

WHAT READERS THINK

## **April 30: Seeing the light on energy.**

Re Agency Will Have Sweeping Powers To Overhaul Energy Use (April 28): It sounds good: an Ontario government agency directing the province's buildings to be emissions-free in a sweeping climate-change initiative. Yet it reminds me of that adage: The road to hell is paved with good intentions.

Builders deal with 45 government bodies. Adding another (with unattainable goals) will add costs, making home ownership an impossibility for many people, especially middle-class families and millennials – the forgotten people in this issue. It is tough now: 2014 data studied by the Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis showed 1.2 million Ontario households were under “significant pressure” financially – 60 per cent of that number involves people under the age of 45. That's our economy's future.

Reducing emissions is important. But rather than targeting less than 1 per cent of the province's carbon emissions, we should take a hard look at how initiatives like this one can hurt us all.

*Richard Lyall, president, Residential Construction Council of Ontario*