[redacted]

To the Ontario Energy Board,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding Hydro One Networks Inc. and Hydro One Sault Ste. Marie LP's proposed five-year electricity rate plan for 2028–2032.

While I recognize that investments in electricity infrastructure, system reliability and modernization are necessary, I believe any proposed rate increases must be supported by clear evidence, financial accountability and a demonstrated benefit to Ontario consumers.

In particular, I would encourage the Ontario Energy Board to carefully examine the following areas:

1. Affordability and Consumer Impact

Electricity is an essential service. The proposed increases must be evaluated in the context of the broader cost of living and the financial pressures facing Ontario households. Consumers should not be expected to absorb increases without clear justification.

2. Transparency and Financial Accountability

Hydro One should provide a detailed breakdown of the expenditures, capital investments and operational costs driving the proposed increases. The OEB should ensure that these costs are reasonable, necessary and supported by measurable improvements in service delivery and infrastructure reliability.

3. Fairness Across Customer Classes

The significant differences in proposed distribution increases between urban residential customers and other residential classifications warrant further examination. The OEB should ensure that the methodology used to allocate costs is fair, transparent and equitable.

4. Operational Efficiency and Cost Management

Before approving additional charges to consumers, the OEB should assess whether Hydro One has adequately explored opportunities to improve operational efficiency, leverage technology, optimize infrastructure investments and reduce administrative and operating costs.

5. Long-Term Economic Impact

Higher electricity costs can affect household affordability, small business operations, investment decisions and Ontario's overall economic competitiveness. These broader economic implications should be considered when evaluating a five-year rate plan.

Requested Consideration

I respectfully request that the Ontario Energy Board undertake a thorough and independent review of the proposed application, challenge expenditures that are not adequately justified, and ensure that any approved increases are reasonable, necessary and proportionate.

Consumers should have confidence that electricity rate adjustments reflect responsible financial management, prudent infrastructure investment and a genuine commitment to delivering value.

Thank you for considering my comments as part of this proceeding.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Ontario Electricity Consumer

https://www.hydroone.com/abouthydroone/RegulatoryInformation/JointRateApplications/Documents/2028-32/Notice_HONI_JRAP_20261102.pdf