



Legislative Assembly

JOHN YAKABUSKI, MPP Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke NEWS RELEASE

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Electricity supply in Ontario jeopardized again, says Yakabuski

Yesterday, Energy Minister George Smitherman announced that the Government of Ontario had suspended the competitive RFP to procure two replacement nuclear reactors planned for the Darlington site, citing the lack of “suitable options at this time.” Proposal submissions were received from AREVA NP, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL), and Westinghouse Electric Company.

The Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure press release stated: “Only the submission from AECL was compliant with the terms of the RFP and the objectives of the Government... However, concern about pricing and uncertainty regarding the company’s future prevented Ontario from continuing with the procurement at this time.”

In his comments following this announcement energy critic John Yakabuski condemned the government saying this decision illustrates their lack of competence on the energy file, and complete mismanagement of nuclear development in Ontario.

“After a five year delay, another postponement is not what Ontarians expected from their government,” Yakabuski said. “The Minister must take responsibility by sitting down with AECL to negotiate, and move this process forward.”

Yakabuski further commented on the urgency of this file noting that having an adequate supply of power is essential to attracting and retaining jobs and investment, something that Ontario cannot afford to lose.

“Leadership is about making challenging decisions and the McGuinty government has shown, once again, that they fail to produce results, they have no plan and they lack the ability to do what is necessary and in the best interests of business and families in Ontario.”

“The government should know that the day of reckoning is coming and they cant postpone and jeopardize our energy future any longer,” Yakabuski said.