

Media Advisory



Manitoulin Island event to discuss legislation that would make renewable energy a provincial priority

Frustration is growing in parts of rural Ontario where farmers, municipalities, First Nations, and local owners of green energy projects are unable to fully contribute to the future of Ontario's green electricity.

A Green Energy Act that would empower all Ontario residents to become power generators is being proposed by an alliance of agricultural, labour, industrial and environmental organizations.

A workshop is being held in M'Chigeeng First Nations on Manitoulin Island to explain the proposed legislation, which in Europe has proven to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, eliminate smog and create thousand of good jobs. For more information on the Green Energy Act, visit http://www.greenenergyact.ca.

WHAT:

A workshop about the proposed Green Energy Act for Ontario

WHO:

M'Chigeeng First Nation The Ontario Sustainable Energy Association, member of the Green Energy Act Alliance

WHEN:

Wednesday, February 25, 2009 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

WHERE:

Main Hall M'Chigeeng First Nation Community Complex, 94 Hwy 551, Manitoulin Island POP 1G0

Free Admission

For more information, contact:

Grant Taibossigai, Economic Department Manager, M'Chigeeng First Nation, 705-377-5363, or email ecdevgt@amtelecom.net.

To schedule interviews, Contact:

Jane Story, Manager Policy and Communications, Ontario Sustainable Energy Association, 416-977-4441, ex 222 or email jane@ontario-sea.org.

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M'Chigeeng, which means "village enclosed by stepped cliffs" is the second-largest reserve on Manitoulin. It was settled in the middle of the 19th century, when natives from Wikwemikong relocated, and have since flourished.

The **Ontario Sustainable Energy Association** (OSEA) works to initiate, facilitate and support the work of local sustainable energy organizations through membership services, province wide capacity building and non-partisan policy work. They work to catalyze the efforts of community organizers and raise awareness of the benefits of community power and renewable energy through various communication channels and by offering a variety of workshops and guidebooks on topics.

