

AVISTA CORP. SALE TO HYDRO ONE ENDANGERS AVISTA CUSTOMERS, ECONOMY, & BUSINESS LIVELIHOODS IN ITS SERVICE TERRITORY:

The Untold Story – Why It’s Wrong for Avista – Key Insights and Questions¹

Canadian utilities are buying up U.S. utility companies with hydroelectric dams for only one reason: To cap-and-trade away (sell) those hydroelectric megawatts (such as Avista Corp’s 13 hydroelectric dams near Spokane and Juneau) to rescue Canada from climate change and belief in the bogus claim that Al Gore’s and Barack Obama’s climate catastrophe will envelope the world.

What Happens After Hydro One Takes Control?

Hydro One covets² Avista’s 931 megawatts of hydro-electric assets because *it must pawn these resources on the Cap-and-Trade climate marketplace*, such as the Chicago Climate Exchange founded by Al Gore³ and Barack Obama⁴ by claiming the clean energy credit to satisfy Canada’s 2020 climate deadline, the first of three. Under Canada law, Canada must reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 15% below its 1990 emission level. Much deeper emission cuts come in the future. *If Avista becomes Hydro One residential electric rates could grow five-fold to match Hydro One’s Ontario customers, from 7.5 cents/kwhr to more than 36 cents/kwhr. Forecasts show that HydroOne electric rates in Ontario will zoom past 60¢/kwhr in 9 years.*

This outrageous agreement raises several questions:

- Who will ultimately own and what will be the fate of the 13 hydroelectric dams once Hydro One sells the dams on the Cap-and-Trade market?
- Why is Avista agreeing to sell to Ontario with its plan to end carbon dioxide emissions and end its use of the Colstrip coal-electric plant when the U.S. will exit the Paris Climate Agreement and exit the Obama Clean Power Plan because carbon dioxide (CO₂) has now become irrelevant. Current scientific evidence now proves that CO₂ is unrelated to temperature in the atmosphere or climate?
- Why should more than century-old Avista Corp. sell out to a 2-year old Canadian electric utility company that must answer to Ontario’s Premier, is majority owned by the Province of Ontario and subject to Ontario’s climate deadlines?
- HydroOne promises sellout to a mystery entity--Golden Share--in event of bankruptcy.
- Will Avista’s hydro-electric dams be purchased with cost paid by ratepayers to satisfy ever-increasing demands by Ontario to reduce its emissions levels by 20% by 2020, by 37% in 2030, another 80% in 2050, with each of these below its 1990 levels.
- How much will electric rates soar after the Hydro One purchase for former Avista customers that currently pay one of the lowest rates in the United States?
- Will Avista once they become HydroOne customers be subject to the 149% price increases experienced by its customers in Ontario?
- Ontario’s Consumer Policy Institute gives several reasons to oppose any Cap-and-Trade mandated by Ontario’s Green Energy Act:⁵ It won’t reduce emissions; it’s another corporate welfare system lacking advantages; its susceptible to fraud and political manipulation; trading assets removes local control; it only worsens already soaring energy prices; skyrocketing electricity prices are pushing households into energy poverty, causing business to shut and cap-and-trade ensures that trend continues.
- Costs of Cap-and-Trade of carbon credits avoids its purpose to reduce CO₂ and will more than double costs over the current 36¢/kwhr electric rate that now brings energy poverty to Ontarians.⁶

- Will Avista customers become subject to electric rate hike forecasts based on emission reduction targets expected to increase by 180%, 520% and 1,230% above current rates by timelines in 2020, 2030, and 2050 respectively based on Ontario's climate laws⁷⁸?
- Will the Avista Corp. service territory become *New Ontario* once Hydro One owns it?
- After selling Avista's hydro-electric capacity by Cap-and-Trade why is it that Hydro One is free to increase its emissions unabated yet former Avista customers are subject to continued price increases of the electricity from Cap-and-Trade?
- What are the advantages to selling Avista to an infant Canadian corporation in foreign country that has neither a good performance record nor hometown vision or commitment?
- Is Ontario now pursuing to claim under false pretense U.S. hydro "clean energy" assets after realizing that overbuilding of thousands of wind turbines around Ontario's shores of four Great Lakes cannot reduce Canada's GHG emissions?

