

MPP Arnott disagrees with leaked Liberal natural gas phase-out

The Liberal Government's leaked plan to phase out natural gas as a source of home heating is very foolish and would only make life more expensive for Ontario families, says Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott.



TED ARNOTT

The idea of phasing out natural gas as a home heating source is one of the most foolish suggestions I've heard in a long time, Arnott said. And that says something, coming from a Liberal Government that has initiated a long list of bad ideas since 2003.

Last month, the government's 57-page Climate Change Action Plan, labeled Cabinet Confidential, was leaked to the *Globe and Mail*. The document revealed that the Liberals were proposing to phase out natural gas as a source of home heating. Under the proposed plan, beginning in 2030, all new homes would be heated using electricity or geothermal systems. According to the *Globe* story, this would be expanded to all buildings before 2050.

Have they forgotten that we have

winter every year? That it's cold out in the winter and people need to heat their homes? Arnott asked. Home heating is not a luxury item that people can choose to do away with. You can't just take away one of the cheapest and most reliable sources of heat that millions of Ontario families depend on.

Approximately 76 per cent of Ontarians rely upon natural gas to heat their homes. It has been estimated that phasing out natural gas would cost Ontario families roughly \$3,000 more each year just to heat their homes.

It appears that the Liberals want Ontario home owners to get off natural gas. Instead, they want people to convert to electricity to heat their homes, Arnott said. However, their mismanagement has caused Ontario's hydro rates to skyrocket. Now the cost of electricity is unaffordable for many of our families.

Ontario PC Leader Patrick Brown challenged the government on the issue during Question Period on June 1, specif-

ically asking Premier Kathleen Wynne to confirm the accuracy of the leaked document. The Premier pointedly avoided answering the question.

Whether it's the Liberals planned phasing out of natural gas home heat-

ing, hydro bills that keep going up, or their Cap and Trade plan, life keeps getting more and more expensive for people across the province, Arnott concluded.

They need to wake up and start listening.

NOTIFICATION

The Niagara Escarpment Planning and Development Act,
R.S.O. 1990, c. N-2

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PLAN

The Government of Ontario is conducting a co-ordinated review of the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. More information on the co-ordinated review is available at www.ontario.ca/landuseplanningreview.

The government and the Niagara Escarpment Commission are seeking feedback on the proposed changes to the Niagara Escarpment Plan. You can learn more about the proposed changes by:

- Reviewing the proposed changes to the plan. Copies of the plan and proposed amendments are available at www.escarpment.org/planreview
- Attending a public open house in your area. Dates and locations of public open houses are available at www.ontario.ca/landuseplanningreview

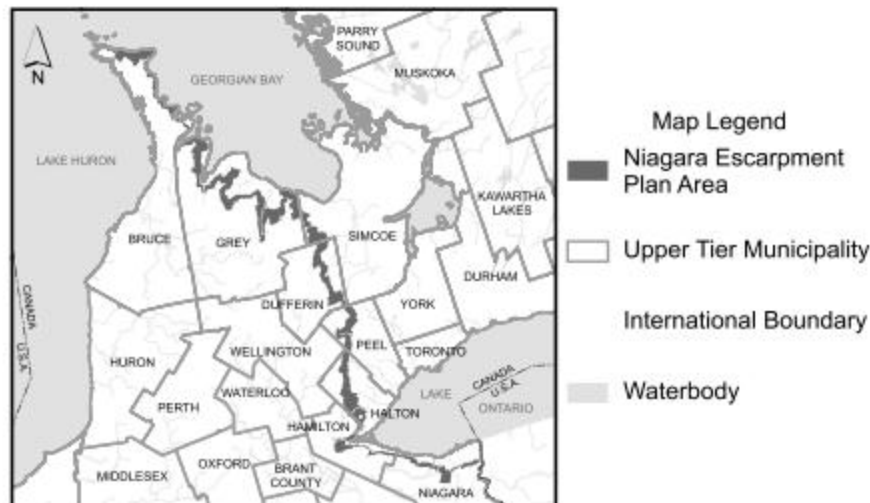
You may submit comments on the proposed changes to the Niagara Escarpment Plan:

Email: planreview@escarpment.org

Mail: Niagara Escarpment Commission
232 Guelph Street, (3rd floor)
Georgetown, Ontario L7G 4B1

The deadline for comments is **September 30, 2016**.

Information on the four land use plans, including an overview document outlining the proposed changes is also available at www.ontario.ca/landuseplanningreview



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