

For the past 4 years our organization has been actively involved in reviewing the political, regulatory and legislative aspects of the massive electricity restructuring in Ontario, most recently as an Intervenor before the Ontario Energy Board regarding the proposed 20 year power plan. The review of that Plan - which has cost hundreds of millions of dollars - has been conveniently postponed while the government rolls out it's Green Energy Act.

In that past 4 years Ontario has lost 272,300 jobs in the manufacturing sector. That number is escalating. That number does not include the supporting service sector jobs. (For every \$1 in the manufacturing sector there is \$3.05 spin off in the economy.)

In that 4 years the industrial, mining, manufacturing, chemical, forestry and agricultural sectors have issued warnings and pleas - backed by reports and statistics - to the government regarding flawed energy policy. These concerns of the primary employers in this province - the backbone of our economy - have been largely ignored. Perhaps the government rationale lies in the recently released report, commissioned in the 2008 provincial budget, "Ontario in the Creative Age". This nefarious ideology suggests that Ontario must transform "to an economy based on people's creativity and knowledge from one based on physical resources and hours of toil".

This "Ontario in the New Age of Aquarius ideology" is reflected in the newly released Green Energy Act, but contains some sinister elements. While some aspects of the new Act have merit, the benefits are totally overshadowed by the deviation from a mandate of reliable, affordable, environmentally sustainable power to a mandate of (highly questionable) environmental goals at any cost.

That cost is measured in dollars from ratepayers, from continued job losses as energy costs rise, but more importantly the cost of loss of rights of all Ontarians. The Act tramples on individual rights and is designed to stifle public input. The Act removes the right to protest any renewable energy project - no person, no organization, no municipality may oppose. This includes transmission and other infrastructure required - even if it is to be placed on your property by way of easement. In fact, information including the location of new projects is to be considered secret, confidential and is exempt from the Freedom of Information Act. The sale or lease of all property will be subject to an energy audit. All appliances and "products" sold or leased must meet unspecified qualifications. Inspectors will be hired to ensure compliance, will have authority to search any location where they suspect non compliance and will hand out huge fines for failure to obey.

It won't take 4 years to see an erosion of our economy and our civil rights. In less than 4 weeks this Bill will be railroaded through parliament. Don't be fooled by the "green" label - read the black and white. Review summaries of the Green Energy Act on our website, [www.caealliance.com](http://www.caealliance.com). Read the Act. Contact your MPP and the Premier.

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