



MEDIA RELEASE

**March 6, 2018
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Campaign Launched to Prevent Power Distribution Rate Hikes.

Innisfail, AB – EQUS REA LTD. is participating in the launch of an important campaign to expose how multinational power distributors are trying to eliminate local independent power providers and what the impact would be to all Albertans if this happens.

The **Stop the Power Monopoly** Campaign calls on Albertans to stand up for independent power providers, by asking the Alberta Government to protect choice and safeguard a competitive power distribution environment.

EQUS' CEO Pat Bourne states, "Alberta's independent power providers have always provided rural Albertans with access to quality, reliable and affordable power. But over the years, unintended consequences of government actions have given big, for-profit multinationals an unfair advantage. This campaign aims to educate all Albertans as to the consequences."

Bourne says she has confidence that Rachel Notley's Government supports independent power providers, but fears the multinational corporations, with their array of lawyers and lobbyists, are working to eliminate them, the Alberta based, Alberta focused competition.

Bourne reiterates that "unlike big multinational corporations, which must produce profits for stockholders year in and year out, independent power providers have one goal, providing reliable, affordable power. Operating as co-operatives, we provide the benchmark for the true cost of power distribution. That is why we are consistently able to compete with the big multinationals on price and service."

Bourne emphasizes, "For 70 years EQUS has delivered safe, reliable and affordable power to rural Albertan's homes, farms and businesses. We aim to keep power distribution rates low for all Albertans for another 70 years."

Visit stopthepowermonopoly.ca to find out more

To learn more about EQUS, please visit equs.ca

For more information contact:

Charlene Glazer

Business Alignment Manager

403.227.7532

cglazer@equs.ca

Main Office

Box 6199, 5803 42 Street
Innisfail, Alberta T4G 1S8
Toll-free: 1.888.211.4011

North Area Office

Box 1178, 4804 41 Street
Onoway, Alberta T0E 1V0
Toll-free: 1.888.627.4011

Central Area Office

Box 6199, 5803 42 Street
Innisfail, Alberta T4G 1S8
Toll-free: 1.877.527.4011

South Area Office

Box 1657, 3 Alberta Road
Claresholm, Alberta T0L 0T0
Toll-free: 1.888.565.5445

equs.ca

About EQUUS:

For nearly 70 years, EQUUS REA LTD. has been providing safe and reliable electric distribution services to commercial and industrial developments, oil and gas operations, telecommunication towers, production facilities, homes and farms throughout 26 Alberta municipal districts and counties under a co-operative business model. Serving 11,800 members, EQUUS is the largest member-owned utility in Canada and operates offices in Innisfail, Claresholm, Bow Island and Onoway, with a Main Office located in Innisfail.