

**Chief Financial Officer's Report to
Gas, Power and Telecommunications
2021 September 9**

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GPT2021-1304
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Industry Update on Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Gas, Power and Telecommunications Committee:

1. Receive this report for the Corporate Record and for discussion.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Gas, Power and Telecommunications Committee has requested that this report be prepared every second meeting.
- Natural gas and electricity markets are analyzed to provide an understanding of energy prices which affect The City's utility costs, Calgarians who pay for utility services and franchise fee revenue.
- Policy issues in Alberta's regulated utilities and general utility industry developments that could have an impact on The City's interests are reviewed to keep committee members informed of issues that may require future regulatory intervention or impact The City's operations.
- The Federal Court of Appeal has granted TELUS leave to appeal an April 2021 CRTC decision that supported the role of municipalities. TELUS was opposed to the CRTC's assertion that they did not have the authority to grant access to carriers to install wireless infrastructure on municipal assets afforded under the definition of 'transmission line.' TELUS is attempting to broaden the definition of 'transmission line' in order to gain access to municipal assets (such as street light poles) to install wireless (5G) equipment in the same manner they have access to the rights of way. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) had intervened in support of the municipal role of rights-of-way management. We believe that it would be prudent for Calgary to collaborate with FCM and intervene to highlight the work Calgary has done to reduce or eliminate barriers to the deployment of wireless infrastructure on City assets.
- Attachment 1 provides details on recent developments in Alberta's utilities industry.
- This report is in alignment with the mandate of the Gas, Power and Telecommunications Committee.

DISCUSSION

- In this report the recent Regulated Rates for Electricity and Natural Gas are graphed.
- The remainder of this report consists of analysis on utility and telecommunications topics.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)

- ☒ Public Communication or Engagement was not required

IMPLICATIONS

Social

This report aligns with The City's Triple Bottom Line Policy Framework. The analysis determined that no social implications were applicable.

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Environmental

This report aligns with The City's Triple Bottom Line Policy Framework. The analysis determined that no environmental implications were applicable.

Economic

This report aligns with The City's Triple Bottom Line Policy Framework. The analysis determined that no economic implications were applicable.

Service and Financial Implications

No anticipated financial impact

RISK

No business plan implications arise from this report.

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. Industry Update on Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications