

From: [seasonalrateclass](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: CM: Letter of Comment - EB-2020-0246
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From: Webmaster <Webmaster@oeb.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1:05 PM
To: registrar <registrar@oeb.ca>
Subject: Letter of Comment - [REDACTED]

The Ontario Energy Board

-- Comment date --
2021-03-03

-- Case Number --
EB-2020-0246

-- Name --
Bruce Petterson

-- Phone --
[REDACTED]

-- Company --

-- Address --
[REDACTED]

-- Comments --

After some time spent talking to an OEB Customer representative I am still in partial disagreement that this isn't about an indirect rate increase. At the end of the arguments Hydro One is still looking for more money. They cannot increase the price per kWh to such exorbitant rates that it is obviously intolerable so they are trying to leverage more money through their customers instead of focusing on their internal issues. Internal issues such as debt, pensions, wages, management structures, and lack of a long term vision for power generation/supply.

Despite these issues I am amazed that Hydro One has the audacity to come back to its rate payers that have no choices in the monopoly that exists and ask for up to a 100% increase in rates as opposed to looking for innovative ways to manage their own business. Instead of sucking off of rate payers that are already trying to not use power that is expensive (and penalizing them for this -I.e the lower amounts have a higher cost associated with this increase) what initiatives has Hydro One exhibited to manage their costs?

The argument is that the power users are unfairly subsidizing the costs of the non power users, but as in all utilities, the users that use more pay more and if they don't like it they find innovative ways to pay less (I.e.

- led bulbs, solar assist, peak load shaving). In essence you are rewarding the customer that is using more power and potentially is lazy in their efforts to conserve. I have spent considerably money of my own to put in LED lighting and use less power. Now your telling me that instead of a 50% increase it will be closer to 75%. I hope someone on the board can see how ludicrous this gets.

There seems to be a divide between the east and west parts of Ontario and the way things are run. Of course you have high density in eastern Ontario and your proportionately have a high number of low density in western Ontario.

Maybe it is time to turn this grid over to Manitoba and let them manage it?

Is there possibilities to import cheaper power as we feel we are subsidizing the eastern side of the province for the more expensive nuclear power. Maybe it is time to secure more tie-lines with Manitoba. I still remember when Ontario Hydro was going to build a major transmission line to northern Manitoba and after about \$200 million was spent that plan was scrapped and instead they have been re-commissioning their nuclear stations. My point is that

decisions have been made that have hurt western Ontario and they continue to alienate us. The issues are deep and require a deeper solution than just raising rates in low density areas. I find this solution short sighted and eastern Ontario focused.

The fact of the matter still remains that a poorly run company can't seem to find innovative solutions. Bruce nuclear station has a lifespan of about

25 years before re-commissioning and costs about 60% more than Hydro which lasts 100 years. Where are they going for the next refurbishment project.

They are sucking the rate payers dry!

It is time to:

1. Beef up tie lines (build some in western Ontario and quit being so eastern focused and then just demand more money from us) 2. Along with 1. Come up with a long term solution like getting more power into the province so that when electric vehicles become a reality that Hydro One is not in panic mode and need to subsidize its eastern operations some more.

3. Trim operations. Look at salaries, pensions. Pensions are unsustainable without pilfering from your customers. Compensation packages are outrageous on multiple levels right down to the front line management structure. These compensation structures are based on a worse case scenario

- someone living in Toronto. It is time to pressure this company to get realistic.

Personally I would like to see them sell western Ontario's grid to Manitoba Hydro. At least ask the question. If Hydro One is losing money or can't make money than sell us to a well run company that knows how to get power to their customers without hijacking their rates. In fact, we as rate payers really own our grid, give us to Manitoba. I know they would not consider this as I feel we are subsidizing the nuclear demand of the east. If they are losing money on this high percentage low density area then ask them to find better innovative solutions.

I am on record to say that this current proposal is flawed and will only cause more hardship on your beleaguered customers.

Sincerely,
Bruce Petterson

-- Attachment --