

Who Does What on Energy Policy in Ontario?

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Fighting Poverty and
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Ontario's Electricity System in the 1990s

- Early 1990s:
 - 25 Year Demand-Supply Plan fizzles
 - Ontario Hydro Restructuring
 - Collapse of conservation efforts due to excess supply and nuclear debt
- Macdonald Commission (1996) and Energy Competition Act (1998) promote privatization
- Ontario Hydro broken up into 5 companies, biggest of which are Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One.

2002 – 2004: Privatization Falters

- Market opens May 2002 & prices rise.
- Price Cap announced by Premier Eves in November 2002, although wholesale market still in operation (higher costs added to debt).
- 2004: McGuinty government raises prices, moves towards ‘hybrid’ market and passes new electricity legislation.

Current Situation

- No serious conservation efforts since early 1990s.
- No major new supply since Darlington nuclear plant in early 1990s.
- Coal to be phased out by 2007 and Nuclear plants will reach the end of their operational lifetimes by 2020.
- Prices are expected to continue to rise.
- No comprehensive low-income protection program.

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