

Original Message-----

From: webmaster@ontarioenergyboard.ca [mailto:webmaster@ontarioenergyboard.ca]

Sent: September-20-17 9:07 AM

To: registrar

Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --

2017-09-20

-- Case Number --

EB-2017-0035

-- Name --

Paul Roy

-- Phone --

[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --

[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

I attended the hearing of September 19th 2017 in Embrun. In the presentation made by the Embrun Hydro, it was stated that the increase requested is needed for different reasons including future growth. It was also stated that the commercial establishments were getting a break and that the residential customers would be absorbing the rate increase. It will be a substantial increase to the residential owners.

In my opinion, this is very unfair. The increase should be absorbed across the membership, residential and commercial. The Embrun Hydro representative claimed that the commercial customers have decreased in the last few years, which is not a good reason not to be affected by the new rates. It is a fact that the residential component is growing on our territory and also that the commercial area will also be growing in the next few years, just confirm with the Municipality of Russell.

Nevertheless, rate increases are acceptable when they are aligned with the increase in cost of living, but such a big increase will cause hardship, especially on seniors and young persons who rent and have a hard time paying for electricity costs, hence the increase of unpaid amounts that the Embrun Hydro manager referred to in his presentation.

Again in my opinion, the increases should be incremental and in line with actual projected growth in the next five years, and spread to all customers, be it residential, commercial and others.

Respectfully submitted.

Paul Roy