

From: Mar Knapp [REDACTED]
Sent: July-06-15 10:45 AM
To: BoardSec
Subject: Proposed hydro rate increase in Kingston, Ontario

Margaret Knapp
[REDACTED]

July 3, 2015

Board Secretary
Ontario Energy Board
email: BoardSec@ontarioenergyboard.ca

In respect to case #EB-2015-0063 in relation to Kingston Hydro Corporation application for a rate increase for their customers I would like to submit the following comments. Many customers in Ontario are very upset about their cost for hydro electric power and in particular the high salaries that are paid to some of the executives with the Ontario Power Generation, the Ontario Energy Board, Hydro One Networks and other affiliated organizations that supposedly represent the taxpayers of Ontario. The current CEO's are paid compensation that is not a reasonable cost for the taxpayer. If they were making decisions that would improve the bottom line and that are increasing the use of alternative energy sources then one may see the advantage of a rate of pay that is embarrassing and totally unacceptable to the average Ontario resident struggling along on incomes of \$50,000 a year or less.

We are retired seniors on a FIXED income, we do not have COLA or a pension indexed to inflation like some retired public and other servants of both the provincial and federal governments. Every year Hydro One are increasing their delivery rates dramatically and the persons who have been at the top levels of management and the Province of Ontario employees involved have been sucking the life out of taxpayers. You cannot blame us and expect us to pay for the misuse of monies and the poor decisions of the senior persons who made some very bad decisions during the past 50 years. In the 1970's I can remember the then "Ontario Hydro" saying, "Oh, don't worry – we will never run out of hydro-electric power capability and it will always be reasonable. We are even selling excess hydro to New York State." HEY, WHAT HAPPENED EXACTLY!!!!

The fact that you have severely impacted on the ability of most senior persons who are still in their own homes with exorbitant costs because unions got stronger and so did the demands of the hydro workers and other associated employees within our governments.

The effects of this **mafia like HYDRO ONE, Ontario Power Generation, et al is despicable**. You constantly send out missives about putting in more efficient heating systems, changing the type of light bulbs, insulating and every manner possible to save on one's energy

costs. Did it ever occur to any of the powers that be that perhaps some of the people cannot afford to purchase the items that would help them save on their energy costs. They just do not have the money to make these changes. They cannot afford more insulation, they cannot afford a new furnace, they cannot afford solar panels, etc., etc., etc. It is not just seniors there are a lot of people who are living pay cheque to pay cheque. Your time of use programs are impacting adversely on young families and seniors. Where exactly do you intend senior persons to live when they can no longer afford to live in their homes due to high hydro rates?

We also noticed that the new HYDRO POLICE with their BROWN and black uniforms were in Kingston recently doing training on the CFB Firing Range. I did not know that you are so afraid of the populace that you now have to have a separate police force.

The current CEO of Ontario Power Generation, Tom Mitchell topped the sunshine list with an annual salary and benefits of \$1.714 million. 111,438 public sector workers are making more than \$100,000 and OPG and Hydro One have 12,500 employees, 1,000 more than in 2013. We the people of Ontario want this rape of the taxpayer to stop!

We want to know what Hydro One has planned for seniors who will be getting ill next winter because they cannot afford to heat their homes effectively. The past two winters have been two of the coldest on record and of course that is directly attributable to climate change caused by carbon emissions. Oh, by the way, wood burning contributes even more carbon to our atmosphere and a majority of people especially in rural areas are using more and more wood every year to heat their homes. Hydro One is contributing a lot to our greenhouse gas emissions and with the new gas plants that will make it even worse. You have been abusively punishing young families by having high hydro rates in the 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. time frame and early morning when families are getting breakfast in the winter months. The medical experts say that you should eat your evening meals early and not eat after 7:00 p.m. to live a healthy lifestyle. So, Hydro One is also contributing to bad health in Ontario as well. We have lost thousands of jobs in Ontario with businesses that have left to relocate in the U.S., South America, Mexico and other countries and one of the major factors that they cited in their decision was the cost of hydro electric power.

You also state that you can impact on a person's credit rating if they do not pay their bills on time. It seems to me that this is fairly equivalent to tactics used by the mafia or loan sharks. "Hey – we're gonna break your knees if you don't pay up." Do we detect an air of fascism forming in Ontario? Hey, the brown shirts, the strong arm tactics, the abuse of a position of power, pardon the pun!

Sincerely,

Margaret Knapp

c.c. Rosemarie Leclair, CEO, Ontario Energy Board