

March 8th, 2021

Support for Agenda Item DM30.3: the Motion to Phase Out the Use of Natural Gas to Generate Electricity by 2030.

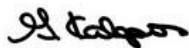
Clean Air Partnership is extremely supportive of the motion in front of City Council calling for the Province to Phase Out Fossil Fuel Electricity Generation by 2030.

The present course of the Provincial Government's energy planning whereby it plans to meet all of Ontario's electricity growth and needs by ramping up the use of natural gas to generate electricity will make it almost impossible for Toronto to meet its 2030 GHG reduction target. This is the opposite of where we need to be going to rise to our climate change challenge.

What is also concerning about the Province's present course of so-called energy planning is that it shows that the Province is not preparing Ontario to be an active participant in the emerging low carbon distributed energy system. We know that our energy systems will be experiencing a large transition in how they meet the energy needs of their populations; with increasing ability to meet local energy needs with local energy solutions. In fact, the move towards low carbon distributed energy will be a huge growth area in almost all communities around the world.

Ontario relying simply on fossil fuels to meet its present and future electricity growth will mean that Ontario will not be in a position where it is able to be an active participant in this emerging energy economy and once again Ontario will be the consumer of other jurisdictions' low carbon energy economy. Clean Air Partnership hopes that Toronto City Council will send the message to the Province that we all need to act on climate change and that includes an all of government approach that includes the Province of Ontario. Doubling down on fossil fuels in our electricity system will set Ontario back decades on its energy and climate leadership and not prepare our Province for emerging and cost-effective low carbon solutions and opportunities.

Sincerely,



Gabriella Kalapos
Executive Director
Clean Air Partnership
gkalapos@cleanairpartnership.org