

Hydro customers in Halton Hills expected to see decrease in bills

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Staff Writer

Halton Hills hydro customers could see a drop on their bills, starting this month.

The Ontario Energy Board issued a Rate Order decision on Halton Hills Hydro Inc.'s (HHHI) rate application.

A residential customer using an average of 1,000 kilowatt hours of electricity a month will see an average overall decrease of approximately 5.8 per cent on their total bill, said Art Skidmore, HHHI corporate vice-president and chief financial officer.

The OEB had approved a 0.75 per

cent/1,00 kilowatt hour rate increase (about 80 cents) for HHHI's delivery of electricity to customers, but the overall percentage dropped due to transmission rate decreases from Hydro One to HHHI.

According to an OEB press release, distribution rates are set to recover the cost to deliver electricity to consumers and are based on a utility's cost of providing electricity service. The distribution rate is reflected on the "delivery" line of consumers' bills.

Customers with questions about the new rates can call the HHHI's Customer Care department, 519-853-3701 or go to the "Contact Us" link at www.haltonhillshydro.com.

Public board approves calendar: School year will start Sept. 2

The Halton District School Board has approved the School Year Calendar for 2008-09.

The dates have been provided to schools to be shared with students and parents, and are also posted on the board's website at www.hdsb.ca.

The first day of school for the 2008-09 school year will be Tuesday, Sept. 2. Junior and Senior Kindergarten school visits and staggered entry will take place during the first two weeks of school. The Kindergarten All Day, Alternate Day calendar will be available in late May.

Professional activity (PA) days have been scheduled for both elementary and secondary

schools on Oct. 10, Nov. 7, Dec. 5, Jan. 30, 2009, April 24 and June 26.

The Christmas Break will run from Dec. 22, 2008-Jan. 2, 2009, with students returning to class on Monday, Jan. 5. The March break for the 2008-09 school year will be held from March 16-20.

Due to the Family Day holiday on Monday, Feb. 16, 2009, the Friday prior to the March break (March 13) will be a regular school day, not a board-designated holiday.

High school examinations for the first semester are scheduled from Jan. 22-28. Second semester exams are slated for June 18-24, 2009.

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