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Policy Title	Installation of Communication Facilities, Pipelines And Utilities in or Adjacent to Road Allowances	

Council Resolution

No. 299-00 Date: June 27, 2000

GMOS

Cross Reference

Effective

June 27, 2000

POLICY STATEMENT

Parkland County, being the road authority, is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the road system within the County. The County is required to accommodate pipeline and utility crossings of road allowances, underground communication facilities, gas distribution lines, sewer and water utilities and electrical power facilities within road allowances.

POLICY

Communication facilities, pipelines and utilities may be installed in or adjacent to road allowances subject to the approval of the County Utilities Officer or where applicable, County Council, all in accordance with the attached Appendix "A" Standard Operating Policy and Procedures for Installation of Communication Facilities, Pipelines and Utilities in or Adjacent to Road Allowances.

This policy applies to all road allowances within the County with the exception of primary and secondary highways, which are under the jurisdiction of Alberta Infrastructure. This policy is considered as a guideline and it is expected that good judgment will be exercised at all times in the locating and installation of utilities, pipelines and communication facilities in or adjacent to road allowances.

PROCEDURES

All proposed installations of communication facilities, pipelines and utilities in or adjacent to road allowances shall be submitted to, and require the approval of, the Parkland County Utilities Officer or, where applicable, County Council.

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APPENDIX "A"
Standard Operating Policy and Procedures for
Installation of Communication Facilities, Pipelines and Utilities
In or Adjacent to Road Allowances

- 1. High Pressure Oil and Gas Pipelines Crossing Road Allowances**
 - a) Shall be installed in accordance with the Pipeline Act.
 - b) Shall be located to protect the integrity of the affected road allowance taking into account the vertical alignment and road widening requirements for future road reconstruction.
 - c) Within developed road allowances, crossings shall be carried out by pushing or boring so as not to disturb the road surface or road sideslopes.
 - d) The minimum depth of cover over a pipeline within a road allowance shall be 1.5 metres below the lowest point of the crossing or as approved by the County.
 - e) Within undeveloped road allowances crossing may be approved by using the open cut method.
 - f) The pipeline company shall submit the required plans, profile, and cross-section information for each crossing location proposed.
 - g) The pipeline company shall be required to enter into a pipeline crossing agreement covering the construction of the pipeline within the road allowance including the requirement to accept responsibility for any future adjustments or modification to the pipeline. Should such be required due to road reconstruction or maintenance works, with the exception that should the pipeline company agree to and construct the pipeline at an approved design depth and to approved limits, the requirement to adjust or modify may be removed from the agreement.
- 2. Pipeline Alignments Adjacent to Road Allowance**
 - a) Pipelines which are proposed to be located closer than 30m to a road allowance boundary shall require the approval of the County as per the Pipeline Act.
 - b) The minimum alignment for pipelines paralleling local roads, not designated as roads requiring more than a 30m right-of-way, is 23m from centreline of the adjacent road allowance.
 - c) For roads requiring right-of-ways in excess of 30m, the minimum alignment shall be as approved for the specific location.
 - d) All pipelines approved within 30m of a road allowance boundary shall require the pipeline owner to be responsible for future adjustment or modifications unless otherwise agreed to in writing.

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3. Pipelines within Statutory or Secondary Highway Road Allowances		
a) Normally, other than crossings, gas and oil pipelines shall not be installed within Statutory Road Allowances.		
b) Installation of low-pressure natural gas distribution lines may occur in special situations where a specific request has been received from the Gas Utility Company and may only proceed with the approval of the Utilities Officer and with the appropriate written agreements.		
4. Gas Regulating Stations and Above Ground Facilities		
a) Shall normally be located a minimum of 15m from the centreline of a Statutory Road Allowance.		
b) Each location proposed for a Regulating Station or above ground facility shall be located such that the facility shall not affect future road widening and road reconstruction.		
c) Should a gas company wish to locate a regulating station or other above ground facility closer than the above minimums, the company shall enter into an agreement accepting responsibility and cost for any future moves.		
5. Gas Distribution Lines within Subdivision and Hamlet Road Allowances		
a) Shall be installed and maintained as per the franchise agreements with the appropriate Gas Co-op and/or Atco Gas.		
b) May be approved for installation within the road ditch portion of the road allowance with the preferred location being at the back of the road ditch bottom. In areas where inadequate ditches or no ditches exist, the lines may be located within the road shoulder or directly adjacent to the road allowance boundary. <i>Note: The Gas Co-ops and Atco Gas are encouraged within new County Residential Subdivisions to locate gas distribution lines on private property directly adjacent to the road allowance boundary.</i>		
c) All road crossings shall be carried out by pushing or boring so as not to disturb the road surface or road sideslopes, except in those situations where lines are located in the road shoulder and digging of push pits will create more damage to the road surface than allowing ditching across the road surface.		
d) The minimum depth of cover over a pipeline within a road allowance shall be 1.5m or as approved by the County Utilities Officer.		
6. Communication Cables		
a) Communication companies regulated under the Federal Telecommunications Act have the statutory right, subject to the approval of the local authority, to place telephone and communication cables and accessories within registered road allowances.		
b) Companies not regulated under the Federal Telecommunications Act proposing the installation of communication cables within County road allowances shall receive Council approval and enter into an acceptable memorandum of agreement covering the installation and maintenance of the proposed cable installation.		
c) The installation of fibre optics cable within statutory road allowances or within 31m of the centreline of a road allowance, other than road crossings, will normally not be approved. When crossing of roads by Fibre Optics cable occurs, each crossing shall be placed in a location and at a depth to accommodate future		

