

From: [BoardSec](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: EB-2012-0247 FW: Electricity Distribution Rate Change
Date: July 4, 2012 4:07:20 PM

From: Norm Glancy [REDACTED]
Sent: July 4, 2012 2:02 PM
To: BoardSec
Cc: Tim Hudak; Chris Malette; George Armstrong
Subject: Electricity Distribution Rate Change

We would like to thank the Board for providing us with an opportunity to comment on the proposed energy rate increase due to the "smart meters".

We oppose this increase for the following reasons:

(a) These meters were installed without receiving any formal public discussion. There is no compelling evidence that these meters were ever required. For about 70 years, Ontario Hydro operated most successfully without these meters. If it is not broken, why fix it?

(b) Since the demise of Ontario Hydro, there have been numerous managerial decisions which in total, have created a very significant increase in the energy rate in this province. This province became an industrial significant enterprise due to competition and even low electrical rates. The present rate structure has been detrimental to this industrial base such that we seem to be discouraging and even driving existing customers elsewhere. In fact, just recently, a spokesman for General Motors announced on TV that Ontario is now the highest cost place in which to build motor vehicles. He went on to say that unless they get some relief in their costs, they would consider moving out. Can we stand to lose such a valuable business?

(c) One reason given for the use of these meters, was to change our lifestyle in such a way as to reduce the daily energy demand peak. Supposedly, this would reduce the need for new generation. This was misguided, since at best, it would only delay the ultimate need for new generation. At the same time, these meters required an expensive capital investment which could have been used to provide for the ultimate necessary generation. It has turned out that our energy rates have so deleted our industrial demand that the scaling down of the peak has occurred without the need for these meters at all. This confirms that the capital cost for these meters was not warranted.

Another reason for the use of these meters was to have reduced the labour costs of manual meter readings. What was not specified was the significant labour costs for these highly technical meters along with their expensive peripheral equipment.

(d) There should be no discrimination in residential electric energy rates. These meters are entirely discriminatory. The couple who work daily cannot easily modify their lifestyle when they get home every evening and adjust their hours of use. Senior citizens, infirm individuals, etc. who are living in their own homes may require electrical energy throughout the day for heating, cooking, cooling, washing, lighting, medical equipment (dialysis machines, etc.).

(e) The energy providers should be directed to reduce their costs in other directions which would compensate them for their meters.

We strongly suggest that this rate increase is not in the best interests of anyone in this province, if we wish to maintain our industrial integrity.

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