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**BY E-MAIL**

December 14, 2015

Kirsten Walli  
Board Secretary  
Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: Ottawa River Power Corporation. (Ottawa River Power)  
2016 Distribution Rate Application  
Ontario Energy Board (OEB) Staff Summary of Community Meeting  
Board File No. EB-2014-0105**

As noted in the Notice of Application, the OEB hosted a community meeting regarding Ottawa River Power's 2016 cost of service rate application on November 23, 2015. This letter is provided as a brief summary of the event.

The meeting was held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Murray L. Moore Hydro Museum in Pembroke, Ontario. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for members of the community to learn about Ottawa River Power's application, to explain the OEB's role as a regulator, to describe the ways that a customer can participate in the OEB's review process and to provide an opportunity for members of the community to give feedback to the OEB regarding Ottawa River Power's application. Attendees were also given an opportunity to file a letter of comment at the meeting.

OEB staff and Ottawa River Power staff attended the event and made presentations. OEB staff explained the OEB's role and informed customers how they could participate. Ottawa River Power's staff discussed the utility's application, the main components of its distribution system plan (DSP) and the impact of the smart meter initiative on this application.

Five members of the community as well as Ottawa River Power's Board of Directors attended the meeting. Most of the attendees asked questions following the presentations.

The areas of discussion following the presentations were:

- transition to LED streetlights and its impacts on maintenance costs
- consequences of the installation of solar panels on Ottawa River Power's property and its impact on revenue offsets
- mechanism of a price cap incentive rate setting, Ottawa River Power's test year application and ongoing cost consequences until Ottawa River Power's next rebasing application
- ongoing efficiency improvements made by Ottawa River Power
- load profiles for residential customers
- Smart meter initiative and its cost consequences
- expiry of the charges such as the Debt Retirement charge and the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit
- impact of the Ontario Electricity Support Program
- operational expenses, in particular total compensation and staffing levels
- the cost of electricity (e.g. RPP prices, the Global Adjustment)
- future green energy initiatives

One customer, a member of the GS>50 kWh customer class, provided comments in the form of a presentation. The presentation is attached as Schedule A.

Yours truly,

*Original Signed By*

Birgit Armstrong  
Advisor – Electricity Rates and Prices

**Schedule A**

**To OEB Staff Summary of Community Meeting**

**Letter of Comment**

**OEB File No: EB-2015-0069**

**DATED: December 14, 2015**



Good Evening:

My name is [REDACTED] and I am the Canadian Sales Manager for [REDACTED] located in the City of Pembroke, thank you for giving me the opportunity to appear before you this evening.

[REDACTED] is a manufacturing based business that has been established for over 50 years, it has been located in the City of Pembroke for over 25 years, and employs 45 highly skilled individuals that produce a product that is exported globally. Our company is locally owned, and takes great pride in the fact that our product is Canadian based, while our market is international.

I am here this evening to question the proposed increase in the electricity distribution rate as proposed by Ottawa River Power Corporation.

As members of the Ontario Energy Board are well aware, the manufacturing component of our economy in the Province of Ontario has suffered dramatically over the past five years.

Manufacturing offshore has contributed dramatically to the general malaise of the commercial sector in The Province of Ontario, and we have seen the consumption of electricity fall exponentially, due to the fact that less businesses are here to pay their share of associated hydro cost.

Based on a study completed by Ryerson University, the consumption of electricity from 2005 to 2011 decreased significantly from 157,000 GWh to 141,500 GWh, putting that in perspective the loss of that consumption (15,500 GWh) is gargantuan when one would consider that one GWh can supply 700,000 homes in the Province with energy.

The Corporate vision that we [REDACTED] have adhered to, has allowed us opportunities to expand, while never losing sight of our responsibility and obligation to our community.

We do not dispute the fact that doing business requires good fiscal financial management and outside of the box thinking, our track records show innovation, and nose to the grindstone commitment, with a positive business attitude we strive to move forward while endeavouring to anticipate increased cost to the bottom line.

The attached will show that significant increases to us in electrical costs have taken place between 2012 and 2015, an increase of over 45% in a short period of time.

In April of 2014 we were pleased to see the Minister of Energy the Honourable Bob Chiarelli come to Pembroke to announce the reopening of the Pembroke Fiber Board Plant.



The Minister recognized that the downturn in manufacturing in the Province was a direct co-relation to high electricity prices and thus the IEI program was created, the "Industrial Electricity Incentive" to assist larger manufacturers !

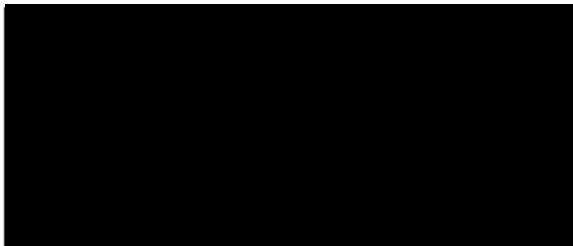
While programs such as SaveONenergy offer rebates to customers who purchase products such as LED lighting systems and Photo luminescent products, our product which is much more efficient, has a shelf life of up to twenty years, uses neither batteries nor electricity is not even on the governments list nor considered for a program such as SaveONenergy. This is tragic.

While we all look forward with optimism to creating a greener environment and look for more efficient ways to reduce carbon footprint on the globe , through programs such as conservation with pollutant elimination, understandably the increases in hydro distribution rates to repair failing and ailing infrastructure have to be recognized , however, industry continues to bear the larger proportionate share of these costs while continuing to struggle to maintain employment that benefits all within the province of Ontario. It is difficult.

Long term projections of Energy demand in the Province of Ontario indicate below 150,000 GWh consumption up to the year 2020.

Please keep rates at an affordable level allow some breathing space for the consumer and industry.

The suggested \$8.32 per month increase is too high.



# Ottawa River Power

Date	Usage	Weighted Average Price	Standard Supply Charge	Total Bill	Yearly Billed
September 11, 2012	26,058.12	0.029827	\$777.24	\$3,140.82	\$37,609.00
September 9, 2013	35,783.16	0.022155	\$792.78	\$4,089.04	\$44,549.00
October 14, 2014	33,663.60	0.018385	\$618.91	\$4,948.27	\$55,635.00
September 14, 2015	37,778.04	0.027918	\$1,054.69	\$6,409.51	\$56,847.00

\$0.12

\$0.11

\$0.15

\$0.17 1.40762