

MLA, Lethbridge-East

July 9, 2025

Bob Heggie Chief Executive Officer Alberta Utilities Commission Eau Claire Tower 1400, 600 Third Avenue SW Calgary AB T2P 0G5 Bob.Heggie@auc.ab.ca

Dear Bob Heggie:

I am writing to advise you that the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has released its "Guidelines to evaluate agricultural land for renewable generation" to supplement the *Electric Energy Land Use and Visual Assessment Regulation* (EELUVAR). This document has been developed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in consultation with a range of stakeholders and is intended to provide non-binding guidelines for consideration by the AUC as it proceeds with implementation of the EELUVAR and delivers the AUC's public interest mandate.

The document was developed to align with requirements legislated in the EELUVAR. The additional background, guidance, and best management practices related to the development of renewable energy projects on agricultural land are provided as information for the AUC, developers, landowners, and municipalities to ensure impacts to agricultural lands are appropriately contemplated when considering renewable energy projects. As an independent, quasi-judicial regulator, it is expected the AUC will continue to evaluate applications and the suitability of these guidelines on a case-by-case basis, and the scope and content of this document may be periodically updated.

Sincerely,

Nathan Neudorf Minister

Enclosure: Guidelines to evaluate agricultural land for renewable generation

cc: Honourable RJ Sigurdson

Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation