News Release

Ontario Energy Board approves BPI rate adjustment for 2012

BRANTFORD, ON – The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has approved a reduction in the distribution rate charged by Brantford Power Inc. that will help offset some of the increase in the price of electricity that becomes effective May 1, 2012.

The distribution rate for residential customers will decrease by $1.96 a month, also effective May 1. The charge, which makes up approximately 14.9 per cent of the total bill, covers the costs to build and maintain the local system and to deliver electricity to homes and businesses.

Earlier this month, the OEB announced electricity price increases that will add $4.15 to the monthly bill for the average Brantford resident. The decrease in the distribution rate, combined with other adjustments, reduces the increase on the total bill to $3.41.

The impact on individual consumers will depend, in part, on the degree to which they take advantage of time-of-use billing, which lowers the cost of electricity during off-peak hours. Brantford Power Inc., owned by the City of Brantford, does not set the price of electricity but collects this money from customers at cost and pays it directly to its suppliers.

Brantford Power's business and commercial customers will also see modest decreases in the local distribution charge.

Residential and small commercial customers continue to enjoy a 10-per-cent reduction in their monthly bills thanks to the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit (OCEB). The benefit is designed to help offset the costs of upgrading and modernizing Ontario's energy infrastructure.

George Mychailenko, CEO of Brantford Power Inc., states: "At Brantford Power we continue to maintain strict controls over our costs. At a time when the price of electricity continues to rise, time-of-use billing and the conservation programs offered by Brantford Power will also help our customers reduce their energy bills in 2012."