



## **eStruxture Data Centers**

**CAL-2 Power Plant**

**October 4, 2022**

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 27614-D01-2022

eStructure Data Centers

CAL-2 Power Plant

Proceeding 27614

Application 27614-A001

October 4, 2022

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The Commission may, no later than 60 days of the date of this decision and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected decision on its website.

## **1 Decision summary**

1. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission approves an application from eStructure Data Centers (eStructure) for the CAL-2 power plant. The power plant would consist of four 3-megawatt (MW) standby diesel generators within the eStructure data centre in Rocky View County.

## **2 Application**

2. eStructure filed an application with the AUC for approval to construct and operate a 12-MW diesel power plant, designated as the CAL-2 power plant, pursuant to Section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*. This application was registered on August 31, 2022, as Application 27614-A001. The power plant would be located within eStructure's data centre at 149 High Plains Place, in Rocky View County, and would consist of three 3-MW KOHLER KD3250 standby diesel generators and one 3-MW MTU 20V4000DS3000 standby diesel generator. The total combined generating capability of power plant would be 12 MW. The power plant would not be connected to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System and would supply the eStructure data centre backup power in the event that service from the utility is lost. eStructure expected the power plant to be in service in October 2022.

3. Due to the nature of the application, a notice of application was not issued and a hearing was not required because the Commission considered that its decision or order would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

## **3 Findings**

4. For the reasons outlined below, the Commission finds that approval of the power plant is in the public interest having regard to the social, economic, and other effects of the project, including its effect on the environment.

5. The Commission has reviewed the application and has determined that the information requirements specified in Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines* have been met.

6. With respect to noise impacts, the standby generators would only operate when the data centre loses power from the utility and during monthly testing. The power plant is located in an

industrial area and there are no residences within 1.5 kilometres of the project.<sup>1</sup> The Commission accepts that noise levels from the power plant will be compliant with Rule 012: *Noise Control*.

7. eStructure indicated that a participant involvement program was not conducted for the power plant because the project is located within a data centre in an industrial area. The Commission agrees with this approach, given that there are no residences within 1.5 kilometres of the project. The Commission considers that any social and environment impacts resulting from the project are minor in nature.

8. The Commission finds that the power plant will not result in a significant effect on the environment and wildlife because the power plant is located within the data centre. The power plant would only run during the loss of utility power or during monthly testing. The Commission notes that the power plant uses diesel to power the generators, but because the generators are only used for backup power, an *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* approval is not required.

9. In accordance with the requirements of Section 23 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, eStructure confirmed that it is a qualified owner and that it is eligible to hold an approval in its name.

10. For the above reasons, the Commission considers the application to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

#### **4 Decision**

11. Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants eStructure Data Centers the approval set out in Appendix 1 – Power Plant Approval 27614-D02-2022 to construct and operate the CAL-2 power plant (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on October 4, 2022.

#### **Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Renée Marx  
Commission Member

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibit 27614-X0004, Noise impact assessment summary form (Rule012), PDF page 2.