HYDRO RELEASES 1991 RATE PROPOSAL

Ontario Hydro is proposing an average rate increase of 7.8% beginning January 1, 1991, Ontario Hydro President and Chief Executive Officer, Robert Franklin, announced today.

"Hydro cannot keep the 1991 increase in line with our previous price increases," said Franklin. "There numerous pressures on our costs that are pushing up the price of electricity."

In 1991, rates must recover the cost of new generating transmission facilities, and environmental protection requirements and increases to wages and prices because of inflation.

Hydro also has to recover much higher pension costs due to a recent Supreme Court additional ruling, research funding to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and funding to the Atomic Energy Control Board as stipulated by the federal government.

A good portion of Hydro's increase is needed because of new facilities coming into service. "Our customers' use of electricity grew by 5% in 1989 over the year before and it is expected growth will continue," said Franklin. new facilities to meet Ontario's power needs come on line, their cost must be reflected in electricity prices."

In 1991, two units at Darlington generating station will be operation and new transmission facilities southwestern Ontario will be brought into service. well, Hydro will return to operation two units at R.L. Hearn generating station in Toronto.

"I reminded consumers last week that we would face double-digit increases in the cost of electricity next year because of the added effect of the federal government's proposed Goods and Services Tax," said Franklin. overall effect of rising costs electrical makes efficiency improvements all the more important. Savings from increased efficiency will take pressure off our existing and future generating system, and help customers reduce their electricity bills."

Hydro has budgeted \$3 billion from now to the year 2000 for programs to help electricity users reduce their consumption. Hydro's proposed 7.8% increase an average, all-customer increase. Large industrial customers served directly by Ontario Hydro would see their bills increase an average 7.4%. Ontario's 315 municipal utilities would be charged an average 7.9% more.

Based on consumption of 1,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, Ontario householders would pay on average about \$4.50 more per month for Hydro's proposed 1991 increase.

Electricity bills to residential customers served by municipalities now average \$64.50 per month for 1,000 kilowatt-hours of power.

Hydro's proposal has been submitted to the Minister of Energy and will be reviewed by the Ontario Energy Board.

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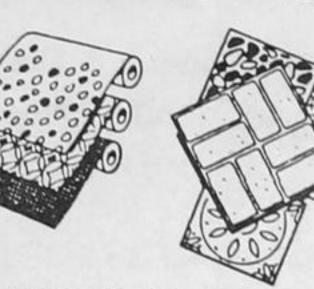
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