

Ontario Power Generation's (a.k.a, Atura Power) proposed new gas plant for Halton Hills

By Jack Gibbons
October 30, 2023



Ontario municipalities support the gas plant phase-out

- ▶ **Thirty-five** Ontario municipalities, representing almost 60% of the province's population, have passed resolutions calling for a gas power phase-out by 2030 or ASAP



Premier Ford's Gas Plan

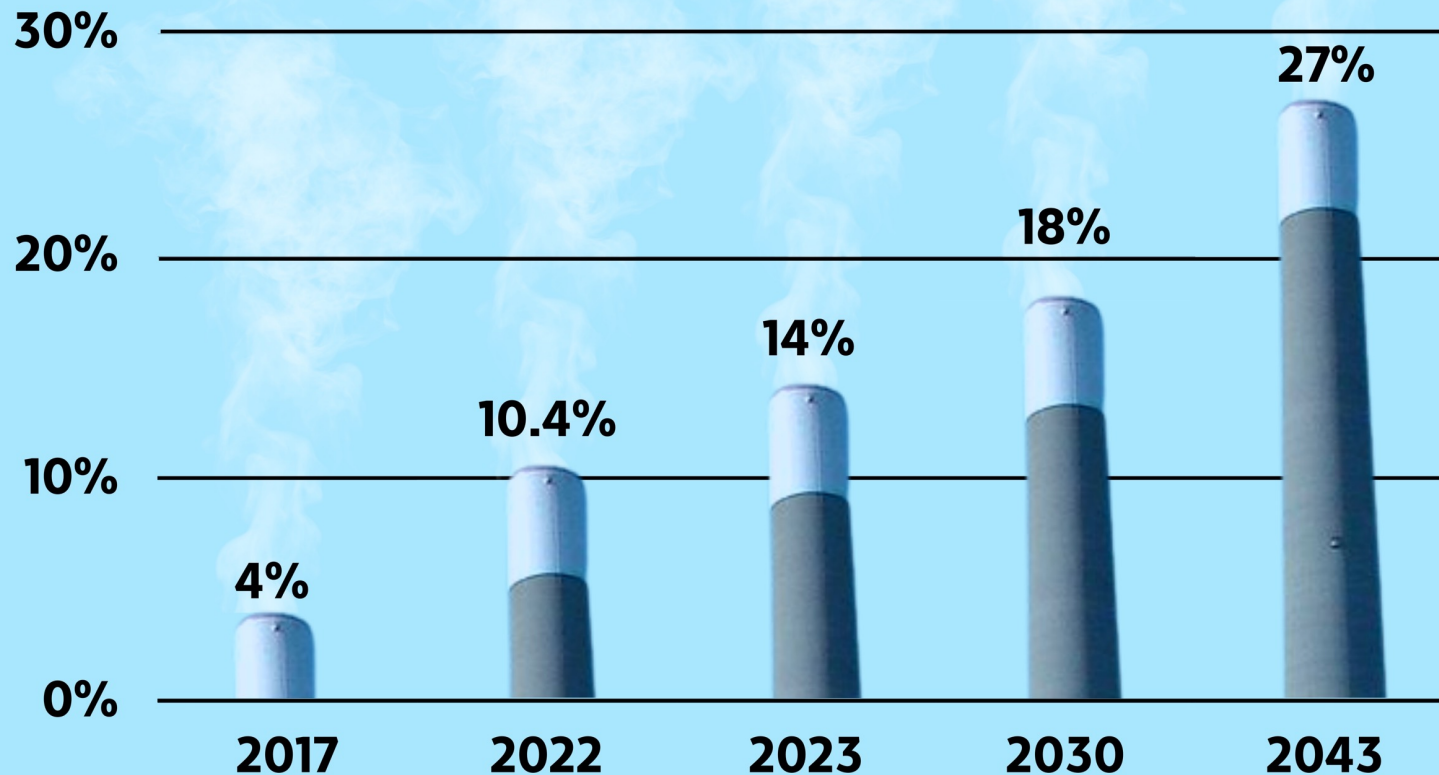
Premier Ford is now planning to:

