

1981 BILL 40

Third Session, 19th Legislature, 30 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 40

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD AMENDMENT ACT, 1981

MR. P. KNAAK

First Reading
Second Reading
Committee of the Whole
Third Reading
Royal Assent

Bill 40
Mr. P. Knaak

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THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD AMENDMENT ACT, 1981

(Assented to , 1981)

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

1 The Public Utilities Board Act is amended by this Act.

2 Section 2 is amended

(a) by adding the following after clause (j)(i):

(i.1) any service that is provided principally through telecommunications;

(b) by striking out clause (j1) and substituting the following:

(j.1) "telecommunication" means any transmission, emission or reception of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data, message or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio-communication, cable, waves or any electronic, electromagnetic or optical means but does not include the transmission, emission or reception of broadcasting that is a radio-communication in which the transmissions are intended for direct reception by the general public;

3 The following is added after section 86:

86.1(1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations

(a) providing for the licensing of owners of public utilities in Alberta;

Explanatory Notes

1 This Bill will amend chapter 302 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 1970.

2 Section 2(j)(i) and (j1) presently read:

(j) *“public utility” means*

(i) *any system, works, plant, equipment or service for the conveyance of telecommunications,*

(ii) *any system, works, plant, equipment or service for the conveyance of travellers or goods over a railway, street railway or tramway,*

(iii) *any system, works, plant, equipment or service for the production, transmission, delivery or furnishing of water, heat, light or power, either directly or indirectly, to or for the public, and*

(iv) *any oil pipe line the proprietor of which may be declared by the Energy Resources Conservation Board to be a common carrier;*

(j1) *“telecommunication” means any transmission, emission or reception of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds or intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, visual or other electromagnetic system;*

3 Regulations with respect to licensing public utilities.

- (b) prohibiting any person or class of persons from engaging in the operation of a public utility, class of public utilities, or any part of a public utility without a licence;
 - (c) exempting a public utility or class of public utilities from any or all of the regulations made under this section;
 - (d) governing applications for licences or renewal of licences and the requirements to be met by the applicants or on renewal;
 - (e) governing the fees to be paid on application for a licence or the renewal of a licence;
 - (f) governing the terms or conditions of a licence;
 - (g) governing the information to be given to the Minister or the Board by a licensee from time to time;
 - (h) governing the circumstances under which a licence may be refused, cancelled or suspended.
- (2) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may delegate any or all of the powers under subsection (1) to the Board subject to any terms or conditions that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may impose.
- (3) Any person who fails to comply with a regulation made under this section is guilty of an offence and liable
- (a) to a fine of not more than \$500, or
 - (b) in the case of a continuing offence, to a fine of \$100 a day for every day during which the offence continues.

In accordance with section 4(1) of The Interpretation Act, 1980, this Bill comes into force on the date it receives Royal Assent.