

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 are numerous pressures on our costs that are pushing up the price of electricity."

In 1991, rates must recover the cost of new generating and transmission facilities, 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 ruling, additional 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. "As 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 in operation and new transmission facilities in southwestern Ontario will be brought into service. As well, Hydro will return to operation two units at the 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. "The overall effect of rising costs makes electrical 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 is 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 the 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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SEELEYS BAY - 3 bedroom aluminum clad home at outskirts of village on large lot, 2 garages, nice trees. \$79,900.

RIDEAU SYSTEM - Enjoy all seasons at this cottage on Cranberry Lake near Seeleys Bay. Deck overlooking water, sleeping cabin, treed lot, 192' waterfront. \$96,500.

NEAR ELGIN - 2 bedroom mobile home in excellent condition. Fenced yard with patio and storage shed. Appliances included. \$25,500.

WESTPORT VILLAGE - Nearly new modern custom built 3 bedroom bungalow within walking distance of beach, finished, carpeted family room plus workshop in basement. \$129,000.

BURRIDGE LAKE - Small cottage on sloping lot to sand beach. Great for kids. Won't last long. \$59,900.

UPPER RIDEAU - Cottage lot, slightly elevated, over 200 feet frontage on Duck Bay. Good road access. \$45,000.

CHAFFEYS LOCK - 24 acres fronting on Marina Road just off pavement, excellent wood lot, possible building site. \$25,000.

OPEN HOUSE - May 5, 1-4 P.M.
Waterfront home plus 4 guest cottages on Cranberry Lake. Furnished, 4 1/2 acres, 900' shoreline. Call for details.

CHANTRY AREA - Two bedroom home with many extras. Landscaped 1 acre lot, attached garage and paved drive. A real doll house that must be seen. \$82,500.

BIG RIDEAU LAKE - Furnished cottage on 3 acre sloping lot. Easy access, bath/septic, excellent waterfront, large dock. \$135,000.

NEAR PORTLAND - Large 1 year old, three bedroom bungalow, close to Big Rideau. Features spacious eat-in kitchen, huge living-room, 1 1/2 baths, double garage, 1 acre lot on paved road. \$126,500.

LYNDHURST - 2 bedroom home with access to Lower Beverley Lake. Home is completely updated. Large garage and level lot. Only \$77,500.

WATERFRONT HOME - Newer 3 bedroom home, Gananoque waterway near Lyndhurst. Custom built with fireplace, finished basement, heat pump, jacuzzi tub and many extras. \$169,000. M.L.S.

RIDEAU SYSTEM - Treed 3 to 5 acre lakefront lots on Sand Lake. Nature at its best. Road access. \$64,900. each.

PORTLAND AREA - 3 acre well treed level building lot. Ideal rural setting for your future home. Asking \$13,500.

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