

March 4, 2021

Ontario Energy Board
P.O. Box 2319
2300 Yonge Street
27th floor, Suite 2701
Toronto, Ontario Canada M4P 1E4

Subject: Season Rate Class Elimination

Reference: OEB's Case file EB-2020-0246

Attention: Customer Relations Department

I have recently received notification from Hydro One regarding the proposed intentions for elimination of the Seasonal Rate Class for customers identified as Seasonal customers. I have reviewed this notification and find the information provided not sufficient for making any determination on actual cost impacts that will affect my electric usage. Hydro One already has the highest electric rates in North America and with these proposed changes will only be adding to these high rates.

I have a seasonal home located on Wallace Island and generally occupy this home from early May until late October. My usage during this period is normal for this period of time. During the remaining calendar period I maintain heat within this home at a temperature of 40 degrees (F). My only source of energy is electricity and the cost for providing this source of heat during the winter season is very high. I cannot imagine what the cost of an existing Hydro One customer would incur if one attempted to provide heat within one's home at a comfortable level of 70 degrees (F). It is my decision to provide heat during the off season to ensure that winter damage is minimized to interior surfaces.

With this submittal I am providing my objection to the proposed Elimination of Hydro Ones' Seasonal Rate Class. Additionally, the information provided does not specifically state if this new proposed rate increase applies to only the electric (kWh) usage or also includes changes to the Delivery Charges or is it only Delivery Charges that are proposed to change?

As a Seasonal Customer, when an outage occurs either during summer season or winter season, the Seasonal Customers are generally the last customers to have their service restored. This is especially true during the winter season. I have experienced previously outages from December through April without any electric consumption. If you intend to eliminate the Seasonal Rate, then this delay in service provided by Hydro One should also be addressed in making this proposed change.

It should be obvious that the business model that is being implemented by the Ontario Energy Board is deficient and needs to be adjusted to maintain customers and encourage businesses to stay in the Province of Ontario. Again, from my experience, the Province of Ontario has achieved the highest electric rates in North America. There is nothing reasonable about the existing rates that are presently charged.

I trust that this letter of concern will be reviewed with the proper internal organizations that are involved with developing a rate structure that provides an economic balance for the services provided and attempt to stabilize the overall pricing policies.

Respectfully,


Anthony J. Iosue
Homeowner