

Re: EB-2009-0096

From:
John Ficner
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Dear Sirs,

As a pensioner and a seasonal property owner in rural Ontario, I am strongly opposed to any increase in Hydro One Networks distribution rate charges. As noted in the Notice of Application and Hearing for an Electricity Distribution Rate Change, "Any change to Hydro One Networks Inc.'s distribution rates will cause Hydro One Networks Inc.'s delivery charges to change." In addition, it states "Delivery charges ... vary depending on the amount of electricity consumed."

I strongly feel that Hydro One Networks delivery charges should have a relationship to the amount of energy consumed. Instead, the delivery charge appears to be a fixed amount, a 'connection fee', which is billed regardless of how much energy is consumed.

At my seasonal property, the energy consumed is very low. According to Hydro One Networks invoices, it is **estimated** to be 3 to 5 KWH per day. For periods when the property is in use, the delivery charge for the energy consumed amounts to greater than 600% of the energy cost. For periods in the winter when the property is not used (generally more than four months), there is no energy consumption at all, yet the delivery charge of approximately \$120 is still billed to me. I am billed to **pay to have nothing delivered**. How does this fit the delivery charge variance quoted above?

The Gas Company charges me about 32% of the total bill to deliver gas to my house. The Telephone Company has its costs in the line charges, as does the Cable Company. I could not afford it if they all charged 600% or more of the usage to deliver their commodity to my house.

The Hydro Utility should calculate the delivery charge as a percentage of the electricity consumed. In addition, the 'line losses' (the 'adjusted usage' factor) are costs that the Utility incurs for energy lost in delivering the electricity to its consumers. These 'losses' are a consequence of the delivery equipment, and should already be included in any delivery charge that is imposed by Hydro One Networks.

For this consumer, there is no incentive to reduce my electricity consumption. Surely if I do, it is not going to have any significant impact on my bill from Hydro One Networks.

Therefore, I cannot support any proposed increases to Hydro One Networks Inc.'s distribution rate. I sincerely hope that the Ontario Energy Board will review the Delivery Charges in addition to the proposed distribution rate change.

Sincerely,

John W. Ficner