

From: [registrar](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter of Comment - EB-2020-0246
Date: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:18:52 PM

From: Webmaster <Webmaster@oeb.ca>
Sent: Sunday, February 28, 2021 11:50 AM
To: registrar <registrar@oeb.ca>
Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --
2021-02-28

-- Case Number --
EB-2020-0246

-- Name --
Glenn Stephenson

-- Phone --
[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --
[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

I have account [REDACTED] and own a seasonal cabin located on [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The proposed change from seasonal rate class to Residential Low Density will result in a more than 100% increase in my electricity bill for the cottage.

If nothing else changes then I am in favour of the increase being spread over 10 years with a cap each year of 10%. I would like to point out a few facts.

Hydro made electricity available to the Islands of the Archipelago in the late 1950s and 1960s at low cost so as to increase their customer base. A great deal for the cottagers at that time. We seasonal customers use very little electricity as we are only open for about 5 months of the year. In 2008 and taking effect in 2010 seasonal high density and normal density was changed to only seasonal. Rates increased 8.3%. In 2011 the delivery rate increased 6.9% . For the seasonal rate customer delivery rates per year have shown a steady increase (for me) from \$410 in 2012 to \$596 in 2020. Delivery rates now total about 80% of my yearly bill with actual electricity kWh about 15%. Actual electricity rate have fluctuated from about 8 and 11.9 cents per kWh over the period of 2015 -2020. There is surely much high cost in providing electricity to cottages out on islands in Georgian Bay. However I believe that the high delivery costs help pay for this and have noticed since buying here in 1988 that the frequency and amount of clearing of our main lines and branch lines by Ontario Hydro has drastically decreased. Our Archipelago Council convinced Hydro to finally do some work in the last couple years. This has helped our frequency of breakdowns. There were larger trees overhanging the lines that I asked the foreman trim or take down completely. The foreman chose not to carry this out and only removed small 4 - 5 inch diameter trees and scrub. A better job of line maintenance would lower costs for Hydro over time. I appreciate having electricity especially in the remote area that I'm located in and am willing to pay for that privilege. However I can not absorb a 100% increase immediately. Provision must be given to the low density customer to ensure we are not paying the bulk of the cost to provide electricity for the other more densely located cottagers on the mainland and all the lakes with year round road access.

