

Letter of Comment - EB-2024-0115

-- Name --

Alexander Reynolds

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

-- Comments --

Dear Ontario Energy Board,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Hydro Ottawa Limited's application to increase electricity distribution rates and other charges. At a time when households and businesses across Ontario are already struggling with soaring costs of living, stagnant wages, and persistent inflation, this proposed hike is unjustifiable and will only deepen financial hardship for residents.

Over the past decade, inflation has eroded purchasing power, while essential costs—such as housing, groceries, and fuel—have skyrocketed. Many families are barely making ends meet, and seniors on fixed incomes are particularly vulnerable. Electricity is not a luxury; it is a necessity for heating, cooking, and powering medical devices. Raising distribution rates will disproportionately hurt low- and middle-income households, pushing more people into energy poverty.

Furthermore, Ottawa residents have already faced repeated rate increases, while service reliability and affordability remain ongoing concerns. Hydro Ottawa's profits should not come at the expense of struggling consumers. Instead of approving another rate hike, the Ontario Energy Board should demand greater accountability, and cost efficiency, to protect customers.

I urge the Board to reject Hydro Ottawa's application and prioritize the economic well-being of Ontarians. Now is not the time to increase financial burdens on households already stretched to their limits.