

Letter of Comment - EB-2024-0115

-- Name --

Clifford Wardle

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

-- Comments --

In order to prevent the Hydro utility from becoming a cash-cow for the City of Ottawa to the detriment of the resiliency of the utility's distribution system, no rate increases should be permitted until the profits are exhausted.

Essentially this appears to be a hidden tax increase for the City of Ottawa by using Hydro Ottawa to increase rates and hence increase dividends to the City. This is the second increase in less than 6 months, a 17% increase overall.

The city has been harvesting the profits from Ottawa Hydro for general revenues which prevented Ottawa Hydro from re-investing millions of dollars back into improving resiliency.

Over \$100M in profits over the past few years were funneled to the city instead of re-investing in infrastructure.

I have no problems with increasing resiliency, but I would be pretty angry if this was a hidden way to increase the profits of Ottawa Hydro in order to provide greater dividends to the City, in other words a hidden tax increase.