

Ontario Energy Board Commission de l'énergie de l'Ontario

OEB STAFF SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY MEETING

EB-2017-0048

Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.

Application for 2018 Rates

October 10, 2017

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1 INTRODUCTION

Hydro Hawkesbury Inc. (HHI) filed a cost of service application with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) on July 12, 2017 seeking approval for changes to the rates that HHI charges for electricity distribution, to be effective January 1, 2018. For a typical residential customer beginning January 1, 2018, the proposed increase was \$0.15 per month.

A Notice of Hearing was issued on August 22, 2017.

Further to the Notice of Hearing, the OEB hosted one community meeting on September 18, 2017 in the town of Hawkesbury, Ontario regarding HHI's 2018 application.

This is an OEB staff report summarizing the outcomes of this community meeting. This report will be placed on the public record of the OEB hearing of this application along with copies of any written presentations made at the meeting. This report includes a summary of comments, questions and concerns raised during the community meeting by customers who attended the meeting. This summary is intended to capture the range of perspectives that were shared, rather than to provide a verbatim transcript of the meeting.

Customers are also able to submit individual written letters of comment with the OEB, either during a community meeting or any other time during the course of the OEB's review of an application. The OEB places written letters of comment on the public record of the specific proceeding. All comments must be submitted to the OEB before the decision-makers in that case begin to consider their decision on the application. In making its decision, the OEB considers everything on the public record, including all comments when determining whether to grant the requests made by HHI in this application.

2 THE PROCESS

The OEB convenes community meetings in the service territories of local distribution companies that have applied to the OEB to change their rates through a cost of service proceeding.

Community meetings are part of the OEB's process of reviewing a rate application. The OEB has established a Consumer Engagement Framework to ensure that the perspectives of customers served by rate-regulated entities are considered in the OEB's decision-making process.

Community meetings are hosted by OEB staff who inform customers about the role of the OEB in rate-setting and the processes involved. OEB representatives explain the various ways that customers can become involved in the adjudicative process. A copy of OEB staff's presentation is attached to this report as Schedule A.

To assist customers in better understanding the application, the utility makes a presentation explaining its proposals for capital, operations and other spending that result in the requested rate change. A copy of HHI's presentation is attached to this report as Schedule B.

Customers and municipal officials are also invited to make presentations outlining their thoughts on the utility's proposals.

Following the presentations, customers have the opportunity to ask questions of the OEB and the utility about the application and the regulatory process. The issues raised by customers in the community meetings are documented and used by OEB staff in reviewing the application, asking interrogatories and making submissions to the OEB panel hearing and deciding the application. Any verbal comments provided to OEB staff at the community meeting are summarized in this report with no attribution.

In addition to providing verbal comments to OEB staff, customers attending the meetings may express their concerns directly to the OEB by providing individual comments (with attribution) through an online form on the computers provided or by filling in a hard copy comment form, which is then submitted to the OEB by OEB staff.

3 SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

The HHI meeting was held at the Robert Hartley Sportsplex in Hawkesbury, Ontario on September 18, 2017 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Approximately 11 customers attended the meeting to hear presentations from OEB staff and HHI. Prior to the presentations, OEB staff and HHI staff were available to informally talk to attendees and answer questions. OEB and HHI representatives responded to questions from attendees during and following the presentations.

The following OEB staff and HHI representatives attended the meeting:

OEB Staff

Kristi Sebalj, Registrar Birgit Armstrong, Project Advisor, Major Applications Sylvia Kovesfalvi, Manager, Community Relations & Outreach Lynn Ramsey, Senior Advisor, Public Affairs Mandy Uspech, Advisor, Community Outreach

<u>Hawkesbury</u>

Michel Poulin, General Manager Jacinthe Chabot, Accountant

The OEB and HHI presented at the meeting.

Meeting participants had questions related to the bill impacts. There was considerable confusion around the \$0.15 increase per month. Some customers thought this was a 15 cent increase on the commodity price, others thought Hawkesbury had applied for a 15% increase. This was the major concern raised at the meeting.

