

## **BACKGROUNDER**

#### FORTISALBERTA UPGRADING ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION SERVICES

- To ensure the reliability of electrical service, FortisAlberta is upgrading its electrical distribution system in the Town of Raymond.
- The project is set to begin in Mar.8, 2021 and should wrap up, weather permitting by the end of April, 2021.
- During this time, FortisAlberta will be replacing porcelain switches that are at the end of their life cycle.
- At the end of their life, failed porcelain switches may create safety hazards such as falling debris, fault conditions, arc flash, damaged equipment, pole fire or wildfire. In addition to causing a potential hazard for employees and the public, porcelain switch failures reduce the reliability of the distribution system.
- We will be working with a contractor, Forbes Bros to carry out these upgrades. Where it is safe to do so, FortisAlberta Powerline Technicians will perform hotline work to avoid disruption to service.
- In instances where it is not safe to perform work while the line is energized, it will result in a series of short power outages to residents.
- Necessary power outages that will be scheduled during the weekday and impacted customers will be notified by phone at least 72 hours in advance. We ask customers call their retailer to ensure they have their preferred contact number on file.
- We do not anticipate any road/route closures, but we do ask that drivers and pedestrians are
  cautious around our people and equipment when driving and walking in the areas where work is
  taking place.
- FortisAlberta is taking the necessary actions and precautions, including social distancing to protect
  the health of its employees and ensure its ability to continue to provide safe and reliable service for
  our customers during COVID-19.
- FortisAlberta thanks its customers for their patience and cooperation as we work to ensure we are providing the most reliable electricity service that we can. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- If customers have any issues or concerns, please feel free to call us at 310-WIRE (9473).



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### About FortisAlberta

As owner and operator of more than 60 per cent of Alberta's total electricity distribution network, FortisAlberta's focus is delivering safe and reliable electricity to more than half a million residential, farm and business customers. The Company serves more than 240 communities with 124,000 kilometres of distribution power lines across Alberta.

### **Communications Contact:**

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