

As we work and operate in your community, we want to keep you informed about ongoing projects and operational activities at the Rossdale Water Treatment Plant and adjacent substations (Rossdale and Bellamy).

In this newsletter, you will find:

- An update on the Rossdale community garden.
- Information about this year's spring runoff event.
- An update on our groundwater monitoring well installations around the plant.
- Our plans to rehabilitate a leaky water transmission main by the entrance to the water treatment plant.
- Details about upcoming electricity work in and around the Rossdale and Bellamy Substations.
- An opportunity for you to provide input on water, wastewater and drainage utilities.



# **SPRING RUNOFF**

Spring runoff is a naturally occurring annual event that changes the quality of water in the river. As snow melts and flows into the North Saskatchewan River it can wash large quantities of dirt, leaves and other natural debris. This can change the quality of the water in the river.

The timing, duration and conditions of spring runoff vary from year to year, and can temporarily affect the smell and taste of your drinking water. Each Spring, our water treatment team increases the frequency of water quality testing, and adjusts our treatment, to ensure we continue to provide you with clean and safe drinking water.

This year, spring runoff arrived relatively late but our teams were prepared for it. We closely watch the live cameras installed as part of the WaterSHED Monitoring Program to better prepare for runoff to arrive. The breakup of nearby creeks like Strawberry, Rose, and Tomahawk can give our water treatment plants 8-10 hours of warning before a possible rise in colour in the river as it enters Edmonton.

You can find more information about the monitoring program, and view the live camera footage, on the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance's website at www.nswa.ab.ca.

The cameras provide a virtual tour of our North Saskatchewan Watershed all the way from Siffleur River near the Columbia Icefields to the Vermillion River near the Saskatchewan Border. This is a great way to learn more about the river and how its appearance and the surrounding landscape changes as it moves through our province.

# GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS

In our April 2020 newsletter, we described our plans to install groundwater monitoring wells around the Rossdale Water Treatment Plant. We are in the process of performing this work and expect to be finished installing the wells by mid-July.

## WATER MAIN REHABILITATION

In May 2020, we started work to rehabilitate a leaking water transmission main and replace a leaking valve located near the entrance to the Rossdale Water Treatment Plant. This work is shown on the enclosed map in blue.

Weather depending, we expect the valve replacement portion of the work to begin mid-July and be completed by the August long weekend. The work will involve cutting the asphalt, lifting the valve chamber lid, replacing the leaking valve, and restoring the access road to its previous condition.

While all of this work will happen in the access road to the water treatment plant, you may see personnel and/ or equipment accessing the site from Rossdale Road NW. We will place barricades around the worksite to direct traffic flow and ensure the site is safe. All construction activities will be performed in accordance with the City of Edmonton bylaws, Occupational Health and Safety requirements, and EPCOR's health, safety and environmental procedures and guidelines.

In order to ensure that employees and delivery trucks essential to keeping the plant running can continue to access the plant during this rehabilitation, we are planning to do the majority of work over night (from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.). This means that you may see lights from our construction site and hear general noise associated with construction, including beeping from equipment backing up at the site. Please contact us at (780) 412-3599 if you have any questions or concerns about this work.

We are also working to identify and repair a second leak located in the water transmission main that runs underneath the access road to the water treatment plant. The leak investigation is currently underway and, once the leak is located, repairs will need to be completed. To date, we have drilled a number of boreholes in the access road to the plant (in front of the substation and our guardhouse). We will provide you with more information about this work as plans progress.

# UPCOMING EPCOR ELECTRICITY PROJECTS

#### What's happening

EPCOR is responsible for building, maintaining, and upgrading the electrical transmission and distribution system in Edmonton. As the system ages, the electrical infrastructure requires maintenance and upgrades to ensure the safe, reliable delivery of power. Within the next six months, EPCOR will complete four electricity projects in the Rossdale area:

- The Transmission Cable Thermal Backfill Project
- The Rossdale Substation Breaker Replacement Project
- The Bellamy Substation Transformer and Containment Pit Repair Project
- The Rossdale Substation Cable Termination Replacement Project

#### The Transmission Cable Thermal Backfill Project

This summer, EPCOR will perform maintenance on an underground transmission cable near the Rossdale Substation. Certain soil types can cause transmission cables to overheat and shorten their life expectancy. This project will involve changing the type of soil backfill around the cables to increase heat transfer, so the cables do not overheat and can operate at optimal levels.

To complete the work, we will excavate around the transmission cables located in the southwest corner of River Valley Road (95 Avenue) and 105 Street (shown in dark blue on the map). A hydrovac truck will be used to excavate five feet below the ground to remove the existing backfill material. Once the old backfill is removed, the new high thermal backfill material will be put in place. This work is scheduled to begin at the early August and will take approximately two days to complete.