Other Specific Concerns Raised

- Bill Impacts Clarification whether the bill increase of \$0.15/month is the total increase per month or per kWh. Questions regarding whether this increase pertains to all customer classes or just residential consumers also arose.
- IRM period Clarification on how the OEB calculates rate increases in the years following this application.

- Rate Base –Consumers sought clarification whether the requested rate increase relates to a transformer station renewal project highlighted in Hydro Hawkesbury's application.
- General comments were made in support of Hydro Hawkesbury's need to invest capital in infrastructure projects, including a \$3.5million capital addition for a Hawkesbury's transformer station renewal project. A customer noted that the infrastructure projects, particularly the new TS substation (in service since May 2017) will ensure reliability for Hawkesbury customers. The customer pointed out that Hawkesbury's transformer stations were over 50 years old and that infrastructure renewal is necessary.
- Time of use pricing Consumers inquired whether Hawkesbury customers have the ability yet to check their hourly consumption using Hydro Hawkesbury's website.

SCHEDULE A ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD PRESENTATION HYDRO HAWKESBURY INC. EB-2017-0048 SEPTEMBER 18, 2017



Getting Involved In OEB's Review of Hydro Hawkesbury's Rate Application

OEB Community Meeting

September 18, 2017

Every Voice Matters

- The OEB wants to hear from you to ensure we take your concerns into account as we make a decision about this application.
- OEB Community Meetings are held to give you an opportunity to:
 - Learn more about your utility's costs and rate application
 - Find out how to get involved in the OEB's process
 - Provide your comments to us about your utility's application.

OEB – Regulating Ontario's Energy Sector

The OEB is Ontario's independent energy regulator. We work to ensure a sustainable, reliable energy sector that helps consumers get value from their natural gas and electricity services – for today and tomorrow.



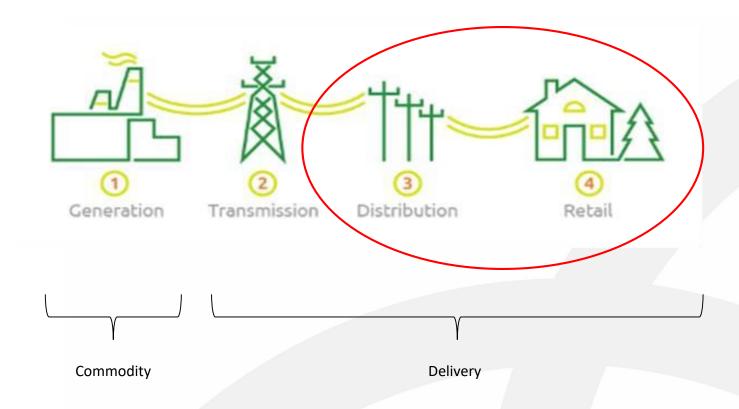
Consumer
Protection
(Set and
Enforce Rules)

Consumer Engagement and Information

Energy Support Programs (OESP, LEAP) Rate Review and Decisions (Supply & Delivery)

License Energy Companies

Reviewing Distribution Rates



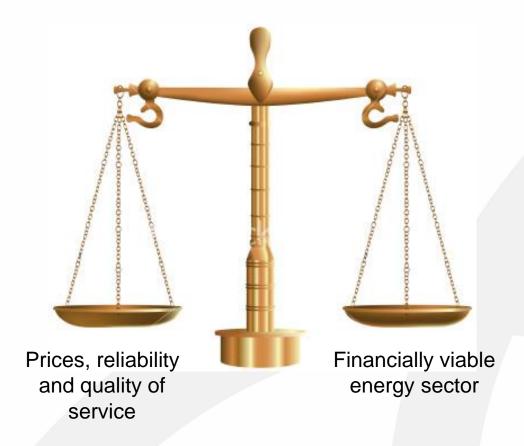
Ontario's Fair Hydro Plan

- The Fair Hydro Act, 2017 came into effect on June 1, 2017.
- This Act, together with proposed new regulations, will enable the government to move forward with initiatives that it has stated will:
 - Lower electricity bills by 25% on average for all residential customers and hundreds of small business and farms
 - Hold increases to the rate of inflation for four years
 - Provide additional electricity bill relief for:
 - residential customers in rural and remote areas
 - on-reserve First Nations residential customers
 - Fund electricity-related programs such as OESP through taxes

