

1980 BILL 212

Second Session, 19th Legislature, 29 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 212

THE UTILITY CONSUMERS' ADVOCATE ACT

MR. ZAOZIRNY

First Reading -----

Second Reading -----

Committee of the Whole -----

Third Reading -----

Royal Assent -----

Bill 212
Mr. Zaozirny

BILL 212

1980

THE UTILITY CONSUMERS' ADVOCATE ACT

(Assented to _____, 1980)

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

1. In this Act

- (a) "Advocate" means the Utility Consumers' Advocate appointed pursuant to this Act,
- (b) "Minister" means the Minister of Utilities and Telephones, and
- (c) "utility corridor" means any land in which a utility company is seeking an interest for the purpose of constructing electrical power transmission lines.

2. (1) The Minister shall appoint a person to be the Utility Consumers' Advocate for a term of 5 years from the date of his appointment.

(2) During the time of his appointment, the Advocate may only be removed for cause and in such case the Minister shall table at the earliest opportunity in the Legislative Assembly a statement of the grounds for his termination.

(3) The Advocate shall receive such remuneration and benefits as are prescribed by the Minister.

3. It shall be the function of the Utility Consumers' Advocate

- (a) to advise and represent on request, any owner of land which is taken or which may be taken as a utility corridor before any administrative or quasi-judicial tribunal that has jurisdiction to deal with the matter, and
- (b) to advise and represent on request, before any administrative or quasi-judicial tribunal making a decision regarding utilities, any person who may be affected by the decision.

4. The Advocate may

- (a) retain counsel to represent persons mentioned in section 3,

Explanatory Notes

1. Definitions.

2. Appointment of Utility Consumers' Advocate.

3. Advocate's functions.

4. Advocate's powers.

- (b) collect evidence for use in proceedings mentioned in section 3,
- (c) retain experts to advise on technical, environmental, agricultural or legal aspects of matters arising at proceedings mentioned in section 3, and
- (d) report to the Minister on any matter which seem to him to require the Minister's attention.

5. At the end of each year the Advocate shall submit a report on his operations for the year to the Minister who shall lay the report before the Legislative Assembly if it is then sitting and if it is not then sitting, within 15 days of the commencement of the next sitting.

6. The Minister may make regulations in order to better fulfill the purposes of this Act.

7. This Act comes into force on a date to be fixed by Proclamation.

5. Annual report to Assembly.

6. Regulations.