

Energy Ottawa turns waste and water into green and renewable energy to power Ontario

Energy Ottawa, a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa, generates enough green electricity to power 18,000 homes annually through landfill gas and hydroelectric energy generation

Fast facts

Corporate profile

Energy Ottawa owns and operates three hydroelectric generating stations – located along the Ottawa River adjacent to Chaudière Falls, the birth place of Ottawa's rich logging history. The generating stations offer the environmental perks of hydro-electricity production, such as zero waste and carbon dioxide emissions. However, Energy Ottawa delivers added benefits because the sites construction did not require damming of the Ottawa River – the common method for hydroelectric facility construction and a process that displaces wildlife and permanently changes landscapes.

Why Ottawa

The Ottawa River not only offers a source of electricity. It also provides recreational activities to Ottawa residents and visitors. In addition to beaches and boat clubs, the Ottawa River is home to Ontario's most desirable whitewater rafting locations. Located 90 minutes from the heart of Ottawa is Owl Rafting and Wilderness Tours where both beginner and veteran rafters can enjoy white rapid excursions down the legendary Rocher Fendu Rapids of the Ottawa River.

Business advantage

Energy Ottawa is a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa. As such, it has a 100-year long tradition of powering Ottawa. In addition to experience, Energy Ottawa is among the largest green energy generators in Canada, capable of powering 18,000 homes alone.

As one of only a few Canadian electricity generating companies whose facilities have received Federal Government EcoLogo certification, Energy Ottawa – a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa – generates environmentally-friendly, renewable and reliable energy from Ottawa's waterways and landfills.



Canada's Innovation Capital

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The hydroelectric generating stations are dubbed 'run-of-the-river', which means that the natural flow and elevation drop of the Ottawa River is used to drive the electricity-producing turbines instead of constructing man-made falls and rises to manipulate water flow. The stations generate up to 125 million kilowatt-hours of electricity a year and are linked up with the Ontario electricity grid through underground cables.

Increased demand for green and renewable energy encouraged Energy Ottawa to look to another resource – garbage – for energy generation and in January 2007 the company began operations at the Trail Road landfill gas generation site. The Ottawa-based site converts methane gas from garbage into electricity – generating enough energy to power 5,000 homes a year while reducing annual greenhouse gas emissions by up to 180,000 tonnes by preventing landfill gas from being released into the atmosphere.

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Energy Ottawa is one of only a few Canadian green energy generating companies recognized by EcoLogo – North America's most widely recognized and respected environmental certification. Acknowledgement from EcoLogo signifies superior service and commitment to green and renewable energy because it is the only North American standard that meets the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standard for environmental labels.

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The Ottawa River – which is 1,130 km long – also offers excellent fishing, especially for bass, walleye and catfish. In fact, pro fisherman can participate in the many fishing tournaments, such as CatFest, that happen annually during

the summer months. Recreational fisherman can take guided fishing trips which are available at nearly any point along the Ottawa River.

Business advantage

In 2002, the Ontario government removed restrictions on the energy market, opening it up for competition from non-government organizations. The move, which was intended to drive down electricity prices, resulted in the emergence of many small hydroelectric generating stations throughout the province. Energy Ottawa is a subsidiary of Hydro Ottawa. As such, it has a 100-year long tradition of powering Ottawa. In addition to experience, Energy Ottawa is among the largest green energy generators in Canada, capable of powering 18,000 homes alone.

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Future growth plans

Energy Ottawa is continually exploring alternative ways to generate green energy and the Ontario Standard Offer Program – which offers \$0.11 per kWh to producers of renewable energy – will financially assist Energy Ottawa in its goal to expand current operations to include wind, biomass and solar energy.

Contact information

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