Delivering Value – Ensuring Reliability

The OEB's job is to align various objectives to ensure

reliability



Be Heard in the OEB's Process

1. Application Customer Notification



2. Customer Input



3. OEB Reviews all Information



4. Decision

Oral or written

Number of activities at each stage

Various Representatives

Timeline: ~ 9 months

Occurs every 5 years

Be Heard in the OEB's Process









Website





2. Customer Input









Write a Letter







Contact the OEB



3. OEB Reviews all Information



4. Decision



Posted on OEB Website & Sent to Participants



What Can You Do?

- OEB wants to hear from you. We encourage you to:
 - Ask questions
 - Provide comments (via post or email)
 - Attend or listen in on the hearings
 - Follow the proceedings
- Your voice helps the OEB do our job:

Ensuring utilities deliver value by focusing on what matters most to you

Your Voice Matters – Thank You



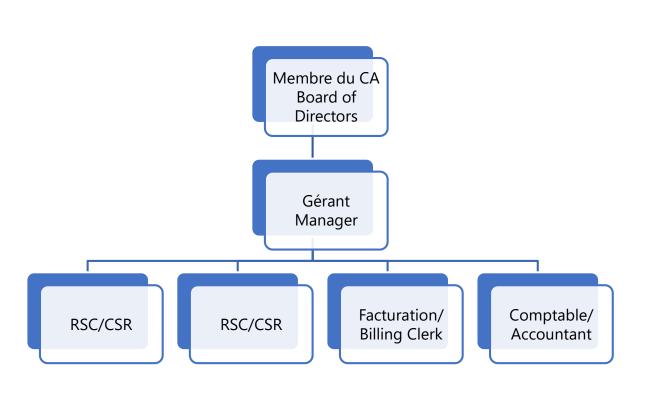


SCHEDULE B HYDRO HAWKESBURY INC. PRESENTATION HYDRO HAWKESBURY EB-2017-0048 SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

2018
Coût de Service /
Cost of Service

Hydro Hawkesbury Inc

Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.



Service Area	Description of Applicant (as of end of 2016)
Community Served	Hawkesbury
# of Metered Customers	4836 Residential
	609 General Service
	87 Over 50
	9 USL
	72 Sentinel
	1197 Streetlights
Load provided by host	Hydro One/IESO

Ce qui rend HHI différent des autres services publics / What makes HHI different than other utilities

- Contrôle locale.
- Les taux de livraison les plus bas en Ontario depuis 10 ans.
- Nous remettons en moyenne, des dividende de \$83,000 à la ville de Hawkesbury
- Nos profits sont réinvestie dans nos infrastructures.

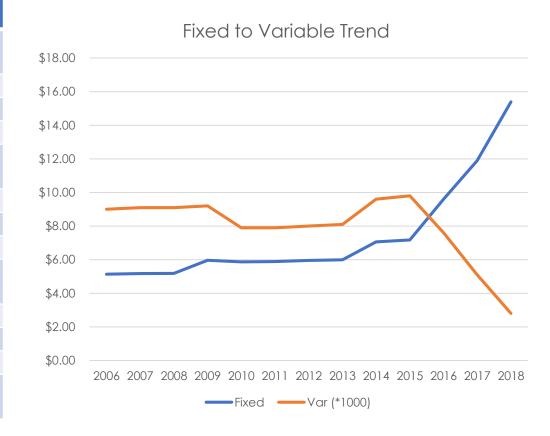
- ► Local control.
- Lowest Delivery rates in Ontario in 10 years.
- We remit an average of \$83,000 in devidend each year to the Town of Hawkesbury.
- Our Profits are re-invested in HHI's Infrastructures.

