

From:



To:

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street, 27 Floor
Toronto ON M4P 1E4

Attention: Board Secretary

July 20, 2012

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Reference: File Number EB-2012-0136

Hydro One Application for Electricity Distribution Rate Change

As a rural customer of Hydro One, and after considerable research on electricity rates throughout North America, I respectfully submit this letter of comment regarding Hydro One's application for an electricity distribution rate change.

Hydro One Networks Inc.'s application should be denied for the following reasons:

1. When comparing what Canadian residents pay per kilowatt-hour with all charges considered, Ontario residents pay more than the residents of all other jurisdictions. Where delivery rates are shown separately, Hydro One has the highest delivery rates in the country.
2. Actual power consumption by Hydro One customers is adjusted upward by a factor of 9.2% to account for "line loss. At this time, I am unsure how Hydro One was able to justify charging back to the consumer the costs for "Line Loss". This "adjustment" is unique to Ontario. Furthermore, this adjustment factor has been increased from 8.0% to 9.2% in the past 18 months. As an Electronics Technician, I fail to understand how Hydro Ones "line loss" has increased by 1.2% allowing for the increase in cost which in itself is outlandish and ultimately displays a poorly disguised rate increase. Hydro One customers pay a delivery charge on this line loss and includes HST on this same undelivered electricity. This decision should be considered in the near future for reversal.

3. The Ontario consumer at this time, is also repaying the former Ontario Hydro debt. Again, I am at a loss to understand how Hydro One was able to justify passing this debt back to the consumer to repay what we have paid for once already.

In spite of the Provincial consumers best efforts to conserve energy, which has resulted in significant reductions in overall residential power consumption in Ontario, consumers have seen their hydro bills increase by a factor of three in recent years while Hydro One's cash flow has almost doubled. (As published in publicly available financial statements).

Cordially,

Rick Bensch