

EB-2017-0084 Westario Power Inc. Letter of Comment

Date: Jan. 19/18

From: Peter Storck [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 3:34 PM

To: customer.service@westario.co; lisa.thompson <lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org>;
lisa.thompsonco@pc.ola.org; BoardSec <BoardSec@oeb.ca>

Subject: EB-2017-0084

Westario Power Inc.

24 Eastridge Drive

Walkerton, Ontario

N0G 2V0

and

Ontario Energy Board

boardsec@obe.ca

JJanuary 19, 2018

Re: EB-2017-084

Dear Sirs:

I'm writing to complain about the recent application of Westario Power Inc for an increase in the distribution rate of electricity, effective as of January 1 of this year.

My complaint is that the 33 technical documents filed by Westario and posted to the OEB website, as well as the 1,657 page "2018 COS Application" posted on Westario Power's website, do not present a succinct plain language rationale justifying a rate increase.

I understand from the second document that Westario Power ran deficits of approximately \$117,000 in 2015 and \$819,000 in 2016. It is not clear, however, what will be achieved by the proposed rate increase for distribution (aside from affecting the "bottom line"); in other words, what, precisely, the rate offsets with respect to the costs of transmitting electricity.

I note from Table 3 ("Bill Impacts") in the 2018 COS Application document that the average monthly residential distribution rate in 2017 was \$32.89. My rate (for a two person household in a 1400 square foot, single storey bungalow with a natural gas water heater, stove top and central heating (as well as newish Energy Star North American and European appliances) is currently higher, at \$34.10. The proposed residential rate beginning in 2018 would be \$38.29, a \$4.19 increase/month (roughly a 12% increase of my actual 2017 rate). I find a 12% increase to be a very large jump, beyond other cost increases in my life, and particularly irritating when I cannot make sense of the overabundance of information that, instead of clarifying Westario Power's position, seems largely tangential to and obscures the central issue – the issues that directly effect transmission costs. The bulk of the documentation seems only to obscure what should be the central focus of the application and certainly does not contribute to meaningful public input.

I'm writing to ask Westario Power to produce (and the OEB to require it, if necessary) a clear, plain language justification for the proposed rate increase in a short document indicating where the increased income will be spent and how it will benefit the rate payers.

I also ask this be done well in advance of any public forums to discuss the proposed rate increase.

Sincerely,

Peter L. Storck

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

cc. Lisa Thompson, MPP, Huron-Bruce