

Bulletin 2021-18

September 24, 2021

Consultation on Rule 022: *Rules on Costs in Utility Rate Proceedings*

The Alberta Utilities Commission is initiating a review of the rules governing cost recovery in rates proceedings to improve participation and encourage efficient, issue-focused proceedings, as set out in the AUC [2021-2024 Strategic Plan](#). At this time, the Commission will focus on [Rule 022: Rules on Costs in Utility Rate Proceedings](#) and will review [Rule 009: Rules on Local Intervener Costs](#) which pertains on the cost recovery rules in facilities proceedings at a later date.

The objective of this consultation is to receive feedback on how Rule 022 can be amended to promote consistent and effective participation in Commission proceedings, and to provide clarity in the rule for participants while also respecting that these costs are ultimately paid by ratepayers and should be limited to what is necessary, efficient and reasonable in the circumstances.

The Commission is seeking stakeholder input regarding the five main topics listed below. The AUC Engage forum will be used to post and gather information related to this consultation. The title of the consultation is [Rule 022: Rules on Costs in Utility Rate Proceedings](#). To participate in the consultation, participants are required to register on Engage, and log in to submit a comment. All documents received will be made public and posted under “Consultation submissions” on the side bar of the consultation page.

The Commission has identified the following broad issues and is seeking initial responses on or before **October 27, 2021**:

1. Utility cost recovery process
2. Eligibility for costs
3. Scale of costs and claims for professional fees
4. Process for costs awards
5. Other issues or considerations

The Commission's review of Rule 022 will consist of the following written and oral stakeholder consultation process.

Consultation activity	Date
Stakeholders may file submissions on the topics addressed in this bulletin and any other comments on cost recovery in utility rates proceedings.	November 17, 2021
Commission will host a two-day virtual stakeholder consultation session to hear submissions on the topics addressed in this bulletin and any other comments on cost recovery in utility rates proceedings.	December 8 and 9, 2021

The AUC will provide additional details about the virtual stakeholder session following receipt of stakeholder submissions.

Any questions related to this bulletin should be directed to Kim Macnab at kim.macnab@auc.ab.ca or Kristjana Kellgren at kristjana.kellgren@auc.ab.ca.

Alberta Utilities Commission