

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
5TH COUNCIL, 30TH SESSION

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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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The attached brief on electrical power rates at Rae is submitted by the Rae Development Committee.

RAE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rae, N.W.T.,
February 1st,

The Commissioner and Members of the N.W.T. Council,

The following is a brief submitted to the N.W.T. Council by the Rae Development Committee concerning the electrical power rates at Rae, N.W.T. This power is now being sold to Rae residents by the Department of Northern Affairs & National Resources at the rate of 12¢ per KWH. Compared with the rates being charged at Yellowknife, N.W.T., approximately 70 miles distant, the rates charged at Rae are felt to be extremely excessive.

The Yellowknife rates are:

First	25 KWH/Month	\$1.30
Next	25 KWH/Month	4.8¢ per KWH
Next	50 KWH/Month	2.8¢ per KWH
Over	100 KWH/Month	2 ¢ per KWH
Minimum Monthly charge		\$2.00

By way of comparing the rates at Rae with the Yellowknife rates, the following is the actual amount of electrical power consumed at three separate residences at Rae during the months of July, August, September, 1964.

House #1 - 2761 KWH at 12¢ per KWH.....	\$331.32
House #2 - 2367 KWH at 12¢ per KWH.....	294.04
House #3 - 2326 KWH at 12¢ per KWH.....	<u>289.12</u>
Total 7454 KWH	\$914.48

By way of comparison, if these three houses had been situated at Yellowknife, the cost for each for electrical power would have been:

House #1 - 2761 KWH.....	\$ 60.92
House #2 - 2367 KWH.....	52.04
House #3 - 2326 KWH.....	<u>51.22</u>
	\$164.18

The difference between the costs of operating these three houses could be \$750.30, or an average of \$250.10 per house, between the Rae prices and those in effect at Yellowknife.

We feel that the rate at Rae of \$914.48 compared with the Yellowknife rate of \$164.18 is exorbitant to the point of being ridiculous. For the purpose of this brief, these figures apply to Government residences, the occupants of which are not required to directly pay the electrical bill. By using the same reasoning it would necessarily follow that the cost of power in ALL private residences, white Metis and Indian, is approximately 5 1/2 times greater in Rae than in Yellowknife. As the availability of electrical power in a residence is essential in the present day Canadian home, and as the onus of paying for the electrical wiring falls on the occupant, it necessarily follows that the cost of wiring their house and paying for the power in this settlement is completely out of the reach of all Metis, White and Indian residents. This excessive power cost would also be a great deterrent to any business or industry thinking of establishing in the Rae area. If a private company in Yellowknife can sell electrical power at a reasonable rate, we feel that the Federal Government, who is not usually in the power business, could sell power at Rae at a price comparable with Yellowknife. It is respectfully requested that the cost of power be reduced to a rate comparable to Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Tabled by Mr. P. Baker.