

-- Name --

Steve Rahman

-- Do you reside in the impacted service area? -- No

-- Comments --

In the current economic environment, where households are already burdened by the escalating costs of living and the destabilizing effects of tariffs, the proposition of increasing hydro rates is deeply concerning. These are not isolated financial pressures; they represent a convergence of factors that are eroding the financial stability of individuals and families. The imposition of additional energy costs at this juncture would exacerbate an already untenable situation, forcing many to make even more difficult choices between essential needs. This ill-timed proposal threatens to push vulnerable populations, including low-income families and seniors on fixed incomes, further into financial precarity. It is a regressive measure that disproportionately impacts those least able to absorb additional expenses. Furthermore, these increased rates will place a significant burden on small businesses, hindering their ability to compete and potentially leading to job losses, and will also strain critical public services, such as hospitals and schools, potentially compromising the quality of care and education. Therefore, I must express my unequivocal opposition to this proposed rate hike. I firmly assert that my energy costs, and those of other ratepayers, must not be increased.