

From: Kathryn Burns-Coutts [REDACTED]
Sent: November-17-13 4:19 PM
To: BoardSec
Subject: Letter of Comment Submitted: EB-2013-0321

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Please do not allow Ontario Power Generation to increase its rates. I don't want to pay more on my monthly hydro bill. We already pay far too much for Delivery charges and debt retirement charges, sometimes exceeding our actual hydro costs by triple the cost. Please do not allow any further increases at this time. Thank you.

Enough with the hydro rate increases for this year. The OEB seems to just be rubber stamping any increase application without concern for the average hydro residential consumer. The average residential consumer's wages has not kept pace with all the increases that have or will occur for the year 2013. Maybe now is the time for the large hydro companies to look more for cost savings within, instead of just relying on raising rates. A lot of other large companies are cutting costs in various ways in order to be more "competitive", because they know they can't rely just on increasing prices.

Does the average \$5.36 each month include the HST, Debt Retirement or Delivery Charges? Those costs are percentage based on the whole kWh hydro usage.

I do hope more residential customers are asking the same questions and want a stop to these continued increases.

We're paying some of the highest rates for electricity in Canada. How is it that other provinces provide the same service at far lower rates? Can we not model our electrical production from the other provinces who seem to be getting it right. Look at Quebec, look at BC. Both large provinces with concentrated populations in the southern areas. Ontario Hydro's webpage shows the figures:

http://www.ontario-hydro.com/index.php?page=electricity_rates_by_province

By allowing constant price increases we are not encouraging any meaningful progress to reducing the cost of production.

I propose a hydro rate freeze. Much like what happened with Minimum Wage. A freeze on rates until the average cost for electricity in the rest of the country increases through inflation to meet our current rates. Hydro production in Ontario should be able to find ways to reduce their costs. Like every other business and government agency, eventually they have to learn to live within their means.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Burns-Coutts

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