

Thank you again for taking the time to listen, I look forward to hearing how some of these changes can be implemented to serve not only the big corporations but the middle class tax payers as well.

Thank You,

From: MA Minister <Minister.MunicipalAffairs@gov.ab.ca>

Sent: June 20, 2023 10:13 AM

To:

Cc: AU Minister <AU.Minister@gov.ab.ca>; AGRIC Minister <AGRIC.Minister@gov.ab.ca>

Subject: Albertans across this Province are Begging for your help

AR111340

Dear

Premier Danielle Smith and the Honourable Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Affordability and Utilities, shared your emails regarding your concerns with the Alberta Utilities Commission's (AUC) approval of solar energy projects and the land-use bylaw in . As the Minister of Municipal Affairs, I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

I understand your frustration with the situation, and the potential impacts on your family and your property. As you have noted, during the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) conference earlier this year, a number of rural municipal councillors raised similar concerns regarding the current approval process for renewable energy projects.

Alberta's regulatory process for solar farm projects, through the AUC, uses a proven, established process and ensures there are opportunities for local residents, adjacent landowners, and elected local governments to provide input into the AUC's decision. Details about the AUC review process are available at www.auc.ab.ca/facility-application-review-process-steps.

Based on the concerns we have been hearing from Albertans like yourself and at events like the RMA conference, I will be working with my colleagues in Affordability and Utilities, and Agriculture and Irrigation, to review the balance between provincial and local decision-making authority, and together we will determine whether adjustments are needed. Ultimately, we want to ensure a stable and reliable investment climate to attract new development and diversify our economy, while also ensuring that the local impacts of development are fully understood and addressed to the greatest extent possible.

Thank you again for writing. I understand this is an important issue for you, and I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts.

Sincerely,

Ric McIver
Minister

cc: Honourable Danielle Smith, Premier of Alberta
Honourable Nathan Neudorf, Minister of Affordability and Utilities
Honourable RJ Sigurdson, Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation

Classification: Protected A