

Notice of Review

Regulatory process initiated for electric distribution system-connected generation review (distributed generation review)

Proceeding 22534 Application 22534-A001

1. The Alberta Utilities Commission has been directed by Order in Council 120/2017 to inquire into and report to the Alberta Minister of Energy on matters relating to electric distribution system-connected generation in accordance with the terms of reference provided in the Schedule to the order-in-council. The Commission's eFiling System will be used to communicate with parties and manage submissions from those who wish to provide input. The details regarding access to and registration in Proceeding 22534 are set out in the participation section below.
2. The AUC will provide an interim report on the review to the Minister of Energy by July 31, 2017, and a final report will be delivered by December 29, 2017. The final report will provide findings and costs and benefits on relevant issues but will not include recommendations.

Participation:

3. In carrying out the distributed generation review, the Commission shall hear from all interested stakeholders.
4. The Commission will be using its eFiling System for purposes of receiving submissions from interested stakeholders, communicating its process for the review and for storing and making information available to the public. The review has been assigned Proceeding 22534 and Application 22534-A001. As well, general information about the review can be found on the AUC's website under Items of interest.
5. The following stakeholders are **essential participants** in the review and therefore, the Commission, pursuant to Section 8 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*, directs them to participate:
 - ATCO Electric Ltd.
 - ENMAX Power Corporation
 - EPCOR Distribution & Transmission Inc.
 - FortisAlberta Inc.
 - Alberta Electric System Operator

6. In addition, this notice will be served on other Alberta municipal distribution system owners and the Alberta Federation of Rural Electrification Associations (AFREA), all of which the Commission encourages to actively participate in this review. AFREA is also being provided the opportunity to make a submission to the Commission regarding recovery of its participation costs as if it had been directed to participate in the review (see paragraph 12 of the cost recovery provisions, below).

7. All interested parties that wish to participate in the review are asked to file a statement of intent to participate no later than **4 p.m. on April 21, 2017**. If a party is represented by another party, the contact information for that representative should be included. If a submission is being made on behalf of a group, the contact person for the group and the details of the group members should be provided. Parties with similar interests are encouraged to participate as a group.

8. Parties interested in participating in the review are encouraged to file their opinions regarding the matters raised in the order-in-council upon registering to participate in the proceeding.

9. All submissions should be filed under Proceeding 22534 using the [eFiling System](#). If required, the submission can be filed with the AUC by mail or fax. Please contact the AUC's information services group at info@auc.ab.ca or 403-592-4500 if you require assistance with the eFiling System or if you do not have Internet access and they will assist you with your submission. For efficiency, please identify any communication with the AUC about this review by indicating the proceeding number.

10. Additional information regarding further process for the review will be provided to those who register in, or observe, the proceeding following the completion of this participant registration process.

11. If you have any questions about this review process and participant funding, please contact Rose Ferrer at 403-592-4379 or by email at rose.ferrer@auc.ab.ca or Maria Baitoiu at 403-592-4490 or by email at maria.baitoiu@auc.ab.ca.

Cost recovery:

12. Parties who have been directed to participate in the review by the Commission may apply for recovery of their costs.

13. The AUC will have a limited budget available to partially fund cost claims from eligible parties who were not directed to participate. Parties may apply for recovery of costs of their participation in the review and the claims will be assessed using the following criteria:

- i. The Commission may award partial costs to a participant who has a substantial interest in the subject matter of the review and who does not have the means to raise sufficient financial resources to enable the participant to present its interest adequately in the review.

- ii. Unless the Commission orders otherwise, the following types or classes of participants are ineligible to claim costs:
- electric generators, including associations representing electric generators
 - business, commercial, institutional, or industrial entities including associations of these entities
 - municipalities including associations of municipalities
 - rural electrification associations including associations of rural electrification associations

14. The Commission may require that payment of the costs awarded to an eligible participant be shared by one or more of the stakeholders.

15. The Commission will not be requiring the submission of participant cost budgets at this time, but will assess any cost claims in accordance with the relevant principles set out in the AUC's Rule 022: *Rules on Costs in Utility Rate Proceedings* and the scale of costs associated with that rule.

Privacy:

16. To support an open and transparent process, information you send to the AUC will be publicly available through the AUC's eFiling System. If there is confidential information you would like to file, a request must be made in advance of filing your submission.

Issued on March 31, 2017.

Alberta Utilities Commission
Douglas A. Larder, QC, General Counsel