
ONTARIO'S TEN STEPS TO GREEN ENERGY

Sept. 23, 2009

Throughout September the Ontario government took ten steps to bring the Green Energy Act to life. These milestones helped transition the province to more electricity generated from green energy, which will create 50,000 jobs over the next three years, open investment opportunities in Ontario's green economy and establish the province as North America's leader in renewable energy.

The steps included:

1. Ontario makes landmark progress on Canada's largest climate change initiative as the province prepares to close four coal-fuelled power units in 2010 – four years ahead of the 2014 target. The announcement advances the province's transition to electricity generated from green energy which will open investment and opportunities in Ontario's green economy.
2. Ontario launches an Aboriginal Energy Partnerships Program. This initiative will build capacity and participation through support for community energy plans, funding for feasibility studies and the development of an Aboriginal Renewable Energy Network.
3. Ontario announces the \$250 million Aboriginal Loan Guarantee program (ALGP). Under the program, Aboriginal communities will be eligible for loan guarantees to take on equity participation in renewable generation and transmission projects. The AGLP will facilitate Aboriginal participation in energy projects by providing loan guarantees for up to 75% of an Aboriginal corporation's equity in an eligible project.
4. In a historic move, Ontario gives the go-ahead to Hydro One to begin work on 20 transmission projects that are expected to create about 20,000 jobs and spur green economic development across the province over the next three years. Six core transmission network upgrades are moving forward, including North-South lines from Sudbury to Barrie and Barrie to the Greater Toronto Area and an East–West line from Nipigon to Wawa. Another series of core-supporting transmission projects and distribution upgrades are also moving ahead.
5. Ontario makes it easier for communities in Ontario, including farmers, co-ops and non-profit organizations, to bring green energy projects to life. Through the Community Energy Partnerships Program the province will provide one-time support to community groups to assist with the “soft” or developmental costs associated with new renewable energy projects.
6. Ontario makes it easier for municipalities to bring green energy projects to their communities. Through the Municipal Renewable Energy Program, the province will provide support to municipalities for costs associated with new renewable energy projects. While many of these costs are, and will continue to be, appropriately charged to the developers themselves, it is expected some additional costs may arise.

10 Steps to Green Energy

Ontario's New Green Energy System is Open for Business

