

Bulletin 2024-11

July 4, 2024

Amendments to AUC Rule 015

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) has amended [Rule 015: Rules on Costs of Investigations, Hearings or Other Proceedings Relating to Contraventions](#). The amendments will allow AUC Enforcement and the Market Surveillance Administrator to recover the costs:

- On a fully burdened basis (including overhead costs), of staff investigating and prosecuting contraventions.
- On a full indemnity basis (100 per cent of a party's reasonable costs are compensated for), of external consultants and legal counsel engaged by AUC Enforcement or the Market Surveillance Administrator when investigating and prosecuting contraventions.

The amendments to Rule 015 come into force on **August 1, 2024**, and will apply to costs of investigations, hearings or other proceedings incurred on or after that date.

Prior to these amendments, all of the costs connected with internal staff time spent on investigations, hearings and other proceedings were borne by either the Market Surveillance Administrator or the AUC. Under the amendments to Rule 015, these costs are eligible to be paid by the person found by the Commission to have committed a contravention of any enactment under the jurisdiction of the Commission, any order, decision of the Commission, or any Commission rule or independent system operator rule. The full costs of external consultants and legal counsel are now eligible to be paid at the rates these parties charge, instead of the rates that were set out in the scale of costs to Rule 015.

The amended rule and blacklined version can be found on the [Consultations page](#) of the AUC's website.

Any questions related to this bulletin should be directed to AUC Director of Compliance and Enforcement, Parvez Khan at Parvez.khan@auc.ab.ca.

Alberta Utilities Commission