Factures Typiques / Typical Bill Impacts

RATE CLASSES / CATEGORIES (eg: Residential TOU, Residential Retailer)		Usage	Reve Increase t	tribution enues from 2017 ites	HHI Toto Increase fro Rate	om 2017
			\$	%	\$	%
RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION – TOU	kWh	339	\$1.98	14.53%	\$1.02	1.83%
RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION - TOU	kWh	750	\$0.15	0.951%	-\$2.59	2.13%
GENERAL SERVICE LESS THAN 50 kW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION - RPP	kWh	2000	-\$1.31	-4.70%	-\$11.09	-3.64%
GENERAL SERVICE 50 TO 4,999 KW SERVICE CLASSIFICATION - Non-RPP (Other)	kW	240	-\$135.73	-22.92%	-\$704.60	-13.94%
UNMETERED SCATTERED LOAD SERVICE CLASSIFICATION - Non-RPP (Other)	kWh	4600	-\$6.28	-25.57%	-\$31.92	-4.86%
SENTINEL LIGHTING CLASSIFICATION - Non-RPP (Other)	kWh	123	\$379.54	9.93%	\$428.28	9.87%
STREET LIGHTING SERVICE CLASSIFICATION - Non-RPP (Retailer)	kW	313	\$479.52	15.31%	\$625.35	8.95%

/ Historique des Factures / History of Rates and Total Bill Impacts

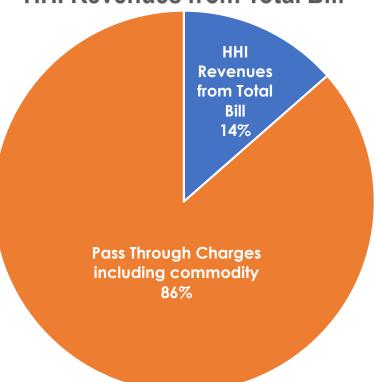
1000 kWh	Fixed	Variable	Process
2006	\$5.13	\$0.0090	Cost of Service
2007	\$5.17	\$0.0091	IRM
2008	\$5.18	\$0.0091	IRM
2009	\$5.96	\$0.0092	IRM
2010	\$5.87	\$0.0079	Cost of Service
2011	\$5.89	\$0.0079	IRM
2012	\$5.95	\$0.0080	IRM
2013	\$5.99	\$0.0081	IRM
2014	\$7.06	\$0.0096	Cost of Service
2015	\$7.17	\$0.0098	IRM
2016	\$9.60	\$0.0076	IRM
2017	\$11.90	\$0.0051	IRM
2018	\$15.39	\$0.0028	Cost of Service



Facture/ Bill

Bill Impacts Analysis	2017	2018	\$Change
Monthly Service Charge	\$11.90	\$15.39	\$3.49
Distribution Volumetric Rate	\$3.83	\$2.10	-\$1.73
110KV Refund Rate Rider		-\$1.61	-\$1.61
Standard Supply Service Charge	\$0.25	\$0.25	\$0.00
Sub-Total A (excluding pass through)	\$15.98	\$16.12	\$0.15
Rate Riders for Variance Accounts (passthrough)	\$4.50	\$1.47	-\$3.03
Smart Meter Entity Charge	\$0.79	\$0.79	
Sub-Total B - Distribution (includes Sub-Total A)	\$21.26	\$18.38	-\$2.88
RTSR - Network	\$5.70	\$6.03	\$0.33
RTSR - Line and Transformation Connection	\$2.84	\$3.17	\$0.34
Sub-Total C - Delivery (including Sub-Total B)	\$29.80	\$27.59	-\$2.21
Wholesale Market Service Charge (WMSC)	\$2.85	\$2.80	-\$0.05
Rural and Remote Rate Protection (RRRP)	\$1.66	\$1.63	-\$0.03
TOU - Off Peak	\$36.96	\$36.96	
TOU - Mid Peak	\$15.26	\$15.26	
TOU - On Peak	\$21.20	\$21.20	-
Total Bill on TOU (before Taxes)	\$107.71	\$105.42	-\$2.29
HST	\$14.00	\$13.71	-\$0.30
Total Bill (including HST)	\$121.72	\$119.13	-\$2.59

