



# Hansard Official Report of Debates

Legislative Assembly of Ontario

38th Parliament

## JOHN YAKABUSKI, M.P.P. - RENFREW-NIPISSING-PEMBROKE

Members' Statement

December 12, 2005

### Hydro Generation

**Mr. John Yakabuski (Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke):** This past Friday, December 9, the Minister of Energy released the much-ballyhooed and somewhat delayed Supply Mix Advice Report, as submitted by the Ontario Power Authority. The report contained little in the way of surprises for me and most of those who have followed the energy scene. Therefore, it should have been of little surprise to the minister herself, as it was the McGuinty government that dictated entirely the terms of reference the OPA had to work with.

To no one's surprise, there is a recommendation to build new nuclear facilities in Ontario. After two years of delay, it is time to make some decisions. Our leader, John Tory, recommended some time ago that a process determining sites, desirable technologies and an environmental assessment process should have been considered and acted upon months ago. This is precisely what the report recommends, but again this government has let valuable time slip by while doing nothing.

With this government's wrong decision to refuse to consider new coal technologies, it is absolutely imperative that the nuclear decision be made as quickly as possible. The report's recommendation with regard to renewables, primarily wind, is on the optimistic side. It clearly states that with no ability to dispatch wind power, another source must be simultaneously available.

The report assumes natural gas prices at \$8, when today they are in the \$14 range. It leaves little conclusion other than that the price of power under this government's wrong coal policy is about to skyrocket.

I urge the minister to act quickly on this report. Don't leave this province in the dark because of your government's blind ideology.