

-----Original Message-----

From: Webmaster <[Webmaster@oeb.ca](mailto:Webmaster@oeb.ca)>

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2020 2:14 PM

To: registrar <[registrar@oeb.ca](mailto:registrar@oeb.ca)>

Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --

2020-09-18

-- Case Number --

EB-2020-0040

-- Name --

Brittany Winstanley

-- Phone --

[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --

[REDACTED]

■ Comments --

What's incredibly unfortunate is that regardless of what I write here, this will most likely be passed as the constant corporate greed outweighs the voices of many.. my hydro bill, even during COVID has increased. We're home more and we're now being penalized for it.

Many people in the Niagara region work low-mid income positions and increasing a bill that's mandatory to survive can damage a lot of residents.

For example My husband and I rent, we own a business we pay our taxes, we work hard. We already pay \$1600 in rent plus utilities for where we live in Niagara Falls and that is on the low end considering we moved from our last home paying \$1800+ utilities. Between taxes, and gas, and rent, and water, we spend a ridiculous amount of our hard earned income to having a roof over our head to survive. And increasing that cost brings more money away from our family. It brings more money away from stimulating our local economy.

Hydro is my most expensive utility by almost double, and continuing to raise price on a basic necessity such as electricity should be illegal.

Housing costs are skyrocketing in Niagara and in comparison to income, our income isn't growing fast enough to match,

Increasing hydro rates does nothing but keep our community stuck where it is.

