



Conference presented by



News Release

Smitherman to Speak at Conference on Future of Electricity Grid

For Immediate Release

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Waterloo, Ontario – Ontario Energy Minister George Smitherman will present the keynote address to a conference on the challenges of incorporating new and developing generation systems into Ontario's electricity grid.

The conference "Distributed Energy and The Future of Ontario's Electricity Grid" will be held in Waterloo, Ontario, on October 26 and 27th and is hosted by the Queen's Institute for Energy and Environmental Policy, Council for Clean and Reliable Electricity and the University of Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy.

The conference will feature the Minister's speech on Sunday evening followed the next day by presentations from an array of experts who will discuss the future of the electricity grid as it adapts to smaller, more environmentally-sensitive generation systems.

Bryne Purchase, Executive Director of the Queen's Institute for Energy and Environmental Policy says the challenges presented to the grid by the increased use of renewable wind and water generation must be considered if Ontario is going to reduce its dependence on large-scale, centralized generation plants.

"Renewable energy is the future in North America but the need remains to get the power to industry and consumers," Dr. Purchase said. "Our conference will examine future requirements of the grid, regulatory and political constraints including the need to consult with First Nations and the problems and prospects of distributed generation."

The conference will be held at the Waterloo Inn and Conference, 475 King Street North, Waterloo, Ontario. All of the sessions are open to accredited news media and a full agenda is attached.

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For more information

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