HHI Revenues from Total Bill



2016 Performance

Compagnie/ Company	Provincial Ranking	OEB/PEG Predicted Costs (A)	Actual Costs (B)	Difference (A-B)	Efficacité/ Efficiency	Coût par client/ Cost per Customer	Coût par km /Cost per km of Line
Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.	#1	\$ 2,906,844	\$1,496,894	(\$1,409,950)	-66.40%	\$271	\$21,694
Wasaga Distribution Inc.	#2	\$8,994,081	\$5,738,095	(\$3,255,986)	-44.94%	\$430	\$19,855
E.L.K. Energy Inc.	#3	\$7,276,174	\$4,904,503	(\$2,371,671)	-39.45%	\$416	\$31,239
Hydro One Networks Inc.	#65	\$1,105,009,790	1,291,093,963	\$186,084,172	15.60%	\$987	\$10,551
Chapleau Public Utilities Corporation	#68	\$747,552	\$922,404	\$174,852	21.00%	\$740	\$34,163
West Coast Huron Energy Inc.	#69	\$2,291,083	\$3,247,606	\$956,523	34.97%	\$848	\$53,239
Toronto Hydro Electric Systems	#70	\$471,504,404	\$795,760,801	\$324,256,397	52.30%	\$1,044	\$27,819

HHI est l'utilité la plus productive depuis 2006 / HHI has been the most efficient utility in the province since 2006

2017-2018 Performance

	2017	2018
Actual Total Cost	\$1,843,842	\$1,858,136
Predicted Total Cost (using OEB metrics)	\$ 2,890,836	\$3,029,427
Difference	(\$1,046,994)	(\$1,171,291)
Percentage Difference (Cost Performance)	-45.0%	-48.88%

Les Priorités / Priorities

- 1. Amélioration du poste de distribution Rue Principale et ajout d'un transformateur, qui est entré en service au printemps 2017, est de s'assurer qu'une quantité suffisante d'électricité continuera d'alimenter la ville pour les années à venir.
- 2. Remplacement des poteaux et des transformateurs car ils montrent signe de détérioration.
- 1. Main Street distribution station betterment and addition of a new transformer, which came into service in the Spring of 2017, is ensuring that an adequate supply of electricity will continue to power the city for years to come.
- Replacement of poles and transformers as they show sign of deterioration

Poste 110 KV Rue Principale / 110KV Substation on Main Street

Un investissement important pour remplacer un transformateur ayant atteint la fin de leur espérance de vie et ainsi assurer l'approvisionnement en électricité à plus de 4,000 clients dans Hawkesbury. Nous avons ajouté un transformateur ayant la capacité des 2 existants et remplacer de l'équipement de protection qui dataient de plus de 50 ans. Les travaux sont conforme au Transmission System Code, aux exigence de Hydro One et de IESO.



An important investment in order to replace an end of life transformer and assure power reliability to more than 4,000 customers in Hawkesbury. HHI added a transformer with the capacity of the 2 existing transformers, some protection equipment over 50 years old. All work performed met the Ontario Transmission System Code, Hydro One and IESO requirements.

Poste de distribution/Substation

2012: Spécifications du projet, conception et approbation par le OEB pour la récupération des couts.

2013: Problèmes de bassin d'huile qui ont causé des retards.

2014: Remboursement du recouvrement. **(268 428 \$)** parce que le poste de distribution n'était pas en service en 2012.

2015: Embauche Stantec pour examiner la gestion de nouveaux projets et plans.

2016: travaux en cours.

Printemps 2017: Le poste de distribution entre en service. HHI demande le recouvrement de montant total de **3,352M** dans ces tarifs.

Jan 2018: HHI demande de rembourser le reste du recouvrement des taux de 2014. (304 488 \$)

2012: Project Specs, Design & OEB approval for recovery of costs.

2013: Issues with oil containment which caused delays.

2014: Refund of over-collection. **(\$268,428)** because the Substation was not in service in 2012.

2015: Hire Stantec to review manage new project and plans.

