From: registrar

To: Cc: Subject:

CM: FW: EB-2020-0246

**Date:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021 8:48:05 AM

Attachments: PO1 HONI Seasonal Rates 20210412 (1).pdf

From: Hugh Stephens

**Sent:** Monday, April 12, 2021 8:41 PM **To:** registrar < registrar @oeb.ca>

Cc: Vic Bodnar <vbodnar@hastingshighlands.ca>; David Stewart <dstewart@hastingshighlands.ca>

**Subject:** EB-2020-0246

Instead of instructing Hydro One to explain and justify the rate decision that the OEB imposed on them, excluding all consideration of a retention of the seasonal rate class, this decision, into which the public had no insight or input, should be reviewed by the OEB. It is not surprising that there has been considerable public comment and concern given the non-transparent nature of the process and the way in which the public was suddenly informed of this arbitrary decision. Rather than allow the decision to be reviewed in light of wide public concern, the OEB is passing the buck by instructing Hydro One to explain the rationale behind the OEB's decision, even though Hydro One itself opposed the OEB decision.

It is unacceptable, arrogant and an insult to the public and to any pretense of public consultation to state that "The OEB wishes to make clear that the purpose of this proceeding is not to revisit the elimination of the seasonal rates class. That decision has been made and will not be revisited in the current proceeding". In other words, no matter how affected or concerned the public is, this decision will not be changed. We'll just change the way we explain and supposedly justify how we are going to force Hydro One to move large numbers of customers to a much higher rate category, with no prospect of review or appeal.

The OEB and those responsible for overseeing it should be ashamed.

I am cc'ing this exchange to my elected municipal representative, the Mayor of Hastings Highlands. Maybe they will have more influence in having this issue dealt with openly and fairly.

**Hugh Stephens** 

