

**From:** registrar  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** CM: FW: Letter of Comment re. EB2020-0246  
**Date:** Thursday, May 6, 2021 8:43:43 AM

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**From:** Fred & Diane Krestynski [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 5, 2021 5:46 PM  
**To:** registrar <registrar@oeb.ca>  
**Subject:** Letter of Comment re. EB2020-0246

This letter of comment is being addressed to your office after having discussed the proposed changes to the Seasonal Rate Class with representatives of Hydro One and the O.E.B.

Service to our seasonal cottage at [REDACTED] is used from about mid May, to about the end of September, depending on the weather. (approx. 5 months)  
During that time period in 2020,  
Total electricity used was 1,504.8 kwh.  
Total charge paid was \$715.43  
Total cost of electricity \$181.13  
Delivery and other charges \$534.30  
The Ontario electricity rebate of \$254.22 was taken into account.  
A delivery charge of about \$139.00 per quarter was paid even during the 7 months that the service was not used.  
There is no issue with this ,as it is understood that the charges are applied toward the continued maintenance of the delivery system even when we are not there.

It is our understanding that the propose change to the seasonal rate class was initiated by the O.E.B. who deemed that “the current rate does not appropriately reflect the cost to serve them”. This proposal did not have the support of Hydro One who saw that a disproportionately higher number of customers would be adversely impacted compared with those who would benefit by the change. (keeping in mind that seasonal cottagers make a significant contribution to the local economy)

In our case, being reclassified to R-2 would add about \$60.00 / month or \$720.00 per year to our bill, representing an increase of 101%. When asked if this would mean a corresponding improvement in restoration time after a power outage, the representatives from Hydro One and the O.E.B answered no.

In our area we can count on an average of 2-3 outages per season (usually lasting at least 4 hours). Local year round residents experience more.  
In September of 2018, we experienced an outage that ran from approximately 5:00 pm. On Friday to about 5:00 pm. On the following Tuesday. (we used a generator to keep our food from spoiling)  
The responding repairmen were spoken with that day. We were informed that a large area had been affected and, because our area was low in priority, they had only been dispatched from Parry Sound that day. It took them about 1 hour to locate the problem and rectify it.  
This raises the question, if we are considered low priority, how does the O.E.B. justify doubling

Our electricity charges as being fair and appropriate?

It would seem that, at present, most people are coping with sufficient stress without adding this to the mix.

There is mention of rate mitigation for those whose total bill increase is in excess of 10% and that hearings will be conducted at a future date (as yet unspecified) to consider the ramifications of the proposed class changes.

We are seniors (on pension) who have worked hard to buy property and build (actual family build) a cottage to enjoy with our family and friends. We would urge the O.E.B. to reconsider such a change as it would result in unreasonably unfair increases to our seasonal use cottage.

We hope that the issues raised in this letter of comment will be considered at the hearings. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter and a reply indicating receipt of this letter would be appreciated.

We will not have access to internet service after May 9/21 until the end of September but can receive text messages at [REDACTED]. Updates would be welcome.

Respectfully,  
Fred & Diane Krestynski

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10