

March 13, 2021

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

Att: Ontario Energy Board

I am writing this letter on behalf of myself, who is a cottage owner and as a representative for the Kuiack Lake Cottagers Association, as the Vice President of the KLCA. This is in response to the notification I received end February announcing that the seasonal electricity rates will be eliminated. All seasonal property owners will be put in a class where we will be responsible for paying much higher rates, since we have the lowest usage. I am not sure who guides this decision making process, but it is not fair and just or even reasonable.

This is a discriminatory practice, putting the burden of cost on those that use the least amount of electricity. As a US citizen, I haven't even been able to go to my cottage in a year and already pay exorbitant rates. My husband and I are retired and this property has been in my family for over 50 years. My cottage has been shut down with no electricity use since October, 2019 and yet, I still pay \$124 a quarter. In non-Covid years, we get to our cottage 4 or 5 times a year and almost always shut off the electricity when we leave to conserve. Now, you think it's fine to expect me to pay higher rates?

I am of the understanding that the OEB is responsible for protecting consumer interests, so now is the time to step up to the plate. In looking at the Hydro proposed rate plan, those with the highest usage will get the lowest percent increase while those who use the least amount of electricity will get the highest increase. That just reeks of inequity and if Hydro One needs to make more money, let them penalize the highest users to give them incentives to lower their energy use, which is the right thing to do on a global level. Seasonal dwellers already pay a high percentage of taxes with absolutely no benefits (no road service, we pay to drop of our trash at restricted times, etc). Our taxes cover the benefits of the people who live in the Town. Now, we are expected to cover their electricity costs? Please rethink this and tell Hydro to revisit their policies and manage their costs in a more equitable manner.

Thank you for your consideration,


Anna Koelsch
Vice-President Kuiack Lake Cottagers Association