

## **Ontario Providing Support for Industrial and Commercial Electricity Consumers During COVID-19**

*Businesses to See Temporary Relief starting from April 2020*

May 1, 2020 3:30 P.M.

TORONTO - Through an emergency order passed today, the Ontario government is taking steps to defer a portion of Global Adjustment (GA) charges for industrial and commercial electricity consumers that do not participate in the Regulated Price Plan for the period starting from April 2020. This initiative is intended to provide companies with temporary immediate relief on their monthly electricity bills in April, May and June 2020. The government intends to keep this emergency order in place until May 31, 2020, and subsequent regulatory amendments would, if approved, provide for the deferral of these charges for June 2020 as well.

This relief will prevent a marked increase in Global Adjustment charges due to the low electricity demand caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. Without this emergency order, a small industrial or commercial consumer (i.e., Class B) could have seen bills increase by 15 per cent or more. This emergency order will hold GA rates in line with pre-COVID-19 levels.

"Ontario's industrial and commercial electricity consumers are being impacted by COVID-19. They employ thousands of hardworking Ontarians, and we know this is a challenging time for them," said Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. "This would provide immediate financial support for more than 50,000 companies when they need it most: as they do their part to stop the spread of COVID-19 and as they prepare to help get our economy moving again."

### **QUICK FACTS**

- The GA rate for smaller industrial and commercial consumers (i.e., Class B) has been set at \$115 per megawatt-hour, which is roughly in line with the March 2020 value. Large industrial and commercial consumers (i.e., Class A) will receive the same percentage reduction in GA charges as Class B consumers.
- Subject to the approval of subsequent amendments, deferred costs would be recovered over a 12-month period beginning in January 2021.

### **LEARN MORE**

- [Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19](#)

- Visit Ontario's [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19.
- [Learn more about Global Adjustment](#)

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**Sydney Stonier** Minister's Office  
Sydney.Stonier@ontario.ca  
416-314-5199

**Natasha Demetriades** Communications Branch  
Natasha.Demetriades@ontario.ca  
416-327-3855

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