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Edge Scan – Week of October 26, 2026

Breadth, not depth: this week's signals, rated and triaged.

Prepared for Brightfold Electric, a fictional five-truck electrical contractor in Red Deer, Alberta. All figures are illustrative.

> **Bottom line:** Seven signals this week. One needs action now (copper wire pricing ahead of Q1 bids), two go to a Brief (financing costs and the new grid connection rules), and four move to the Monitor.

This week's signals

#	Signal	Why it matters to Brightfold	Likelihood	Impact	Call
1	Supplier notice: copper building wire up ~8% from Dec 1	Fixed-price Q1 bids are being written on old pricing; margin at risk on 3 open quotes	High	High	ACT
2	Bank of Canada rate decision ahead; markets split on a hold	Sets the cost of the planned truck and equipment loan, and customers' appetite for renovations	Med	High	BRIEF
3	Utility consults on new small-solar and EV-charger connection rules	Could add steps and weeks to residential solar and charger installs, a growth line in the plan	Med	High	BRIEF
4	U.S. steel and aluminum tariff talks drag on	Conduit, panels and fittings carry tariff exposure; price lists may move again in Q1	Med	Med	WATCH
5	Journeyman electrician job ads in central Alberta up ~15% month on month	Wage pressure and poaching risk for 2 senior hands before spring work	High	Med	WATCH
6	City permit queue for residential electrical eases to ~6 business days	Faster starts; supports booking more small jobs per week	High	Low	WATCH
7	Calgary contractor opens a Red Deer branch, advertising commercial service work	Direct competition for the light-commercial accounts in the 90-day plan	Med	Med	WATCH

Likelihood: how likely the signal turns into a real change within 90 days. Impact: effect on Brightfold's revenue, costs or schedule if it does. ACT now · BRIEF take to a decision · WATCH track in the Monitor.

Next steps

> **Act this week:** #1, re-price the three open Q1 quotes and lock wire pricing with the supplier before Dec 1.
> **To a Brief:** #2 financing the equipment loan under each rate path; #3 what the connection rules mean for the solar and EV line.
> **To the Monitor:** #4 tariffs, #5 labour market, #6 permit times, #7 new competitor, each with a trigger that brings it back to the next Scan.

Sample only. Brightfold Electric is a fictional client and every figure, notice and listing in this Scan is illustrative, not reported fact.