

October 21, 2011

Sent Via Fax to 416-40-7656

Board Secretary,  
Ontario Energy Board  
27<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2300 Yonge St.  
Toronto, Ont. M4P 1E4

Dear Board Secretary:      File No.: EB 2011 – 0183-Milton Hydro Distribution Inc.  
Request for Electricity Distribution Rate Increase

I am requesting Intervenor status in the above request for a hydro increase. I will not be requesting costs.

Further, I am requesting that a public hearing be held in the Town of Milton, between the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. so Milton ratepayers can have the opportunity to gain an understanding of how increases to their hydro rates are determined and whether this proposed increase is warranted given that an increase will take place on November 1, 2011, not to mention the dramatic increases in hydro during the last few years. A written hearing is restrictive and does not allow Milton ratepayers to fully participate in this request for yet another increase. There are ratepayers who, for various reasons, can only participate orally, and they are being denied participation due to the current written format.

A request by the Milton community for a public meeting with Milton Hydro has been refused on the basis that the current process involved in calculating hydro increases is too complex for the ratepayer to comprehend. Therefore, any public meeting would be a waste of time. The only recourse to get a full understanding as to whether any hydro increase is warranted can only be done through requesting Intervenor status

The Hydro Consumer, as in my situation, cannot afford further increases in basic household bills of which hydro is a large part. This request for another increase fails to give any consideration to the ratepayers' ability to pay, and fails to consider the secondary impact of increases in goods and services due to escalating hydro costs. In other words, an increase in the hydro bill is but one increase the ratepayer will experience. Due to hydro increases, other essentials will be more expensive, and this adds to the affordability factor.

Hydro is not a luxury item which one cannot use. It is a necessity which cannot be avoided, and the rapidly rising hydro rates are creating hardships in maintaining a home and especially for seniors who are on a fixed income and for those who remain unemployed or underemployed due to the recession. This fact is not being addressed in the current application for yet another hydro increase. It is difficult to rationalize an increase which will create hardship for the ratepayer, when Milton Hydro enjoys over a million dollar profit.

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In summary, there has been no demonstrated need for an increase in hydro rates. Milton Hydro already enjoys a healthy profit. Many Milton Hydro customer are not in such a fortunate situation. Ratepayers have already experienced substantial increases on their hydro bill, and to other essential goods and services as a result of hydro increases. The hydro customer, like myself, is finding it difficult to pay the basic bills associated with being able to live in their home. This Board should consider the affordability of an increase for the hydro customer, and it should consider the hardship the current requested hydro increase will have on families, seniors and every ratepayer.

I would ask that communication in regard to this matter be by e-mail to [hrrscts@yahoo.com](mailto:hrrscts@yahoo.com) Thank you!

Yours truly,



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