

Via email to: [boardsec@oeb.ca](mailto:boardsec@oeb.ca)

Snake Island Cottagers' Association (SICA)  
Ontario Corporation Number 442265

Attention: Kirsten Walli, Board Secretary

Ontario Energy Board  
2300 Yonge Street, 27<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON  
M4P 1E4

Reference: Elimination of Seasonal Rate Class: EB-2020-0246  
reclassification to Medium Density (R1) class

SICA represents approximately 225 cottagers on Snake Island, Lake Simcoe, situated within the Regional Municipality of York.

Snake Island is traditional territory of the Ojibwa (or Anishinaabeg) and/or the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (GIFN). As per the lease agreement, lessees may enjoy seasonal use of the land while GIFN is entitled to year-round use.

HONI's recent mailing, dated February 17, 2021, states HONI anticipates moving islanders into the residential medium density (R1) class. SICA feels that anticipated change is fair and accurate.

SICA would like the OEB to know, to our knowledge, the electrical system on the island is sound and there has been little to no change in infrastructure for decades. Thus, the only costs for maintaining the existing system are for yearly tree trimming and the odd storm related event.

With all due respect, the OEB must know HONI's 'Delivery' charges have increased well beyond the rate of inflation. During Winter 90 day bill period, 'Delivery' for 0 kWh in 2016 cost \$96.44 vs. \$133.21 in 2020; that amounts to an increase of over 38% (nearly 8.5% annually) or more than four times the average rate of inflation in Ontario. SICA would like the OEB to consider such steep rate increases are not sustainable and will only fuel migration away from the grid, leaving fewer customers and thus threatening our rate class.

SICA would welcome more clarity in HONI's bills such that our members can see the cost of the two components: electrical energy and cost of grid connection. Unfortunately, HONI refuses to provide detailed bills on an ongoing basis thus conflicting with other LDC's (Local Distribution Companies) that gladly provide detailed bills.

SICA encourages the OEB to continue advocating and protecting consumers from monopolistic tactics that punish low energy users and we hope there will be a push towards bill clarity in the future as the current blended fixed and variable rates are confusing at best.

Sincerely,

George Klemetsch  
Member at Large, SICA