

**From:** Webmaster  
**Sent:** November-07-13 4:12 PM  
**To:** BoardSec  
**Subject:** Letter of Comment Submitted: EB-2013-0321

## **LETTER OF COMMENT**

### **Comments:**

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you to vehemently oppose any activity or application by the Ontario Power Generation Inc. that will result in a rate increase on my already high electricity bills. An average rate increase of \$5.36/month for the typical residential consumer is abhorrent given that:

- the government has promised and delivered on a 10% hydro rebate on our bills. As weak as this rebate is, it is better than nothing. Increasing our rates by over \$5/month will absolutely negate this benefit, rendering it useless, ineffective, and shameless politicking.
- for those who are already experiencing financial difficulties because they are low-income, renters, in affordable/social housing, or on fixed monthly incomes, this 'average' increase of \$5.36/month results in at least an increase of \$65/year. 100s of thousands of people in Ontario cannot afford any utility increases. Any increase will have a net negative effect on households in this province and put many in an even more precarious financial and housing situation.
- from the October 25, 2013 Toronto Star - Energy Minister Bob Chiarelli announced that “new nuclear will not be part of the long-term energy plan.” He maintains Ontario has a “comfortable surplus of electricity” and won't need to spend upwards of \$26 billion to build new nuclear plants..... The Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO) balances the daily supply and demand of power, and directs its flow around the province. It disagrees with OPA, predicting Ontario's grid electricity demand will drop to 1992 levels by 2022....

How can the OPG justify increasing rates (for whatever reasons) given a surplus of electricity according to the Minister of Energy and an anticipated drop in demand from now until 2022 according to the IESO? Doing so directly contradicts anything the Minister or the IESO has said.

With that, I would like to reiterate my opposition to this rate increase, I am sure I speak on behalf of many Ontarians who may not have seen the public notice of this hearing or have taken the time to write.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and I look forward to hearing the outcome of this hearing.

Thank you.

**Name:** Shawn Lowes



**Email:** [Redacted]

**Phone:** [Redacted]

**Fax:** 0

**Company:**