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Thursday, August 11, 2022

VOLUME 5 | ISSUE 7

MERIDIANSOURCE.CA



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Videre Images by Jason Whiting

Hungry baby robins are pictured in a hanging basket at the Home Depot in Lloydminster after mom and dad decided to make a nest inside the store's garden centre. The staff at Home Depot has been keeping tabs on the birds and even put up a sign to ensure they aren't disturbed.

Lloyd area lacks nuclear advantage

GEOFF LEE WRITER

The Lloydminster region is not likely to make the SaskPower shortlist of potential zones for a small modular reactor or SMR.

“ You would have to literally create a water dam or a reservoir off the North Saskatchewan River to provide that kind of water they're looking for.

That's the opinion of Mayor Gerald Aalbers based on the technical requirements for the potential deployment of the GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 reactor in the mid-2030s.

The plan calls for the Crown Corporation to operate two SMRs on one site with each reactor generating up to 300 Megawatts of electricity.

SaskPower expects to identify and name suit-

able regions this year based on factors such as proximity to a suitable water supply and an existing power infrastructure, something the Lloydminster area lacks.

“We're kind of disadvantaged on this one,” said Aalbers.

“I don't think Lloydminster would make the list because you would have to literally create a water dam or a reservoir off the North Saskatchewan River to provide that kind of water they're looking for.”

He also notes the Lloydminster area is nowhere near any source of electric power generation.

“If we had Boundary Dam or Coronach power plant or something like that in our neighbourhood, and the transmission lines were there, I would hope council would entertain that idea,” said Aalbers.

“But we're going against the grain. We're at the end of the rope rather than at the beginning of it.”

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From the New Nissan Lloydminster