

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Comment -  
**Date:** July 27, 2017 2:47:24 PM

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Original Message-----

From: webmaster@ontarioenergyboard.ca [<mailto:webmaster@ontarioenergyboard.ca>]  
Sent: June-07-17 9:41 AM  
To: registrar  
Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --  
2017-06-07

-- Case Number --  
EB-2017-0049

-- Name --  
Christina Creber

-- Phone --  
[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --  
[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

My husband and I are concerned about the proposed distribution rate increase.

We are both retired. Although there is a cost of living increase to our pensions there is not enough to make up the increase that not only Hydro One will be adding to our bill but that businesses whose distribution rates have also increased will need to pass along to the consumer. We are also concerned about the impact on others in our community who are living on low incomes and barely able to meet their current financial obligations or those who are on social assistance where there are no regular increases. Any additional expense is then taken out of money that would normally be used for food and other necessities. I am a retired social worker in the area of mental health and have seen the results of people having to make the decision to compromise their nutrition for the sake of their rent and utilities. The stress alone of having to make due with less and less as governments demand more leads to increased need for outpatient mental health supports for many thus increasing the budget needed for health care. We understand that there are programs which can help those in need however this is humiliating for those who have to apply and only serves to put more of a burden on other parts of the provincial budget. I worked for one of our local hospitals and we were constantly under pressure to 'do more with less'. The province had put constraints on funding based on having balanced budgets which resulted in my wages being frozen for a 3 year period. We do not hear of such constraints being placed on institutions like Hydro One and we think that perhaps it is time that more restrictive financial limits be put into place.

Hydro One threatens that our system will be compromised if they do not get all they are requesting however I have seen firsthand in the hospital how things can be done in more efficient ways when limits are placed. The increases seem excessive to us and we hope that the members of the review panel will look carefully at the need for the requested amounts. Many thanks for considering our comments.

-- Attachment --

