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## For Immediate Release

April 19, 2011

### **OEB Announces New Electricity Prices**

*Off-peak Time-of-use Hours Starting Earlier at 7 p.m. on Weekdays*

**Toronto** – Today the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) released Regulated Price Plan (RPP) electricity commodity prices that take effect May 1, 2011.

Also starting May 1, time-of-use (TOU) off-peak hours on weekday evenings will begin two hours earlier at 7 p.m. (from 9 p.m.), enabling consumers to take advantage of lower cost electricity earlier.

Time-of-use prices are changing as follows:

On-peak = 10.7 cents/kWh (▲ 0.8 cents)  
Mid-peak = 8.9 cents/kWh (▲ 0.8 cents)  
Off-peak = 5.9 cents/kWh (▲ 0.8 cents)

Based on typical residential consumption patterns, the estimated TOU bill impact is an increase of about 3.8% on the total bill, or \$3.96 per month, for residential consumers who use 800 kWh of electricity a month.

It is expected there will be approximately 3 million customers on TOU billing by June 2011, with more being switched to TOU billing over the summer and through the fall.

Tiered prices are changing as follows:

Price for consumption up to 600 kWh/month = 6.8 cents/kWh (▲ 0.4 cents)  
Price for consumption above 600 kWh/month = 7.9 cents/kWh (▲ 0.5 cents)

Also effective May 1 for residential consumers, the seasonal threshold below which the lower tiered price applies will change from 1,000 kWh to 600 kWh per month. The threshold for non-residential RPP consumers stays at 750 kWh throughout the year.

The estimated tiered bill impact, including the change in the seasonal threshold, is an increase of about 6.1% on the total bill, or \$6.12 per month, for residential consumers who use 800 kWh of electricity a month. The change in seasonal threshold accounts for approximately \$2 of that estimated bill impact.

Though the electricity line on the bill has increased since last May, a comparison of May 2010 and May 2011 shows overall the total bill has remained relatively flat as a result of the introduction of the Ontario Clean Energy Benefit.

The primary factors affecting RPP prices are:

- Increased electricity market prices and changes in supply mix
- A higher Global Adjustment
- The RPP variance account has shifted from a credit to a charge

RPP prices, reviewed semi-annually, are reflected on the electricity line of residential and small business consumer bills for those who purchase their power directly from their local utility.

RPP prices are based on a 12-month forecast and are designed to provide stable and predictable electricity pricing as well as to ensure that the price that residential and small business consumers pay recovers the payments made to generators that supply the electricity they consume.

The Ontario Energy Board regulates the province's electricity and natural gas sectors in the public interest. It envisions a viable and efficient energy sector with informed consumers served by responsive regulatory processes that are effective, fair and transparent.

For more information, please refer to the attached backgrounder, visit the OEB website at [www.ontarioenergyboard.ca](http://www.ontarioenergyboard.ca) or contact our Consumer Relations Centre at 416-314-2455 or toll-free at 1-877-632-2727.

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For more information, please contact:

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