Town of COALDALE
A Wise Choice

Office of the Mayor

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May 9, 2022

Alberta Utilities Commission

106 Street Building
10th Floor, 10055 106
StreetEdmonton,
Alberta T5J 2Y2

Dear Utilities Commission:

RE: Increasing Utility Fees

Please accept this correspondence as a letter of support in addition to the correspondence you have already received from the Town of Fox Creek, dated March 23, 2022.

The Town of Coaldale joins in the increasing concern across the province regarding the rising utility fees forboth natural gas and electricity. This concern Is being felt throughout the public and private spheres, and we urge the Commission to take serious note of the concerns herein.

Over the past two years, residents of both Coaldale and the province have felt the ever-increasing strain of theongoing COVID-19 pandemic coupled with increasing job insecurity and the rapid inflation of food, fuel, and housing costs. The rising costs of utilities have placed an additional strain on residents' already thin bottom lines.

It is important to note that the rising costs are not just impacting residents, but non-profits, small businesses, and commercial industries. Many of the aforementioned are in jeopardy of closing or being forced to stop their services to our communities due to the increasing costs of utilities.

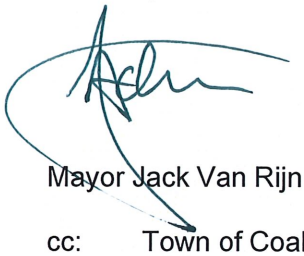
As representatives of our community, we also note that it is wholly unacceptable that the rising costs of utilities have led to increased private profits, as has been noted in the media lately. In our estimation, increased private profits seems to be a step too far given the undue hardship the public has faced these past two years and will likely continue to face unless the Commission takes swift action. As members of Council and representatives for our community's citizens, we believe now is not the time to be taking more money from the pockets of Albertans. Now is the time to be supporting Albertans when and where they need it most.

Email: mayor@coaldale.ca
Website: www.coaldale.ca

Alongside the Town of Fox Creek, the Town of Coaldale is urging the Commission to review the fees being charged on top of the actual usage fees while giving strict attention to the amount of profit corporations are making off of our residents and Albertans.

Your time and consideration for our residents, businesses, and non-profits is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Mayor Jack Van Rijn

cc: Town of Coaldale Council
Mr. Grant Hunter, MLA
Alberta Municipalities
Town of Fox Creek