

Announcement

March 18, 2020

AUC supports implementation of 90-day utility bill payment deferral option

Premier Jason Kenney [announced Wednesday](#) that Alberta utility consumers in need will be able to defer their utility bill payments for up to 90 days. The Alberta Utilities Commission will be playing a central role in the optional payment deferral program and related efforts, part of the government's response to the COVID-19 emergency.

The government is taking aggressive action to support Albertans through the option to defer paying utility bills for up to 90 days. Albertans will not need to worry about their gas or electricity being cut off, or keeping the lights on, or keeping their homes and businesses heated as they grapple with the unprecedented challenge and concern of COVID-19.

The AUC has already scheduled a meeting Thursday morning with utilities, competitive retailers, gas co-operatives, rural electrification associations, etc. so all the necessary details can be put in place right away. In the past, the AUC has implemented focused programs that were put in place in locations hit by disaster including following wildfires in High Level and Fort McMurray.

Alberta's emergency situation and the deferral program will be monitored over the next quarter to determine if it should be extended or modified.