

-- Name --

Ali Ali

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

-- Comments --

Dear Ontario Energy Board,

I am writing as a concerned resident and electricity customer of Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. to formally oppose the proposed rate increases outlined in the Notice of Rate Hearing for file number EB-2025-0014.

The proposed increase—\$6.70 more per month for residential customers and \$14.22 for small general service customers—is unreasonable and unacceptable, especially in the current economic climate. Many residents, myself included, are already under severe financial pressure. Wages have not kept pace with inflation, and in many workplaces, hours are being cut. These factors make it increasingly difficult for families and small businesses to cover basic living expenses, let alone absorb further increases in utility costs.

Additionally, it is deeply troubling to see these rate increases proposed at a time when energy companies continue to report healthy profit margins. If companies like Oshawa PUC are financially stable and capable of investing in future infrastructure or cloud computing transitions, these costs should be managed internally without passing the burden onto already struggling customers.

The proposed Cloud Computing Implementation Costs Deferral Account raises further concerns. While modernization is important, the lack of detailed financial forecasting and the open-ended nature of this cost recovery process suggest an additional layer of financial risk for customers. Ratepayers should not be asked to subsidize speculative or loosely defined technology transitions without a clear and equitable cost-benefit justification.

Electricity is not a luxury; it is a basic necessity. Increases of this nature disproportionately impact low- and fixed-income households, seniors, and small businesses, threatening energy security and financial stability.

I urge the Ontario Energy Board to:

1. Reject this proposed rate increase in its current form.
2. Require Oshawa PUC Networks Inc. to provide a more transparent, detailed, and equitable cost management strategy that does not shift financial risk to ratepayers.
3. Consider holding an oral or electronic hearing to allow greater public engagement, as a written hearing may not adequately capture the lived experiences and challenges faced by customers.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns.

Sincerely,

Ali