

-- Name --

Waddah Ghanam

-- Do you reside in the impacted service area? -- Yes

-- Comments --

To the Ontario Energy Board,

I am writing as a resident and electricity customer of Hydro Ottawa to express my concerns regarding the proposed electricity distribution rate increases outlined in application EB-2024-0115.

While I understand the need for infrastructure investment and operational improvements, the proposed increase of \$6.08 per month for residential customers and \$14.57 per month for general service customers is significant, especially considering current economic pressures, inflation, and the cumulative cost burden on households and small businesses.

I respectfully request that the OEB conduct a thorough review of Hydro Ottawa's financial justifications, efficiency measures, and service performance before approving any rate increases. Moreover, I urge the Board to consider phased or limited increases, with safeguards for low- and fixed-income customers.

Public trust in utilities is built on transparency, fairness, and accountability. I believe this proposal, as submitted, requires stronger public engagement and clearer communication regarding its long-term impact.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this process.

Best Regards

Waddah Ghanam