- ▶ **Build 1,500 megawatts (MW) of new gas-fired generation capacity; and**
- ▶ **Ramp up output, smog and greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution of Ontario's gas plants by more than 300% by 2030, and by 700% by 2043**



Gas Power in ON is On the Rise

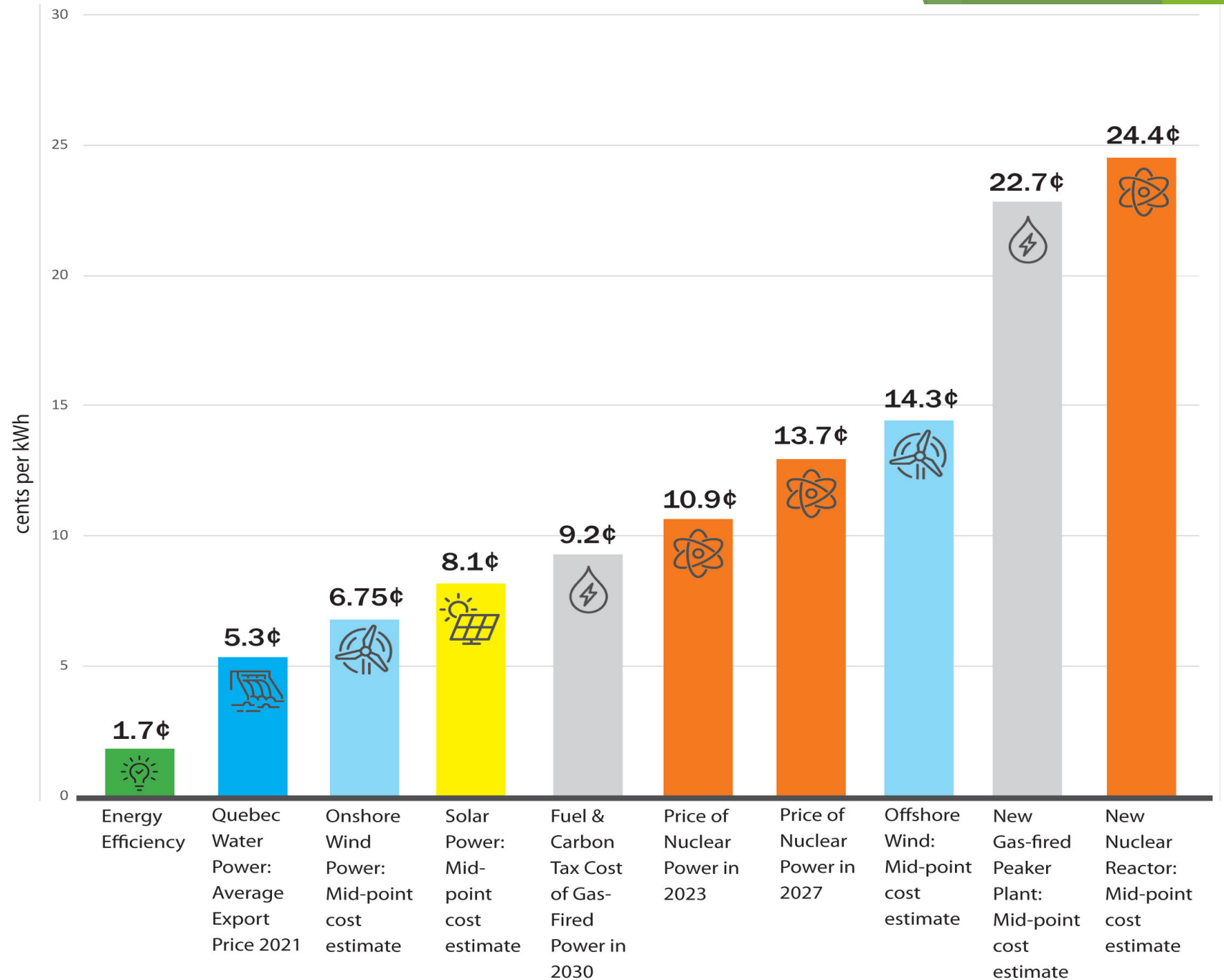
PERCENTAGE OF ONTARIO'S ELECTRICITY PROVIDED BY POLLUTING GAS.



