusion, we welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with all three political parties to discuss siting new forms of generation that balances the needs of municipalities, consumers and the energy sector. Should you wish to discuss this further or require more information, please contact Tina Arvanitis, Vice President, Communications and Stakeholder Relations, OEA at 647.920.3269 or at tina@energyontario.ca.

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April 18, 2013

Andrea Horwath
Leader - LEADER'S OFFICE
Legislative Bldg, Rm 113
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

Dear Ms. Horwath,

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