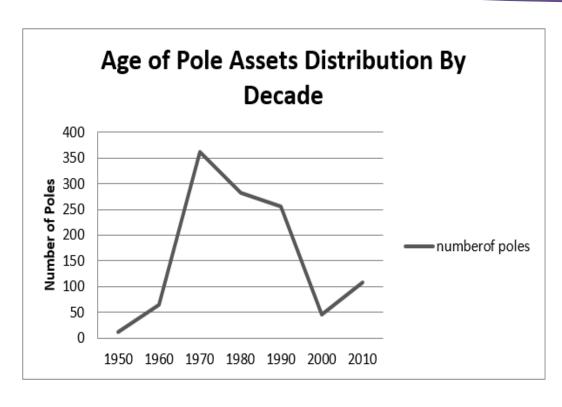
2016: Work in progress.

Spring 2017: The substation came into service. HHI asks the OEB for approval to recover **\$3,352M** in its rates.

Jan 2018: HHI asking to refund the remainder of the over-collection from its 2014 rates to its customers. (\$304,488)

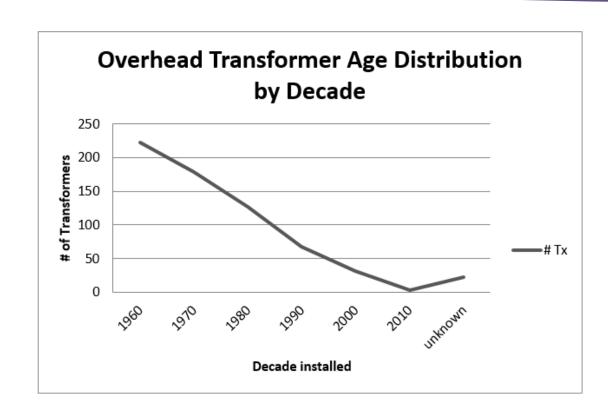
NOTE: HHI récupère, dans ses taux, le rendement de ces investissements en capital (environ 200 000 \$ par année.)

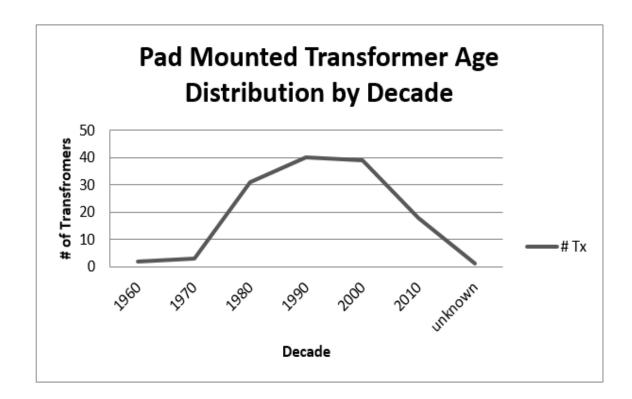
Remplacement des Poteaux / Pole Replacement



					Moyenne Annuelle/			
2013	2014	2015	2016	TOTAL	yea	arly average		
\$85,061.00	\$24,310.00	\$88,560.00	\$69,572.00	\$267,503.00	\$	66,875.75		
								Moyenne
								Annuelle/
								yearly
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		2022	TOTAL	average
\$60,000.00	\$81,500.00	\$87,700.00	\$88,100.00	\$ 88,100.00	\$	90,000.00	\$495,400.00	\$ 82,566.67

Age des Transformateurs/ Transformers Age





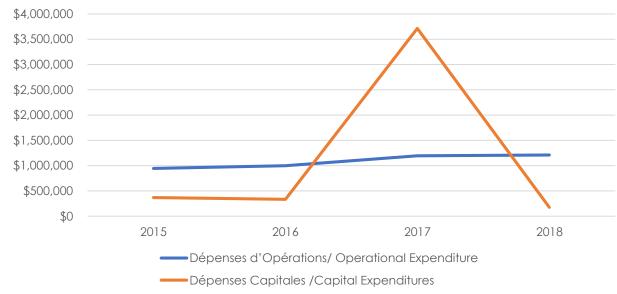
Projets majeurs/ Major Projects

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Repairs and inspection of the 43T1 transformer \$42,750	44kV MS transformer repair \$320,188	115 kV MTS new protection installation \$59,244	115kV MTS upgrade \$3,525,000	Pole replacement \$81,500
Pole replacement \$24,310	Pole replacement \$88,560	44kV MS commissioning of rebuilt transformer \$54,101	Pole replacement \$60,000	3/0 Conductor upgrade \$10,000
Replace 3/0 primary wire \$31,221		Pole replacement program \$69,572	Porcelain insulator replacement \$21,720	Porcelain insulator replacement \$17,930
		Line Conductor replacement \$69,003	Software: North Star system upgrade \$31,000	Close Loops on u/g radial feeds \$10,000
		Building \$52,500		

