



January 27, 2026

Grant Hunter, Honourable
Minister of Environment and Protected Areas
204 Legislature Building
10800 – 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6
epa.minister@gov.ab.ca

RE: Request to Preserve Saputo Waste Lagoon Infrastructure

Minister Hunter,

The Village of Glenwood Council is writing to request your assistance with a critical infrastructure and economic development matter affecting our community and the surrounding region.

Saputo, a dairy and cheese company, previously operated a manufacturing facility in Glenwood, Alberta. As part of that operation, a wastewater lagoon was constructed to manage production wastewater. When production ceased and the facility was sold, the lagoon was no longer in use. We understand that environmental evaluation work has been completed on the site.

Cardston County has expressed interest in preserving and potentially acquiring this lagoon. This existing infrastructure presents a rare opportunity to enhance regional wastewater capacity without the need to construct new facilities from the ground up.

In Alberta, wastewater lagoon systems must be registered with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas before they can be constructed, expanded, operated, or reclaimed.

Given the regulatory requirements and financial burden associated with constructing a new lagoon, retaining and repurposing the existing Saputo lagoon offers several clear advantages including cost avoidance, reduced regulatory timelines, and maximized value from existing infrastructure.

There is currently interest in redeveloping the former Saputo plant site for use as a mustard refinery, which is anticipated to create approximately 40 local jobs. Retaining the lagoon would strongly support this opportunity.

We have recently learned that Saputo intends to reclaim and decommission the lagoon. If this occurs, our region would lose a cost-effective and strategically important wastewater asset, forcing us to consider far more expensive alternatives.

The Village of Glenwood Council respectfully requests that Alberta Environment and Protected Areas, in collaboration with Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation and the Ministry of Jobs, Economy, Trade and Immigration, consider steps to preserve this infrastructure by declining Saputo's request for reclamation.

Preserving this existing wastewater infrastructure will help meet municipal service needs, support private-sector investment, and promote job creation and economic growth in our community.

Thank you for your consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further.

Respectfully,

Mark Peterson
Mayor, Village of Glenwood



Cc: Minister RJ Sigurdson – agric.minister@gov.ab.ca
Cc: Minister Joseph Schow – cardston.siksika@assembly.ab.ca
Cc: Randy Bullock, Reeve – Cardston County
Cc: Murray Millward, CAO – Cardston County