New Halton Hills gas plant

- ▶ OPG is proposing to build a 265 MW NEW gas plant in Halton Hills
- ▶ This will contribute to more illnesses (e.g., asthma attacks, heart and lung disease) for local residents and more climate damage everywhere.
- ▶ Each year, the proposed new Halton Hills gas plant could produce as much air pollution as 250,000 cars

Ontario has lower cost options



Efficiency makes more sense



According to the [Royal Bank](#), Ontario can completely avoid the need for NEW gas plants and save \$500 million per year by investing in technologies to increase our energy efficiency and shift electricity demand from peak to off-peak periods.



Quebec awash in summer power

- Ontario's demand for electricity peaks on **hot summer days** when our air conditioners are running full out
- Quebec's demand for electricity peaks on **cold winter nights** since most of its homes are electrically heated
- Quebec has a huge surplus of waterpower available for export to Ontario in the summer to power our air conditioners on hot summer days

A photograph of several offshore wind turbines in the Great Lakes, with the water in the foreground and a clear blue sky in the background. The turbines are white with three blades each, and they are spaced out across the horizon.

Great Lakes Wind Power:

A huge untapped potential

- ▶ We can also avoid the need for new gas plants by investing in wind and solar energy
- ▶ Great Lakes offshore wind power alone could meet all of Ontario's electricity needs
- ▶ Ontario **has not contracted** for a single kWh of wind or solar power during the last five years

Wind and solar must be combined with storage options:

- Hydro Quebec's reservoirs
- EV batteries combined with bi-directional chargers (e.g., Ford F-150 Lightning)
- Large stationary batteries

Is hydrogen clean?

- ▶ **No:** If produced from fossil fuels. In 2021 96% of the world's hydrogen was produced from fossil fuels
- ▶ **Yes:** If produced from NEW wind and solar energy projects

Halton has the power to say “no”

- Ontario's Energy Minister Todd Smith has given Halton Hills the power to say “no” to OPG's proposed NEW gas plant.
- Please join Kingston, Thorold and Toronto, and say “no” to a new gas plant, increased asthma attacks, increased heart and lung diseases, and more climate damaging pollution.

Jack Gibbons jack@cleanairalliance.org



[**CleanAirAlliance.org**](http://CleanAirAlliance.org)

