

## REFORM PARTY OF ONTARIO's "PURPLE BOOK"

November 2009

### ENERGY REFORM

#### ***Our Values:***

3. Government services should be provided at the level closest to the user of that service, with that level of government being held accountable to voters.
9. We believe that all three levels of government in Canada must have unique and non-overlapping responsibilities.
11. We believe that Ontario's population, her growth, and her economy must be sustainable in regards to our environment.
12. We believe that both rural (including northern) and urban Ontario are necessary partners for a bright Ontario future.
17. We believe that modern & well-planned infrastructure is needed to ensure the safety and prosperity of our citizens.

#### **Energy Reform is needed in Ontario:**

Ontario's economy has always benefited from the availability of a plentiful supply of inexpensive energy for its households and its businesses. Some years ago, the province changed its mix of electrical generation assets in favour of nuclear power and away from hydro and coal generation. Since then strides have been made to add green energy (wind, solar, biomass) generation to this mix of assets used to generate the power we require.

Ontario is tied into the Northeast North American power grid, supplying power to this grid and losing power in blackouts when the system fails. Distribution of electricity has also evolved, with the marketplace now providing electricity to end-users (homes and businesses). Likely the largest worry for Ontarians is both the provision of enough electricity when needed (as it cannot be stored), its cost, the fact that 40% of electricity is lost through transmission lines, as well as the over-reliance on nuclear generation (a concern of too many eggs in the same basket plus a concern over the cost and safety of nuclear power).

#### **To that end, we propose the following remedies:**

1. Rebalance the mix of generating assets to reduce the reliance on nuclear while at the same time resuming the expansion of large and small-scale hydro generating, beefing up green energy generation, and retaining clean coal generation.
2. Disconnect Ontario from the northeast North America energy grid.
3. Take rural Ontario off the provincial grid over time as localized generation and distribution is developed to replace the concept of all the power being made in a small number of locations and shipped to end users (a process that sees the loss of 40% of the electricity as the power flows through long transmission lines). This rural change will mean the urban markets will have 20% more power available.
4. Develop an export industry to supply electricity to other markets such as the US states and other Canadian provinces.
5. We will develop a new nuclear reactor for the production of radioactive isotopes for medical and industrial use.