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**Subject:** Strong Opposition to Proposed Rate Increase – Consumer Hardships Must Be Considered

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Dear Ontario Energy Board,

I am writing to **strongly oppose** the proposed electricity distribution rate increase by Oshawa PUC Networks Inc., set to take effect on **January 1, 2026**.s

At a time when many consumers are already struggling to make ends meet, approving an additional **\$6.70 per month for residential customers** and **\$14.22 per month for general service customers** would impose further financial strain on households and small businesses that are barely managing under current economic conditions. The rising costs of housing, groceries, and essential services are creating **an unbearable financial burden**—this proposed increase will only **exacerbate** the crisis, forcing many families to make difficult trade-offs just to afford basic necessities.

Additionally, **the request to establish a Cloud Computing Implementation Costs Deferral Account raises concerns** about whether future rate increases will be justified by necessary infrastructure improvements or simply passed onto consumers without adequate transparency. Investing in technological advancements should not come at the expense of struggling ratepayers.

I **urge the Board to reject** these proposed rate increases and instead seek alternative solutions that do not place the burden on consumers. **Reducing operating inefficiencies, exploring cost-sharing models, and implementing gradual adjustments rather than sudden hikes** could be considered as more reasonable approaches.

**Families and businesses cannot afford further increases.** I implore the Board to prioritize the financial well-being of consumers and halt this proposed rate adjustment.

Thank you for considering the impact on those who depend on affordable electricity to sustain their livelihoods.

Sincerely,  
Ananth Tharmalingam