

PAN Meeting with The Honourable Dipika Damerla (Mississauga East—Cooksville)

On February 3, 2017, PAN representative Ewelina Luczko met with the Honourable Dipika Damerla (Mississauga East—Cooksville). Minister Damerla is the Minister of Seniors Affairs. The meeting focused on electricity bill reduction, capacity, and electricity storage options.

To begin, Ewelina shared [OSPE's Submission to the 2017 Long-Term Energy Plan](#), specifically policy changes developed by OSPE's Energy Task Force that could lower electricity bills for Ontarians. With respect to capacity, Minister Damerla explains that all parties at Queen's Park have agreed to abstain from the implementation of additional capacity. Minister Damerla noted that cancelling capacity contracts that were signed in the past could cost the government large sums of money. She explained that many renewable energy contracts will come up for renewal in a few years. At that point, lower rates could be negotiated to decrease the cost of electricity.

Minister Damerla was very receptive to the topics presented by OSPE and expressed interest in actions that would improve energy generation, as well as battery storage options that would be suitable for residents and small businesses.

Thank you to Ewelina for her dedication to the engineering profession, and thank you Minister Damerla for meeting with OSPE!