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<p>road construction or reconstruction with the cable depth being extended past the limits of the road allowance to provide for future road allowance widening.</p>		
d)	Communication cables shall normally be installed to a minimum depth of .6m within road allowance. Communication companies' drop cables may be installed at a minimum depth of .5m within road allowance.	
e)	All cables shall normally be located at the toe of the road sideslopes with pedestals or splicing boxes located at or near the road allowance boundary.	
f)	In certain situations, communication cables may have to be located at locations other than the toe of the slope. In these situations, the alignment selected shall be as approved by the Utilities Officer.	
g)	All road crossings of developed road allowances shall be installed by either pushing or boring so as not to disturb the road surface or roadside slopes.	
h)	All cable and accessory installations within road allowance shall be carried out so as not to damage or create obstructions within the road ditches, all clearing debris shall be removed and disposed of from the road allowance, and all disturbed areas shall be restored and reseeded to a condition acceptable to the County.	
i)	Digital cabinets, manhole structures, large pedestals, etc., shall normally be located outside the road allowance, on easement, at a minimum of 15 metres from the centerline of a statutory road allowance.	
j)	Each proposed location for a digital cabinet, manhole structure, large pedestal, etc., shall be located such that the facility shall not affect future road widening and road reconstruction.	
k)	Should the communications company wish to locate a digital cabinet, manhole structure, large pedestal, etc., closer than the above minimums, the company shall enter into an agreement accepting responsibility and cost for any future moves.	
7.	Electrical Power Facilities	
a)	Overhead facilities will normally be approved for installation within road allowances and adjacent reserves or buffer strips.	
b)	Should modification or relocation of facilities within road allowances be required to accommodate road construction or municipal facilities, such costs shall be borne by TransAlta Utilities.	
c)	Where Rural Electrical or TransAlta lines are located directly adjacent to road allowances, should modification or relocation of poles be required due to road construction, the cost of moving poles shall be borne by Parkland County.	
d)	Poles installed within statutory road allowances (20m) shall be located as close as possible to 9m from centreline of the road allowance.	
e)	Poles installed within 30m road allowances including subdivisions shall normally not be located closer than 12m from the centreline of the road allowance.	
f)	All clearing of trees and brush within and adjacent to road allowances to accommodate electrical power installation is the responsibility of TransAlta Utilities and/or the Rural Electrical Association. All debris caused by such clearing shall be disposed of from within the road allowance boundary.	
g)	TransAlta Utilities and/or the Rural Electrical Association shall be responsible for obtaining written permission from adjacent landowners prior to carrying out clearing within a road allowance for the installation of a power line.	
h)	Underground power crossing of statutory road allowances will be approved for installation, subject to an agreement or written approval.	

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<p>i) Underground power may be approved for installation within subdivision road allowances. Underground power lines within subdivisions shall be located at 1.5m from the subdivision road allowance boundary and be installed at a minimum depth of 1.2m.</p> <p>j) Crossings of subdivision roads and statutory road allowances with underground power facilities shall be installed by pushing or boring without any disturbance to the road grade or road sideslopes.</p> <p>k) The minimum installation depth for all road crossings with underground power shall be 1.5m below the lowest point in the road allowance crossing.</p> <p>l) All underground power crossings shall be adequately marked to identify the crossing location.</p> <p>m) In subdivisions where underground power is to be installed from a power pole within the road allowance directly into the adjacent lot, the power service shall be installed directly from the pole to the lot with a minimum deviation of 2m off a right angle at the point of reaching the lot boundary.</p>		
<p>8. Sewer and Water Line Crossings of Road Allowances</p> <p>a) Shall be installed subject to an acceptable design being submitted and approved by the County.</p> <p>b) All construction within road allowance boundaries shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the County.</p> <p>c) Crossings of developed road allowances with asphaltic surfaces shall be carried out by boring so as not to disturb the road surface or road sideslopes.</p> <p>d) Crossings of gravelled roads or undeveloped road allowances may be approved by open cutting with full recompaction and restoration of the road allowance.</p> <p>e) A pipeline agreement being entered into outlining the construction requirements and future responsibilities for the pipeline(s) within road allowance.</p>		
<p>9. Sewer and Water Pipelines within Road Allowances</p> <p>a) The installation of sewer and/or water pipelines within statutory or subdivision road allowances shall require the approval of the County and be part of an approved Development Agreement in conjunction with a subdivision approval or a Memorandum of Agreement allowing for the placement of a pipeline(s) within a road allowance.</p> <p>b) All pipelines shall be designed and installed in accordance with the Subdivision Development Standards for the Installation of Sewer and Water pipelines and facilities.</p> <p>c) An acceptable design shall be submitted and approved by the County prior to installation of any pipelines in County road allowances.</p>		
<p>10. Relocation of Facilities Within Road Allowances</p> <p>The installer of any facilities in or adjacent to road allowances shall be responsible for the costs of any required future facility realignments, adjustments or modifications due to road construction, reconstruction or maintenance requirements unless otherwise agreed to in a written agreement.</p>		