

From: [seasonalrateclass](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: CM: Letter of Comment - EB-2020-0246
Date: Wednesday, March 10, 2021 3:42:51 PM

From: Webmaster <Webmaster@oeb.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 12:01 PM
To: registrar <registrar@oeb.ca>
Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --
2021-03-02

-- Case Number --
EB-2020-0246

-- Name --
Michael Ireland

-- Phone --
[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --
[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

I am writing to express my dismay as to how, in the face of two successive governments' policies (Liberal and PC) to keep hydro rates affordable for Ontarians, the OEB has decided to drastically raise the rates for 80,000 rural property owners.

My spouse and I have just received our letter from Hydro One stating that the Hydro Rates at our seasonal property in Leeds and Grenville County are set to more than double in the coming years. Once fully implemented the cost for Hydro for a small 750 square foot three-season bungalow in rural Rideau Lakes would end up being the same as what is paid by Hydro 1 customers in urban areas. While perhaps some can afford such a dramatic rate increase, this is going to be a hardship for many, perhaps forcing them to sell their properties. We do not believe this was the intent of the OEB, but this will be the outcome.

We are told this decision cannot be appealed because it has been decided that we have not been paying our full share. In our case, this flies in the face of the fact that the hydro is not used for 4 months every year, yet we are still charged for the infrastructure cost during that period (the costliest part of the bill).

What we are asking for is that the OEB and Hydro One, together, find a way to mitigate this disastrous decision. Can the Rural or Remote Electricity Rate Protection (RRRP) program be amended to allow property owners negatively affected by this decision to become eligible for the program? Can the implementation period be stretched over the greatest length of time (10 years, 20 years?). These are the sorts of positive actions we are looking for from you.