Sommaire des Dépenses/Summary of Expenditures

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Dépenses d'Opérations/ Operational Expenditure	\$944,340	\$996,817	\$1,193,426	\$1,210,114
Dépenses Capitales /Capital Expenditures	\$368,826	\$334,608	\$3,712,353	\$175,830

Capital vs Operation Costs



Raison principales des depenses d'Operations / Major Drivers of Operating Costs

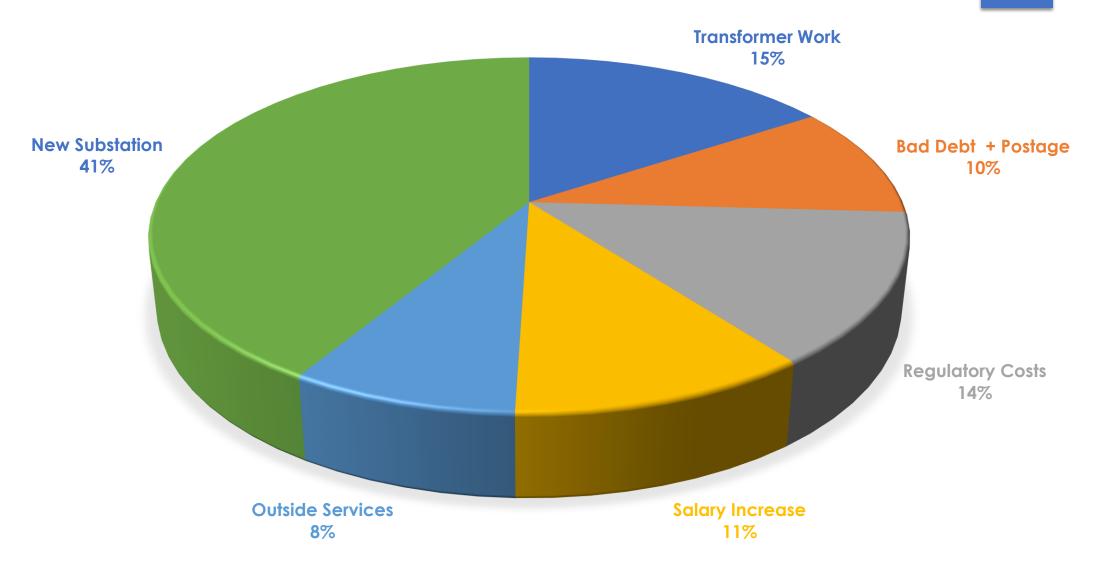
2017 - an increase of \$196K.

- Transformer Station Equipment Operation Labour(36K + 12K)
- Bad Debt Expenses + Postage(31k)
- Regulatory Costs (15K)
- Salary Increase (33k)
- Outside Services (25k)
- Other Costs (32k)

2018 - an increase of \$27K

- Transformer Station Equipment -Operation Labour(-20K)
- Bad Debt Expenses + Postage(same as 2017)
- Cost related to application, DSP and provision for an oral hearing (27K).
- Outside Services (-24K)
- Other Costs (34k)

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO RATE INCREASE 2018 (HHI DISTRIBUTION REVENUES ONLY)



Scorecard - Hydro Hawkesbury Inc.