Due to the sensitive nature of the area, we will work with archaeology experts to monitor any ground excavations that occur on this project.

During construction, you may notice temporary traffic disruptions to River Valley Road and 105 Street as equipment is brought in and out of the site. In addition:

- The multi-use trail south of River Valley Road will be closed. Pedestrians and cyclists will be detoured around the work area.
- Signage will be used to manage traffic and notify pedestrians/cyclists of any necessary detours.

 All affected landscaping, pavement, and sidewalks will be restored to their original condition. Restoration will take place between August and September, as weather permits.

#### **Rossdale Substation Breaker Replacement Project**

Two breakers in the Rossdale substation are nearing the end of their useful life and need to be replaced. The new breakers will be placed in the same location as the old breakers (as shown on the map in yellow).

One breaker will be replaced in August and the other breaker will be replaced in September of this year. It will take approximately eight weeks to replace both breakers.

### **Bellamy Substation Transformer** and Containment Pit Repair Project

One of the transformers in the Bellamy Substation is in need of repairs (shown in orange on the map). Repairs will include removing the oil from the transformer, replacing gaskets, processing the oil, and re-filling the transformer. Prior to the transformer repairs, the containment pit around the transformer will be replaced. Containment pits help protect the soil in the event of an oil leak.

Repairs will begin in September 2020 and the work is expected to take approximately 14 weeks to complete. Ground disturbances are required to complete this project and a Historical Resource Impact Assessment (HRIA) will be conducted prior to starting construction. The HRIA will determine if archaeology experts are required to monitor the site during construction.

#### **Rossdale Substation Cable Termination Replacement**

A high-voltage cable termination inside the Rossdale Substation is nearing the end of its useful life and needs to be replaced. Substations are a part of the electrical system and are generally connected by two or more high-voltage transmission lines. The Rossdale Substation converts electricity from high-voltage power lines (transmission lines) to lower voltages that can be distributed to homes and businesses in the area. A cable termination is the specific point in the system at which the cable starts or ends. The cable termination being replaced is shown on the map in green.

To complete this project, crews will work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This project will require the use of a generator, which will produce noise similar to an idling car. This work is expected to begin in in the Fall/Winter 2020 and will take approximately six weeks to complete.



## **SCHEDULE**

- The Transmission Cable Thermal Backfill Project - August 2020 (2 days)
- Rossdale Substation Breaker Replacement Project - August/September 2020 (8 weeks)
- The Bellamy Substation Transformer and Containment Pit Repair Project - September
   December 2020 (14 weeks)
- Rossdale Substation Cable Termination Replacement - October/November 2020 (6 weeks)

With the exception of the Rossdale Substation Cable Termination Replacement Project, we anticipate our hours of work for these projects to be Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; however, occasional evening and weekend work may be required.



# **CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS**

#### **Noise**

This work will be noisy at times and involve the use of hydrovac trucks and other heavy machinery. We will comply with the City of Edmonton's Community Standards Bylaw for Noise Control. If it is necessary to temporarily exceed acceptable noise levels, we will work with the City of Edmonton to obtain the necessary permits.

#### **Power Outages**

We do not anticipate any planned power outages as a result of these projects.

#### **Safety**

All work areas will be maintained in a safe and secure manner. All construction activities will be performed in accordance with the City of Edmonton's bylaws, Occupational Health and Safety requirements and EPCOR's strict health, safety, and environmental procedures and guidelines.

#### The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

Alberta's electric utilities are regulated by the AUC. The AUC is an independent quasi-judicial agency that ensures that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public's interest. EPCOR's electricity projects must be approved by the AUC before construction can begin. For more information about the AUC, please visit the AUC's website (www.auc.ab.ca).



# HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT WATER, WASTEWATER & DRAINAGE UTILITIES



As EPCOR plans for the long-term reliability of our water, wastewater and drainage systems, we want to hear from Edmontonians about what they value most from their utilities. Your input will help us prioritize the

work we do over the next five years, and how we manage costs associated with this work through rates. Complete the online survey at: epcor.com/watersurvey.



# **LEARN MORE**

EPCOR regularly updates our website with information related to our operations and ongoing projects in the Rossdale community. If you are interested in learning more, go to: www.epcor.com/rossdale

# **CONTACT US**

Your questions, feedback and input are important to us. For more information about our work in Rossdale or the information included in this newsletter, please contact us:

(780) 412-3599 waterprojects@epcor.com

# ROSSDALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

You may have noticed that the community garden is in full swing again this year, with extra precautions in place to keep gardeners safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

EPCOR is currently expecting the land transfer to go through at the end of the year. Our existing garden access agreement will terminate on transfer to the City of Edmonton, and our understanding is that the City will then create a new one with the community league.

For more information about the plans for the garden after the transfer, please contact the Rossdale Community League (www.rossdale.ca).

