

BYLAW C-8662-2025

A bylaw of Rocky View County, in the Province of Alberta, to establish exclusive provision of water and wastewater utility services.

WHEREAS pursuant to section 7 of the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000, c-M-26 (the “Act”), a council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting public utilities;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to section 33 of the *Municipal Government Act*, a municipal council may prohibit any person other than the municipality from providing the same or similar utility service in all or part of the municipality when the municipality provides a municipal utility service;

AND WHEREAS Rocky View County provides municipal utility services for water and wastewater within its boundaries;

AND WHEREAS the Council of Rocky View County deems it necessary and in the public interest to preserve the integrity, viability, and sustainability of its municipal utility systems by establishing itself as the exclusive provider of water and wastewater utility services within all or part of the County;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of Rocky View County enacts as follows:

Title

1 This Bylaw may be known as the “*Water and Wastewater Utility Exclusivity Bylaw*”.

Definitions

2 In this Bylaw,

- a. “**Council**” means the council of Rocky View County.
- b. “**County**” means, as the context requires, Rocky View County, or any municipally controlled corporation that is controlled by the County.
- c. “**existing service area**” means, in respect of a rural utility, the geographic area within which the rural utility was providing a utility service to its members or shareholders as the date of this Bylaw comes into force, as evidenced by its infrastructure, location of membership of shareholders, service connections, or other indicia of active service delivery.
- d. “**franchise agreement**” means an agreement, including any renewal or amendment of that agreement, made in accordance with section 45 of the *Municipal Government Act*, under which the County grants a Person the right to provide a utility service in all or part of the County;
- e. “**person**” includes an individual, partnership, corporation, or other legal entity but does not include the County.
- f. “**public utility**” means a system or works used to provide one or more of the following for public consumption, benefit, convenience or use:

- i. water; and
- ii. wastewater collection, treatment, or disposal.

and includes the thing that is provided for public consumption, benefit, convenience or use.

g. “**rural utility**” means a rural utility association, co-operative, society, or non-profit corporation that has the principal object of providing any one or more of the following to its members or shareholders, primarily in a rural area:

- iii. water, primarily for domestic use; and
- iv. wastewater collection, treatment, or disposal.

h. “**utility service**” means the thing provided by a system or works of a public utility.

Exclusivity of Service

- 3 No person other than the County shall provide for public consumption, benefit, convenience, or use, the same or a similar type of utility service in all or part of the County, except as authorized by Council under a franchise agreement.
- 4 Council may authorize a person, to provide such a utility service by franchise agreement, in accordance with section 45 of the *Municipal Government Act*, on such terms and conditions as Council considers appropriate.

Exclusions

- 5 Notwithstanding Section 3 of this bylaw, nothing in this bylaw prohibits or restricts the provision of:
 - a) a utility service by a Person in accordance with a franchise agreement; or
 - b) water, primarily for domestic use, or wastewater collection, treatment, or disposal by a rural utility.

Existing Franchise Agreements and Bylaws

- 6 Nothing in this bylaw operates to invalidate, impair or limit the rights or obligations of any party under a franchise agreement that is valid and subsisting on the date this bylaw comes into force, including, without limitation, any right or obligation:
 - a) to provide a utility service within an exclusive or non-exclusive service area identified in that agreement; or
 - b) to renew the agreement in accordance with its terms.
- 7 Nothing in this bylaw repeals, replaces, or amends any bylaw enacted under Section 46 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Inspection

- 8 For the purpose of ensuring compliance with this bylaw, a designated officer of the County is authorized to inspect any land or structure in accordance with section 542 of the *Municipal Government Act*.

Offence

- 9 Any person who contravenes this bylaw is guilty of an offence and is liable, upon summary conviction, to a fine of not more than \$10,000 or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both fine and imprisonment.
- 10 Where a corporation or other legal entity contravenes any provision of this Bylaw, every shareholder, director, officer, employee, or agent who directed, authorized, assented to, acquiesced in, or participated in the commission of the offence is guilty of an offence and is liable to the penalties provided under this bylaw, whether or not the corporation or entity has been prosecuted or convicted.
- 11 It is not a defence for a person referred to in section 9 of this bylaw that the person believed the corporation or entity had the authority to provide a utility service unless a valid franchise agreement evidences such authority.
- 12 If a contravention of this bylaw is of a continuing nature, it shall constitute a separate offence for each day, or part of a day, on which it continues.

Severability

- 13 Each provision of this bylaw is held invalid by a court competent jurisdiction, the invalid portion shall be severed, and the remainder of the bylaw shall remain in effect.

READ A FIRST TIME this

17th day of June, 2025

READ A SECOND TIME this

28th day of April, 2026

UNANIMOUS PERMISSION FOR THIRD READING this

_____ day of _____, 2025

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME this

28th day of April, 2026



Reeve



Chief Administrative Officer

April 30 2026

Date Bylaw Signed