

# Bulletin 2022-11

September 26, 2022

## **Stakeholder consultation regarding the standards of service for new home connections and associated maximum investment levels (MILs) for 2023-2028 – update**

At the time it was initiated, this stakeholder consultation had the following objectives:

- Determination of 2023 MILs for greenfield single family residential homes.
- Development of a framework for determining standards going forward e.g., forum, process.
- To help inform industry-wide planning.

Consultation activities to date have included:

- One-to-one meetings with 24 distribution utilities, builders, developers and other stakeholders to understand their preliminary views and concerns.
- An initial cross-stakeholder meeting that included presentations from the AUC and high-level group discussions.
- In-depth meetings and information gathering with distribution utilities, builders and developers to understand current practices.
- Three working group discussions on targeted topics including amperage, conduit usage and the guiding principles behind MILs.
- Written submissions from utilities, builders, developers and other stakeholders to inform the above discussions.

Based on the information gathered in the consultation process, it has become clear that changing MILs over the longer term will not involve a simple mechanical process to update the amount of the MILs, rather it will require consideration of several broad regulatory principles before the Commission can make a decision on new home connections and the associated MILs.

Accordingly, the AUC will initiate a Commission proceeding for formal examination of new home connections and associated cost responsibilities of the distribution utilities for 2024.

For 2023, the AUC is considering extending the MILs currently in place by approving the MILs as filed by the distribution utilities in the compliance filings to the 2023 cost of service applications. That would result in no change in the process through which MILs are determined, as the 2023 MILs submitted in the cost of service escalation were based on an escalation of 2022 MIL amounts.

Because the Commission is committed to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of its regulatory processes for the benefit of utilities, customers and other stakeholders, it will allow for further comments before it finalizes 2023 MILs. As such, parties who register a statement of

intent to participate in the Commission initiated proceeding, Proceeding 27658, will have an opportunity to submit any comments on the setting of final MILs for 2023.

In that proceeding, the Commission will also set the process and scope of the proceeding for 2024.

A notice of proceeding will be issued in Proceeding 27658 with further details.

In the meantime, the [consultation page on the AUC's Engage platform](#) will remain open until October 14, 2022, should stakeholders be interested in submitting any additional information on the consultation page. AUC staff continue to be available to clarify questions on filing further information on engage or answer other questions on process.

We thank all everyone for their participation in the consultations to date, because it has generated salient information on the issues, allowed the Commission to determine that a proceeding is required, and provided information that can be used to help scope Proceeding 27658. We encourage all interested stakeholders to continue their participation by registering in the upcoming proceeding by visiting the AUC website and logging in to the eFiling System to file your submission for Proceeding 27658. If you require assistance in registering, please contact Nicole Morter or Sura Abdul-Razzak at [nicole.morter@auc.ab.ca](mailto:nicole.morter@auc.ab.ca) and [sura.abdul-razzak@auc.ab.ca](mailto:sura.abdul-razzak@auc.ab.ca)

Should you have questions regarding this consultation, please contact Fino Tiberi by email at [fino.tiberi@auc.ab.ca](mailto:fino.tiberi@auc.ab.ca) or by telephone at 403-592-4410.

Alberta Utilities Commission