

RECEIVED

AUG 04 2015

ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD

██████████
██████████
July 8, 2015

Christine Long, Member,

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

EB-2015-0004

Dear Ms. Long,

About a year ago our household received an insert from Ottawa Hydro describing the "Supply Mix" of Ontario's Electricity System. I wrote to Ottawa Hydro to point out the figures presented (Nuclear Energy at almost 60% of electric energy supply) were misleading.

I am enclosing a copy of that letter.

Norm Fraser, Chief Operating Officer for Ottawa Hydro sent a polite and extensive reply which failed to address my central concern – that the expense and cumbersome nature of shutting off nuclear plants leads the IESO to turn off hydro generation rather than shut down nuclear generation at those times when base load exceeds demand on the system.

This, in turn, leads to over-use of nuclear supply, and artificially pumps up the figures for nuclear's contribution to the Ontario supply system. It is misleading to provide those figures to electricity consumers without explaining this context.

Mr. Fraser's letter said "our regulator, the Ontario Energy Board (OEB), requires us to communicate the province's electricity supply mix to all of our customers each year".

Our latest Ottawa Hydro bill contains yet another of these misleading inserts about the supply mix of the Ontario electric system. Nuclear is identified as 60% of the current supply.

I am angry that this kind of misleading information continues to be delivered to Ontario electricity consumers.

Yours,



Evelyn Gigantes

c.c. Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Energy

Glen Murray, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
July 14, 2014

Bryce Conrad, President and CEO,
Hydro Ottawa Limited
3025 Albion Rd. N., Box 8700
Ottawa, ON K1G 3S4

Dear Mr Conrad,

Our latest Hydro bill contained an insert: "Ontario's System-wide Electricity Supply Mix". It stated that nuclear energy provides almost 60% of Ontario's electricity. The source cited was the Ontario Independent Electricity System Operator.

I am angry that Ottawa Hydro is conveying this "information" to its customers, because it provides a misleading representation of how Ontario's electricity system has been operating over the last few years.

Ontario's system uses both water power and nuclear power for its base load. In the last few years the system has had more base load supply (water plus nuclear) than is required for normal demand. Because it is expensive to shut down and restart nuclear electricity production, the OIESO has chosen instead to close off water-generated supply when base supply exceeds base demand.

Operating the electricity system in this manner exaggerates the system's dependence on nuclear supply. To provide the resulting exaggerated statistics to Ottawa Hydro customers is, in effect, misleading them about the contribution of nuclear power generation to the electricity on which they depend.

While the OIESO may feel it benefits its own operations to promote nuclear power generation by exaggerating the significance of nuclear power in meeting Ontario's demand for electricity, I fail to understand why Ottawa Hydro should be promoting this position to its customers.

Yours,

Evelyn Gigantes