

Complaint to OEB File No. EB 2018-0028 Energy +, Cambridge Ontario.

Residents and businesses in Cambridge and North Dumfries could see their hydro costs go up in 2019 if a rate change request by Energy Plus is approved by the OEB.

"Harmonization of rates is meant to align the rates so that no matter where a customer lives in the service territory, they pay the same rate for the same level of service.

When did it become the responsibility of the residents or businesses of Cambridge who had no decision making on the proposed amalgamation of Cambridge North Dumfries Hydro and Brant County Power to have their hydro rates increase? We, "the people" who pay for hydro service did not make this decision, "the OEB did". Further, we did not agree to allow Brant County to incur no further cost or increases once Cambridge Hydro took over Brant County Power. This was strictly in the deal made by two CEO Corporate Hydro boards in two separate municipalities. This harmonization relates to the 2014 purchase of Brant County Power Inc. should not impact the people of Cambridge making their hydro rates increase due to this decision. This leads me to believe, this deal to increase hydro rates was set prior to the Brant & Cambridge becoming one entity. The smell test doesn't smell good.

The OEB, Brant County and Cambridge (Energy +) knew what they were getting into and the OEB should refuse these two territories who currently have their own separate rates, "Refuse" Energy + to make those rates the same starting next year.

Ontario Energy Board is to protect the residential/business customer in Ontario to calculate and report on the rate impacts we, the people will pay. OEB policy as of April 2015 rate design to a fully fixed rate structure over four years. Starting in 2016. (until 2020).

This policy set out by the OEB was designed so that the fixed rate will increase gradually and the "usage rate" will decline.

March 2016 the OEB impacted our hydro rates by including a 2.8% increase in our fixed rates.

May 1, 2018 the OEB approved an adjustment to the Price Cap IR to a .90% Price cap adjustment for all service areas of the former Cambridge & North Dumfries Hydro. However, the OEB approved a price cap adjustment of 0.00% for the service area of the former Brant County Power for 2018 as requested by Energy +.

The OEB should not approve any other "Exceptions" as OEB did in the past by increase a four-year monthly increase of \$4.37 which exceeded the threshold of \$4.00 and over the threshold of 10% for the Brant County customers. This is in fact in breach of the contract purchase and sale agreement between Cambridge N. Dumfries Hydro and Brant County Power.

I request that OEB do not further make any exceptions to Energy +.

Seniors cannot afford a \$2.43 per month or Est. \$30.00 impact per year with hydro cost. Over 55% of Cambridge citizens are Seniors which would create low income senior more stress to pay their bills.

Small business customer using approximately 2000 kilowatt hours of electricity per month in Cambridge or North Dumfries could see an increase of \$12.05 per month, in their hydro cost. This may impact businesses in Cambridge to reduce jobs, which Cambridge cannot afford to loss more jobs because over 1500 jobs are gone since 2017. Energy + can't just keep putting the public in poverty.

Sandra Hill, [REDACTED]
Business owner Dream Home Mortgages in the City of Cambridge.