



Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada

October 16, 2024

The Honourable Nathan Neudorf
Minister of Affordability and Utilities

The Honourable Brian Jean
Minister of Energy and Minerals

The Honourable Rebecca Schulz
Minister of Environment and Protected Areas

Dear Ministers Neudorf, Jean, and Schulz:

Alberta is committed to responsible and innovative energy development, and nuclear energy offers a significant opportunity to provide a reliable and stable energy source for Albertans. With Alberta's long history of responsible and safe energy resource management, the province is uniquely positioned to develop this critical sector.

To advance Alberta's priorities in nuclear development and to streamline ongoing efforts, the Minister of Affordability and Utilities will assume responsibility for the legislative, regulatory, and policy development of nuclear energy in Alberta as well as its implementation. As lead, the Minister of Affordability and Utilities will:

- Initiate a comprehensive review of nuclear energy development by conducting a public and industry wide consultation on the utilization of nuclear energy in Alberta.
- Develop a nuclear regulatory framework to provide certainty to industry stakeholders and to ensure projects can be advanced as soon as possible.
- Provide analysis on what role, if any, the provincial government should have in nuclear energy development in the province.
- Establish and convene a quarterly working group that includes the participation of the Ministers of Energy and Minerals and Environment and Protected Areas, as well as representatives from my office, to ensure the effective coordination of energy and environmental considerations within the nuclear regulatory regime and for industrial implementation.
- Assess projects from nuclear energy proponents to ensure alignment with provincial policy.



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To reflect this new authority, initiatives related to nuclear energy from the mandate letters of the Ministers of Energy and Minerals and Environment and Protected Areas are now the responsibility of the Minister of Affordability and Utilities. This includes efforts to develop and improve regulatory regimes to incentivize small modular reactor investment; coordinate with other provinces and the federal government to further explore and promote small and micro modular reactor technologies and pave the way for their use in oil sands operations and petrochemical production; and the development and implementation of a regulatory framework for small modular reactor technology use in Alberta. The appropriate number of FTEs will be moved from the Ministries of Energy and Minerals and Environment and Protected Areas to Affordability and Utilities to ensure adequate Human Resources are in place. The Minister of Affordability and Utilities will continue to work closely with the Ministers of Energy and Minerals and Environment and Protected Areas in the advancement of nuclear energy development in Alberta.

Executive Council will reach out shortly to assist with the necessary arrangements to support this transition.

Since forming government, we have taken clear and decisive action to grow and diversify our economy towards the long-term success and prosperity of the province. Maximizing energy performance will position Alberta to meet the increasing demands of a growing economy and population in a safe, reliable, and affordable manner.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Smith".

Hon. Danielle Smith
Premier of Alberta