



Electricity Prices are Changing

For more information please visit our Web site at:
www.oeb.gov.on.ca or contact us at **1-877-632-2727**
(toll-free) or **416-314-2455**



Soon after April 1, 2004, you will see changes
in the price you pay for electricity.

As the regulator of Ontario's electricity sector,
the Ontario Energy Board is committed to helping
you understand these changes.

Electricity Prices are Changing



Until now, Ontarians have been paying less for electricity than it costs to provide it.

There are two changes that together form an important step toward establishing a pricing structure that more closely reflects the true cost of electricity.

Commodity Price Changes

Starting April 1, 2004, your bill will reflect a change in the commodity price. That is the price you pay for all of the electricity you use in your home or small business.

Consumers who are currently paying a capped commodity price of 4.3 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh), such as residential and low-volume consumers, will now pay 4.7 cents per kWh for the first 750 kWh they use each month. The commodity price for electricity usage above 750 kWh, will be 5.5 cents per kWh.

About 60 per cent of Ontario households use less than 1,000 kWh per month and will likely see a modest increase in their monthly commodity charge. Through simple measures most consumers should be able to conserve energy and lessen the impact of the commodity increase. Visit the Ministry of Energy's Web site at www.energy.gov.on.ca or call 1-888-668-4636 for more details on conservation.

These commodity prices will continue until the Ontario Energy Board introduces a new pricing structure, expected by May 1, 2005.

Distribution Rate Changes

Your bill may also reflect a change in your distribution rate, starting April 1, 2004.

Your local utility has incurred costs with transmission companies and the Independent Electricity Market Operator (IMO) in order to obtain electricity for customers' use. Until now, it has not been able to recover all of those costs from customers.

The Ontario government has determined that, over a four-year period, your local utility can recover these costs and costs incurred in preparing for the introduction of competition in the electricity market.

If you wish to learn more about the Board's review of your utility's proposal to recover these costs, call us or visit our website.

The Ontario Energy Board is committed to protecting the interests of consumers with respect to prices and the reliability and quality of electricity service in Ontario.