Performance Outcomes	Performance Categories	Measures			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Tre
Customer Focus	Service Quality	New Residential/Small E on Time	New Residential/Small Business Services Connected on Time		100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	=
Services are provided in a manner that responds to identified customer preferences.		Scheduled Appointments Met On Time			97.80%	97.40%	100.00%	100.00%	95.20%	
		Telephone Calls Answer	ed On Time		99.90%	100.00%	99.90%	99.90%	100.00%	6
		First Contact Resolution					94%	94%	94%	
	Customer Satisfaction	Billing Accuracy					99.99%	99.99%	99.99%	=
		Customer Satisfaction S	urvey Result	ts			92%	92%	92%	
Operational Effectiveness	Safety	Level of Public Awarene	SS					78.00%	78.00%	
		Level of Compliance wit	Ontario Re	gulation 22/04	C	С	С	С	С	=
Continuous improvement in		Serious Electrical	Number of	f General Public Incidents	0	0	0	0	0	
productivity and cost		Incident Index	Rate per 1	0, 100, 1000 km of line	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	=
performance is achieved; and distributors deliver on system reliability and quality	System Reliability	Average Number of Hours that Power to a Customer is Interrupted ²			0.76	1.09	0.13	0.28	1.39	•
objectives.		Average Number of Tim Interrupted ²	verage Number of Times that Power to a Customer is ierrupted ²		0.69	0.47	0.25	0.13	0.60	(
	Asset Management	Distribution System Plan Implementation Progress					46%	In progress	In progress	
		Efficiency Assessment			1	1	1	1	1	
	Cost Control	Total Cost per Customer 3			\$262	\$284	\$260	\$261	\$271	
		Total Cost per Km of Line 3			\$22,134	\$23,045	\$21,050	\$21,120	\$21,694	
Public Policy Responsiveness Distributors deliver on	Conservation & Demand Management	Net Cumulative Energy Savings ⁴					14.68%	31.92%		
obligations mandated by government (e.g., in legislation and in regulatory requirements	Connection of Renewable Generation	Renewable Generation Completed On Time	Connection I	mpact Assessments						
imposed further to Ministerial directives to the Board).	Generation	New Micro-embedded G	ew Micro-embedded Generation Facilities Connected On Time				100.00%			
Financial Performance Financial Ratios		Liquidity: Current Ratio	(Current Ass	sets/Current Liabilities)	1.18	0.97	0.95	1.00	0.90	
Financial viability is maintained; and savings from		Leverage: Total Debt (in Equity Ratio	cludes shor	t-term and long-term debt) to	0.31	0.43	0.39	0.35	0.47	
operational effectiveness are sustainable.		Profitability: Regulatory		Deemed (included in rates)	8.01%	8.01%	9.36%	9.36%	9.36%	
		Return on Equity		Achieved	7.69%	1.00%	12.48%	19.72%	17.63%	

Utility Income

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected	Projected
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Operating Revenues	1,643,950	1,688,928	1,796,932	1,982,593	1,982,593
Total Expenses	1,170,420	1,155,410	1,200,785	1,619,743	1,670,316
Utility Income before Income Taxes	473,530	533,518	596,148	385,798	312,277
Income Taxes	115,926	125,340	143,120	23,703	9,717
Utility Income	372,868	423,304	467,871	362,095	302,560

Customer Satisfaction Results; 84%

Rating	Responses to English survey		Responses to French Survey				
Answer Options	Response	Response	Response	Response	Max	Actual	%
	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Value	Total Value	
Excellent	47.22%	51	33.33%	9	4	240	
Good	45.37%	49	62.96%	17	3	198	
Fair	4.63%	5	3.70%	1	2	12	
Poor	2.78%	3	0.00%	0	1	3	
Answered question		108		27	540	453	83.89%

Sans l'Augmentation / Without this increase,

- Manque d'investissement dans les infrastructures vieillissantes pourraient entraîner des coûts substantiels dans le futurs.
- 2. Réduction de la fiabilité du système de distribution
- 3. Problèmes potentiels de sécurité du système de distribution.
- 4. Ne pas récupérer entièrement les coûts associés à la règlementation pourrait réduire notre capacité d'investissement dans le système de distribution et le service à la clientèle.

- Lack of investment in aging infrastructure could lead to greater costs in the future
- 2. Potential reduction in reliability of the system
- 3. Potential safety concerns of the system.
- 4. Failure to fully recover increased regulatory and other costs could reduce our ability to properly invest in our distribution system and customer service.

Nous suivre/ follow us

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