

1980 BILL 76

Second Session, 19th Legislature, 29 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 76

THE RURAL GAS AMENDMENT ACT, 1980

MR. BATIUK

First Reading

Second Reading

Committee of the Whole

Third Reading

Royal Assent

Bill 76
Mr. Batiuk

BILL 76

1980

THE RURAL GAS AMENDMENT ACT, 1980

(Assented to _____, 1980)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1 *The Rural Gas Act is amended by this Act.*

2 *Section 1 is amended*

(a) *in clause (e) by adding "or" at the end of subclause (iii) and by adding the following after subclause (iii):*

(iv) *a remote urban municipality designated by the Minister under section 2,*

(b) *in clause (q) by adding "or consumers in remote urban municipalities in Alberta" after "in Alberta";*

(c) *by repealing clause (u) and substituting the following:*

(u) *"utilities officer" means a person who assists a rural municipal authority in the organization, construction, operation and co-ordination, or any of them, of a rural gas utility or a public utility within the boundaries of that rural municipal authority.*

3 *Section 2 is amended by renumbering it as 2(1) and by adding the following after subsection (1):*

(2) *The Minister may designate an urban municipality as a remote urban municipality for the purposes of this Act.*

4 *Section 6(2) is amended by striking out "section 5, subsection (1), clause (a) or (b)" and substituting "the regulations made pursuant to The Department of Utilities and Telephones Act".*

Explanatory Notes

1 This Bill will amend chapter 83 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1973.

2 Section 1 presently reads in part:

(e) “*distributor*” means

(i) *the owner of a gas utility to which The Gas Utilities Act applies,*
or

(ii) *a member-owned co-operative association, or*

(iii) *a rural municipal authority,*

that owns or operates a rural gas utility;

(q) “*rural gas utility*” means *a system of pipe lines for the distribution and delivery of gas and which provides gas service wholly or primarily to rural consumers in Alberta;*

(u) “*utilities officer*” means *a utilities officer referred to in section 5, subsection (3).*

3 Remote urban municipalities.

4 Section 6(2) presently reads:

(2) *This section applies only with respect to rural gas utilities or ex-*

tensions, as the case may be, constructed after the coming into force of this section and owned or operated by a distributor who has received a grant under section 5, subsection (1), clause (a) or (b) in respect of that rural gas utility or extension.

5 Section 9(1) and (2) presently reads:

9(1) The chief officer or any other officer of the Department, or an employee of the Department authorized for that purpose by the chief officer, may at any reasonable time

(a) enter upon any lands or premises to inspect a rural gas utility, a consumer service installation or the offices of a distributor, and

(b) examine any records of a distributor in connection with the operation of a rural gas utility if the distributor is a member-owned co-operative association or is a distributor who has received a grant under this Act.

(2) A utilities officer employed or engaged by a rural municipal authority may enter upon any lands or premises to inspect a rural gas utility or any other public utility serving residents within its municipality, a consumer service installation within that municipality or the offices of the distributor or of the operator of that other public utility.

6 Section 28 presently reads:

28(1) Upon the completion of construction of a rural gas utility or an extension, the distributor shall file with the Department

(a) a physical inventory of the material used,

(b) a copy of the final plans showing the actual physical location of all pipe lines forming part of the rural gas utility or the extension, as the case may be, and

(c) any other information required by the regulations or the chief officer.

(2) Subsection (1), clause (a) applies only where the distributor has received a grant under section 5, subsection (1) in respect of the rural gas utility or the extension, as the case may be.

7 Construction and operation of a pipe line owned by the Crown.

5 *Section 9 is amended*

(a) *in subsection (1)(b) by striking out “this Act” and substituting “the regulations made pursuant to The Department of Utilities and Telephones Act”;*

(b) *by adding the following after subsection (2):*

(2.1) The Minister may, by agreement with an agency of the Government or a person, authorize that agency or person to conduct an inspection under subsection (1) on behalf of the Department.

(2.2) On an agreement being entered into under subsection (2.1), an individual carrying out an inspection under that agreement is authorized to exercise the same powers as those exercised by a person under subsection (1).

6 *Section 28(1)(a) and (2) is repealed.*

7 *The following is added after section 31:*

31.1(1) The Minister may construct, operate and maintain a high pressure gas pipe line that is required to bring gas from a distant source to the load centre of a rural gas utility.

(2) A pipe line constructed under this section shall be owned by the Crown in right of Alberta unless transferred by the Crown to another government, agency or person.

(3) The Minister may enter into an agreement with a person for

the construction, operation or maintenance, or all of them, of a pipe line to be constructed under this section.

8 This Act comes into force on the day upon which it is assented to.