

From: [BoardSec](#)
To: [Shelly-Anne Connell](#)
Subject: EB-2010-0131 FW: Electricity distribution rate change
Date: October 22, 2010 10:35:25 AM

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: October 22, 2010 10:20 AM
To: BoardSec
Subject: Electricity distribution rate change

Dear Secretary

I would like to comment on Horizon Utilities' proposed electricity rate change.

We are a family of four living in Hamilton of modest means. We are concerned about the environment; we recycle as much as we can; we turn our furnace down in the winter and our air conditioner either up or off in the summer and we try to save energy whenever possible to make our carbon footprint smaller.

The more we try to work with government policies and recommendations concerning conservation, our bills for ALL utilities are rising. For example, we replaced 3 toilets in our house to dual flush low water toilets two years ago. That summer was particularly wet, so there was no need to water the garden, yet our water bill was higher than the summer before when we had to water the garden regularly and had the old toilets. We have replaced our furnace and air conditioner, washing machine, stove and several ground floor and all basement windows, garage door and house door to help make our home more efficient and hopefully save money on gas and hydro. For us this has been a large investment with little benefit to our pocketbook because prices have steadily increased. Furthermore, Horizon Utilities benefits from time of day usage....unless you make your

breakfast sometime during the night and keep it warm under your pillow, you will pay the premium rate to make it when you get up in the morning. Same goes for dinner and so on. As well, tell me why the month of November is so special that the hours for premium rate are longer.....could it be that since it will be dark around 5 pm, everyone will have to turn their house lights on?

As far as a rate change for delivery, I don't believe they need to increase them at all. Horizon is already profiting greatly from the time of use charges, that they can handle some of the cost. Utilities are a necessity for everyone. I understand that to be viable you need to make some gains, but I think their gains should be more controlled than they have been. Horizon and other such corporations servicing the whole country are providing a necessary commodity, without which life would be difficult for us all. The consumer should not be blamed all the time for requiring a commodity that Horizon provides. Most of us try very hard to conserve, and reap no rewards for our efforts. I am starting to think that the 'conservation hype' is just a ploy to make it easier to lay blame on the consumer and make us believe it is because of our demands that rates need to rise.

Rates should not be allowed to rise as fast as they have in the last few years. We need a break!

Yours truly,

Mary Holadyk

[Redacted]
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[Redacted]
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