



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

October 16, 2007  
For Immediate Release

### **Electricity Rates to Decrease**

Thunder Bay, ON - Effective November 1, 2007, Thunder Bay Hydro customers will see a decrease on their electricity bills for two reasons:

1. the rate charged per kilowatt hour for the electricity will be decreased and
2. the amount of usage allowed at the lowest price point for the electricity will be increased for the winter season.

The Regulated Price Plan (RPP) for residential will be set at 5.0 cents per kilowatt hour for the first 1,000 kilowatt hours consumed per month, and 5.9 cents per kilowatt hour for usage above this threshold. They are currently 5.3 and 6.2 cents for the two pricing tiers. This represents a 4.8% decrease on the line for electricity usage on their bill.

Additionally, the threshold for the lowest rate of electricity use will be raised from 600 kWh to 1000 kWh for the winter months. These thresholds are to be in effect until April 30, 2008.

The impact of the two decisions will depend on how much each consumer uses. Residential customers who use, on average, 1,000 kWh per month will save approximately \$6.60 per month starting November 1st.

Small business RPP customers will pay the same reduced electricity rates, but their lower-price threshold remains the same (up to 750 kWh/month). Small business customers who use, on average, 2,000 kWh per month will save approximately \$6.00 per month starting November 1st.

The rate of electricity for Regulated Price Plan (RPP) customers (*those who purchase their electricity through their electric utility rather than through a retailer*) is set by the Ontario Energy Board (OEB). Last week they announced the decrease based on the need to reduce the surplus in the RPP variance account balance as well as a decrease in the cost of fuels used by generators and the appreciation of the Canadian dollar.

RPP prices are reviewed by the OEB and can be adjusted every six months (November 1st and May 1st) based on the Board's forecast of electricity prices for the next year.

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For More Information -  
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