



COALITION OF HOMEOWNERS FOR INTELLIGENT POWER

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CHIP Demands Definitive Statement from PC's, NDP, Greens.

Liberals will cancel Power Plant; others less clear.

Following the Liberals' announcement Saturday that they will scrap the proposed Sherway-area power plant if they are re-elected, the Coalition of Homeowners for Intelligent Power (CHIP) is demanding clear, no-nonsense statements on the issue from the other parties' leaders.

"We're pleased that the government has committed to correcting what should never have happened in the first place," said Greg Rohn, interim Chair of the community-based organization. "They've finally come around. Now we're calling on the other party leaders to tell the public clearly what they will do if they are elected. We represent thousands of homeowners who want to know." Rohn promised to post the parties' commitments on the CHIP website. He also expressed disappointment at the "political games" that are now being played with the issue, noting that the PC's had inflated a big red elephant beside the plant site yesterday.

"This is not a game," he said "people's health is at stake. It's an opportunity for the parties to be honest with the voters." He noted that Ontario PC leader Tim Hudak and his Mississauga South candidate Geoff Janoscik would not discuss the issue with him when approached on September 9th. "They blew me off," he said, "and none of their candidates accepted our invitation to the rally on September 15, while every other party did. Now the PC's are saying they've been campaigning on this issue for months. Well, our volunteers have been door to door too, and that's certainly news to us – we've seen no evidence of it."

According to Rohn, Hudak sent CHIP a private letter yesterday stating, among other things, that "we will not build this power plant if we are asked to form government". However, CHIP is not satisfied with this. "It's not good enough," says Rohn, "because it doesn't say they will actually cancel the plant, it doesn't make the other commitments the government made on Saturday, and it is not a truly public statement to the people of Ontario. Let them publicly and clearly match the Liberal's commitments, and we'll be happy. Nothing less."

CHIP has vowed to keep up the pressure until the plant is permanently stopped. "Even after the announcement on Saturday, demand for our 'Stop the Plant' signs is still going up", said Tony Jones, past Chair of CHIP, in an interview yesterday. "People aren't going to let this go, no matter who is elected. We've been at this for over seven years, and we aren't going to stop now. All the medical authorities agree that this plant shouldn't be here. The government has recognized this. Now it's time for the other parties to step up."

456 words

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