



Media Release

Horizon Utilities rate increase to be reinvested in the community's electricity system

(HAMILTON/ST. CATHARINES, ON) August 9, 2011

The Ontario Energy Board has approved a request by Horizon Utilities Corporation ("Horizon") to increase rates so that the company can make needed reinvestments to the electrical distribution system, such as wires, poles, and the technology and people that support the system infrastructure.

Horizon has received approval for a rate increase of \$5.78 per month on the total bill for a typical residential customer using 800 kWh. Included in this increase is \$1.65 which is the result of increased transmission fees, which are an element of the customer's total bill, and outside of the control of Horizon Utilities. The increase is effective May 1, 2011, with implementation beginning this month.

Horizon applied for an increase in its rates to allow it to continue to make much needed reinvestments in the local electrical distribution system that are nearing the end of their normal life cycle.

A corresponding investment also needs to be made in the technology and people that support the system infrastructure to ensure the continued safe and reliable delivery of electricity to customers.

"Horizon is proud of its reputation as a safe and reliable provider of electricity. In order to continue to deliver reliable power, while ensuring employee and customer safety, we are embarking on a steady and necessary asset renewal program," said Max Cananzi, President & CEO of Horizon Utilities.

Horizon is committed to assisting customers in managing their electricity bills. Information on a number of conservation and demand management programs, as well as other helpful tips, can be found at www.horizonutilities.com.

About Horizon Utilities Corporation

Horizon Utilities is one of the largest municipally owned electricity distribution companies in Ontario, providing electricity and related utility services to 237,000 residential, commercial and industrial customers in Hamilton and St. Catharines. Horizon Utilities' employees are committed to delivering a safe

and reliable supply of electricity, providing unparalleled customer value, and helping to create a culture of energy conservation in Ontario.

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