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From: Bob Fisher [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, March 1, 2021 1:43 PM
To: ConsumerRelations@ontarioenergyboard.ca <PublicInformation@oeb.ca>
Subject: Hydro One Residential Seasonal Rate

Hello;

Re Case EB 2020-0246

On February 10th 2021, I received a letter from Hydro One advising that our account classification will be changing to Residential Medium Density (R1) and that the change will take effect Jan 1, 2022 or a later date. I am writing to bring several issues to the Boards attention and hopefully a positive order for ratepayers who have been paying the 5 cents per kwh rate surcharge for years because the address on our driver licence and mailing address on the hydro bill are not the same as the service address, when our next door neighbours, by 25 ft., pay and have paid the R1 rate for years.

1. The OEB order of Sept 30 2015 (EB-2015-0257) ordered Hydro One to implement rate classification changes Jan 1 2016 . Maybe SIX years later or longer after over charging ratepayers and incurring multiple hearing costs for OEB and Hydro One's futile attempts to overturn the order, there is no retroactive rebate to ratepayers. If the OEB is acting as an independent and impartial agency there should be a negative consequence to Hydro One for not complying with the original order.
2. Hydro One's cloudy information letter does not **specify that the change in the rate is a decrease of 5 cents per kwh hour. Customers are not able to calculate the impact but must guess what impact the change has on their own hydro costs.** I believe there are upwards of a million electric resistance baseboard heated residences in Ontario, mostly in the rural service area of Hydro One. Many of these homes are seasonal rated by Hydro One. The letter uses a monthly consumption limit **of 1,000 kwh; an unlikely consumption level in a rural electrically heated home.**

3. **The OEB should be challenging Hydro One's weak energy conservation programs. For instance, electric resistance baseboard heating costs about \$6 to \$7 a therm depending on rate classification. An electrically powered, low temp, air source heat pump (ASHP), such as a Fujitsu XLTH series, delivers electric heat for \$2 to \$2.35 a therm.** A customer of Green Mountain Power, a Canadian owned electric utility in Vermont, gets large rebates or can finance the purchase of an ASHP on bill and use the electrical consumption savings to pay for the purchase. An ASHP with a SEER of around 30 can also deliver major savings in cooling costs versus window air conditioners common in rural homes with electric baseboard heating. Similarly electric heat pump water heaters can offer impressive 200 to 250% cost savings. Hydro One needs to be required to contribute to climate change not window dress it.

Please table these comments with the OEB hearing.

Bob Fisher

Cabin and Property Committee of Osler Bluff Ski Club

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Clearview Ontario

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