Hydro One's Electric Rates are highest in North America Due to Sweetheart Deals. Purpose of Ontario's Green Energy Act and Climate Change Action Revealed as Hoax

HYDRO ONE has the highest priced electric rates in North America and AVISTA CORP. is one of the lowest priced electric providers in North America. Avista's rates are also well below the average rate for the State of Washington. Canadian companies purchased \$80 billion in utility assets in the U.S. in 2016 to 2018⁹ after unveiling of the 2015 Canada's climate law. This raid of across-the-border energy assets has been conducted under false pretense of the Green Energy Act to reduce impacts on climate by GHGs. The impacts of CO2 on climate has now been shown, by the best scientific knowledge, to be unproven and without substance.

Ontario Electric Rates So High Customers Can't Pay. Power Disconnected for 58,000 Customers

Ontario's electric rates have increased 107% on average in the last ten years with off-peak rates increasing 149% in the same period¹⁰. Ontario electric customers cite the outrageous price increases that are killing or crippling small business, forcing families into poverty, revealing seniors and fixed income customers cannot afford the power bills and businesses are closing¹¹¹² and other customers say monthly electric bill were \$800 to \$1,200 per month and the utility cuts off power to customers who don't pay¹³¹⁴. Ontarians disconnected from power grew 19% to 58,286 while electric bill arrears grew 28% to 392,963 during 2013 to 2017¹⁵.

¹ This is a summary report. For a complete report send request to David Boleneus at boleneus@gmail.com Mr. Boleneus is an Avista customer, a geologist, and local business person.

² Purchase price \$6.7 billion

³ Al Gore and key figures in Gore's Generation Investment Corp. were members of the Chicago Climate Exchange board of directors when startup capital was received from Obama's Joyce Foundation. Gore in 2010 sold his 2% share of the CCX for \$18 million.

http://icecap.us/index.php/go/joes-blog/carbon_trade_ends_on_quiet_death_of_chicago_climate_exchange

⁴ Barack Obama was on board of Joyce Foundation when it provided \$1 million of startup capital to the Chicago Climate Exchange.

⁵ <https://ep.probeinternational.org/2015/12/11/5-reasons-to-oppose-ontarios-cap-and-trade-proposal/>

⁶ Cap and Trade is not a market solution. <https://instituteeforenergyresearch.org/topics/policy/cap-trade/>

⁷ Green Energy Act of 2009 in Ontario

⁸ Climate Action Plan of 2015, www.applications.ene.gov.on.ca/ccap/products/CCAP_ENGLISH.pdf

⁹ Why Canadians are buying up U.S. utility companies .. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/mergermarket/2016/02/25/why-canadians-are-winning-the-utility-deals/#579ac8926944>

¹⁰ Ontario electricity rates fastest rising in North America, Posted on March 1, 2016 by Other News

Sources <https://ep.probeinternational.org/2016/03/01/ontario-electricity-rates-fastest-rising-in-north-america/>

¹¹ You Tube at <https://youtu.be/1w5dRIzyY7g>

¹² <http://www.torontosun.com/2015/04/23/hydro-rates-crippling-small-business-owner-says>

¹³ <https://stopthesethings.com/2017/02/04/trudeaus-politics-of-pain-canadians-suffer-rocketing-power-prices-due-to-subsidised-wind-power/>

¹⁴ Outrage grows over rising electric rates in Ontario You tube at <https://youtu.be/5IYT8MDsrp0>

¹⁵ <https://stopthesethings.com/2018/01/17/ontarios-wind-power-obsession-punishing-thousands-390000-families-struggling-to-pay-power-bills-58000-disconnected/>