AUC
Alberta Utilities Commission

News release

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Alberta Utilities Commission to regulate data centres under expanded mandate

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) welcomes the changes proposed by the Government of Alberta in Bill 42, announced earlier today, that would establish a stronger regulatory regime for data centres. If passed, under the proposed legislation the AUC would become the provincial regulator for large data centres, applying its experience and expertise to administer a clear, effective regulatory framework that serves the public interest.

“Clear rules and a predictable process are good for everyone. Albertans will know what to expect, and companies will know what is required of them. If Bill 42 is passed as proposed, the AUC would review every data centre project over 10 megawatts on its own merits and according to the legislation and regulations set by the Government of Alberta,” said AUC Chair Carolyn Dahl Rees.

Expanding the AUC’s mandate from electricity generation facilities to data centres would be a logical extension of its existing responsibilities. The AUC and its predecessors have regulated utilities in Alberta for over a century. Because large data centres will be encouraged to build their own power supply, it makes sense for one regulator to oversee the entire complex – the power generation plant and the data centre itself.

Further updates will be shared in the coming weeks.

More information about Bill 42 and the proposed legislation can be found on the Government of Alberta website.

About the Alberta Utilities Commission

The AUC is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the province of Alberta that is committed to delivering innovative and efficient regulatory solutions. The AUC currently regulates the utilities sector, natural gas and electricity markets to protect social, economic and environmental interests of Alberta where competitive market forces do not.

Media inquiries may be directed to media.relations@auc.ab.ca.