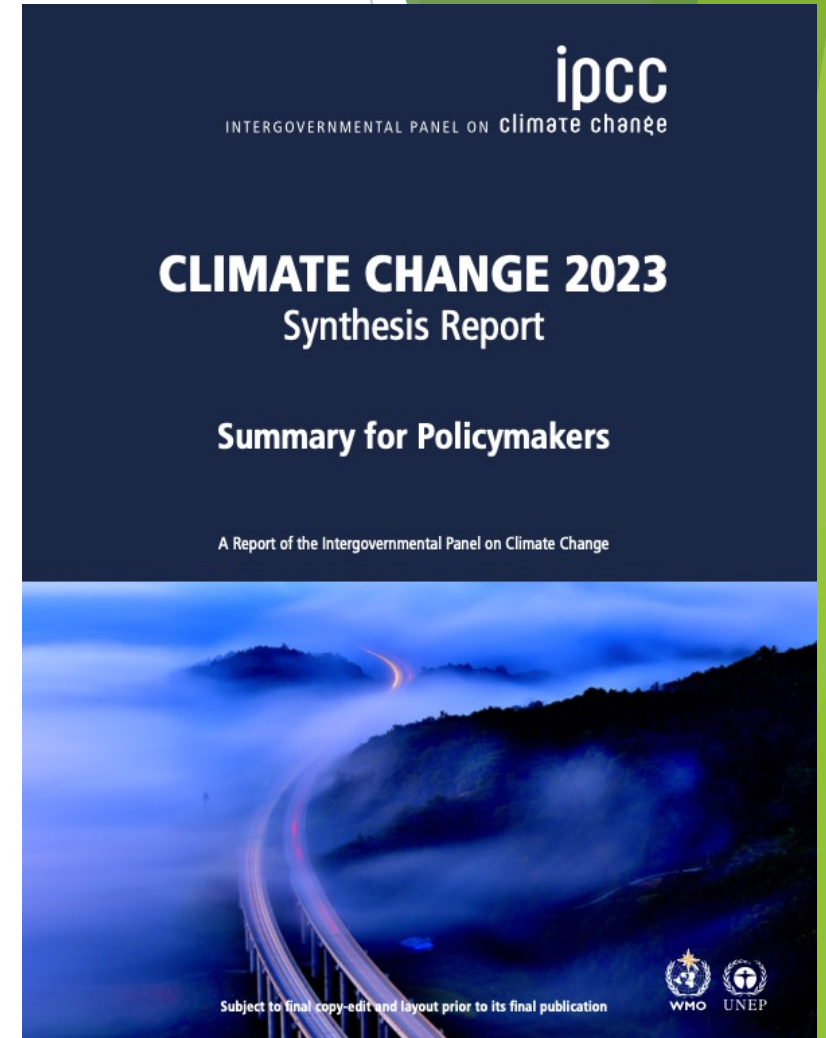
Ontario Power Generation's (a.k.a, Atura Power) proposed new 265 MW gas plant for Halton Hills

By Jack Gibbons
Dec. 11, 2023



Important facts

- ▶ According to UN, the world needs to reduce its GHG pollution by almost half by 2030
- ▶ OPG is proposing to build a 265-megawatt (MW) new gas plant in Halton Hills to power our air conditioners on hot summer days
- ▶ It would have an annual capacity utilization rate of 3% to 3.8%



We have cleaner, lower cost & quicker options

- Shifting demand from peak to off-peak periods
- Quebec waterpower





Shifting demand from peak to off-peak periods

- ▶ IESO is paying industrial, commercial and institutional customers \$65,000 per MW per year to shift some of their electricity demand from peak to off-peak periods ¹
- ▶ In Summer of 2023 the IESO agreed to pay Capital Power & Eastern Power \$273,000 per MW per year to build new gas plants ²
- ▶ The cost of peak reductions is 76% lower than the cost of new gas generation capacity
- ▶ Ontario can avoid need for new Halton Hills gas plant and save \$55 million per year by purchasing an additional 265 MW of peak period demand reduction

▶ ¹ IESO, *Capacity Auction: Post Auction Report*, (December 7, 2023)

▶ ² IESO, *Expedited Long-Term RFP – Final Results*, (September 18, 2023)



Quebec waterpower

- Ontario can import 1,650 MW from Quebec with our *existing* transmission links
- Ontario is negotiating a multi-year agreement with Hydro Quebec to import 600 MW during summer
- By importing an additional 265 MW from Hydro Quebec we can avoid need for proposed Halton Hills gas plant to power our air conditioners



Who benefits from more gas power?

- ▶ OPG
- ▶ Enbridge Gas
- ▶ TC Energy

Quebec vs. Ontario

- ▶ Hydro Quebec is planning to meet 100% of its future electricity needs by investing in energy efficiency, renewables and storage
- ▶ We can too!
- ▶ But Doug Ford and OPG are trying to move us in the wrong direction

Towards a Decarbonized and Prosperous Québec

Action Plan
2035



We need strong leadership from Halton Hills Town Council

Please join Toronto, Thorold,
Kingston and Loyalist
Township and say “no” to a
new gas plant in your
community



Jack Gibbons

jack@cleanairalliance.org



CleanAirAlliance.org