From: Harald Simon [redacted]
Sent: November-23-16 8:03 PM
To: BoardSec
Cc: regulatory@hydroone.com
Subject: FW: EB-2016-0081 writtten comments

Ms Kirsten Walli,
Board Secretary,
Ontario Energy Board
Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge St,
Toronto, ON M4P 1E4

Dear Ms Walli,

I am submitting my comments for the above 2017 Electricity Distribution Rate Application to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) by Hydro One Networks Inc. of November 18, 2016.

My concern centres on our exorbitant electricity rates. Hydro One Network's Inc. customer communications people advise that they don't set electricity rates, but that the OEB does, so I can't complain to HydroOne regarding rates. I can only submit a written communication to an upcoming OEB Electricity Distribution Rate Application by Hydro One Networks Inc. and cc that to Hydro One's Regulatory Dept., which would hardly entertain initiating a new Rate Distribution Application on my request.

I would like a sensible explanation from the OEB as to why the total (all in) monthly cost for 1000 kWh of electricity in a rural residential home in neighbouring Manitoba is $81.38 and $89.62 in Quebec, while the same unit costs in Ontario are 275% higher at $235.53 .

Specifically, why is my delivery charge is so high when I plug into the grid less than 10 Km from two wind power generators (Spring Bay, ON) hooked into the same grid that are always turning and about 30 Km from a 70 megawatt windfarm (Little Current, ON) plugged into same grid not to mention the numerous solar panel installations in my immediate vicinity generating electricity on Hydro One's feed in tariff (FIT) agreements? I may use some power imported from further distances, but mostly I consume electricity generated within the above indicated radius, which reduces Hydro One's costs in terms of transmission line distance and line voltage drop. It seems Hydro One's accounting system doesn't consider these variances in setting its delivery fees and thereby overcharges customers as me. Hydro One's rationale for invoicing me a delivery charge equal to an average of 76% of my monthly electricity cost however falls under the purvey of the OEB.

When Hydro One refers to green initiatives in Ontario being responsible for the cost of electricity being d i f f e r e n t in other jurisdictions than Ontario, they euphemize my specifically referencing Ontario's neighbouring jurisdications, namely Manitoba & Quebec, to which Ontario should be closely matched in rates, and avoid the fact that Ontario rates are nearly t r I p l e those in Manitoba & Quebec. Perhaps one reason is that those green initiatives under the FIT program pays green electricity suppliers from solar and wind generating sources between 50 cents and 81 cents per kWh for fixed terms of 20 years while charging an average of 13.3 cents per kWh. Where does the difference come from? I submit the rates I pay could be lower if Hydro One didn't have these high cost FIT contracts approved by the OEB.

The proposed January 1, 2017 rate reductions of 1.23% or $2.21 for an average annual consumption of 750 kWh for a typical residential medium density customer as myself is very meagre considering that my rates increased 20.5% from Nov 1, 2013 to Nov 1, 2015 and an additional 3.6% increase May 1, 2016. Interestingly, the off peak rates climbed the most at 4.8% on May 1, 2016. More generous rate reductions proposed for January 1, 2017 affect only a very small minority of customers in the rural low density classification.

Furthermore, why aren't the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendations of the Report of the Canada Power Grid Task Force Electricity: Interconnectiong Canada - A Strategic Advantage by the Canadian Academy of Engineering promoting an east-west rather than the current north-south power grid given greater credence and consideration by the OEB for the inherent cost savings?

Thanking you for your kind consideration of these concerns and looking forward to a reply at your earliest convenience, I remain

Sincerely,

Harald Simon

Dr Harald Simon

[redacted]