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**From:** Kelsey Nixon <kelsey.nixon@fortisalberta.com> on behalf of Stakeholder Relations Team <stakeholderrelations@fortisalberta.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2025 10:59 AM  
**To:** Abe Tinney <Abe@claresholm.ca>  
**Cc:** Cody Webster <cody.webster@fortisalberta.com>  
**Subject:** 2026 Franchise Fee Calculator and AUC Notification Requirements - Town of Claresholm

Good morning,

On behalf of the Stakeholder Engagement Team, please find attached the 2026 Franchise Fee Calculator to assist with your municipal budgeting process.

This tool provides an estimate of potential franchise fee revenues for 2026. Please note that actual revenues will depend on a number of variables, including the Alberta Utilities Commission's (AUC) final approved transmission and distribution electricity rates (expected before the end of December), as well as customer counts, consumption, weather, and other local factors. To support your revenue planning, the calculator also includes historical trends under the YOY Data tab.

**Important: Notification Requirements from the AUC**

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The AUC has updated its notification document template and notification procedures for franchise fee changes. Please refer to the attached Updates and Tips document for more information.

To comply with AUC rules, franchise fee change notifications must be provided using at least one of the following methods:

- Published in the newspaper with the widest circulation in your municipality.
- Direct mail-out or email to utility customers within your municipality.
- Post notification on your municipality's website, social media channels, and/or office notice board.
- Alternative methods that ensure wide customer notification—if approved in advance by the AUC.

**With the new notification document template, we recommend submitting a draft of your notification or advertisement to your Stakeholder Relations Manager for review, as inaccurate or incomplete documentation may cause issues or delays.**

**Deadline for Submissions for January 1, 2026 effective date**

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FortisAlberta is required to submit any franchise fee changes to the AUC at least 45 days before the effective date of January 1, 2026. Accordingly, documentation to support a proposed change is required by **November 7, 2025**. Unfortunately, no extensions will be granted, as we must adhere to the AUC's filing deadlines.

*(Please note late submissions, inaccurate or incomplete responses may delay the filing and necessary approval from the Alberta Utilities Commission. Late submissions will be filed with the Alberta Utilities Commission in February with an anticipated effective date of April 1, 2026.*

We understand that 2025 is an election year, and as such, Council may choose to defer its decision regarding a franchise fee change until 2026. To then ensure an effective date of April 1, 2026, all necessary documentation would need to be submitted by February 15, 2026.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Stakeholder Relations Manager.

Thank you,



The line that connects us all

**We lead by example, innovate with purpose, and champion sustainable change so we can power the future Albertans deserve, together.**