

Legal Tools Available to Québec Municipalities for Deploying Thermal Energy Networks: Executive Summary

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BUILDING DECARBONIZATION Alliance POUR LA DÉCARBONATION DES BÂTIMENTS

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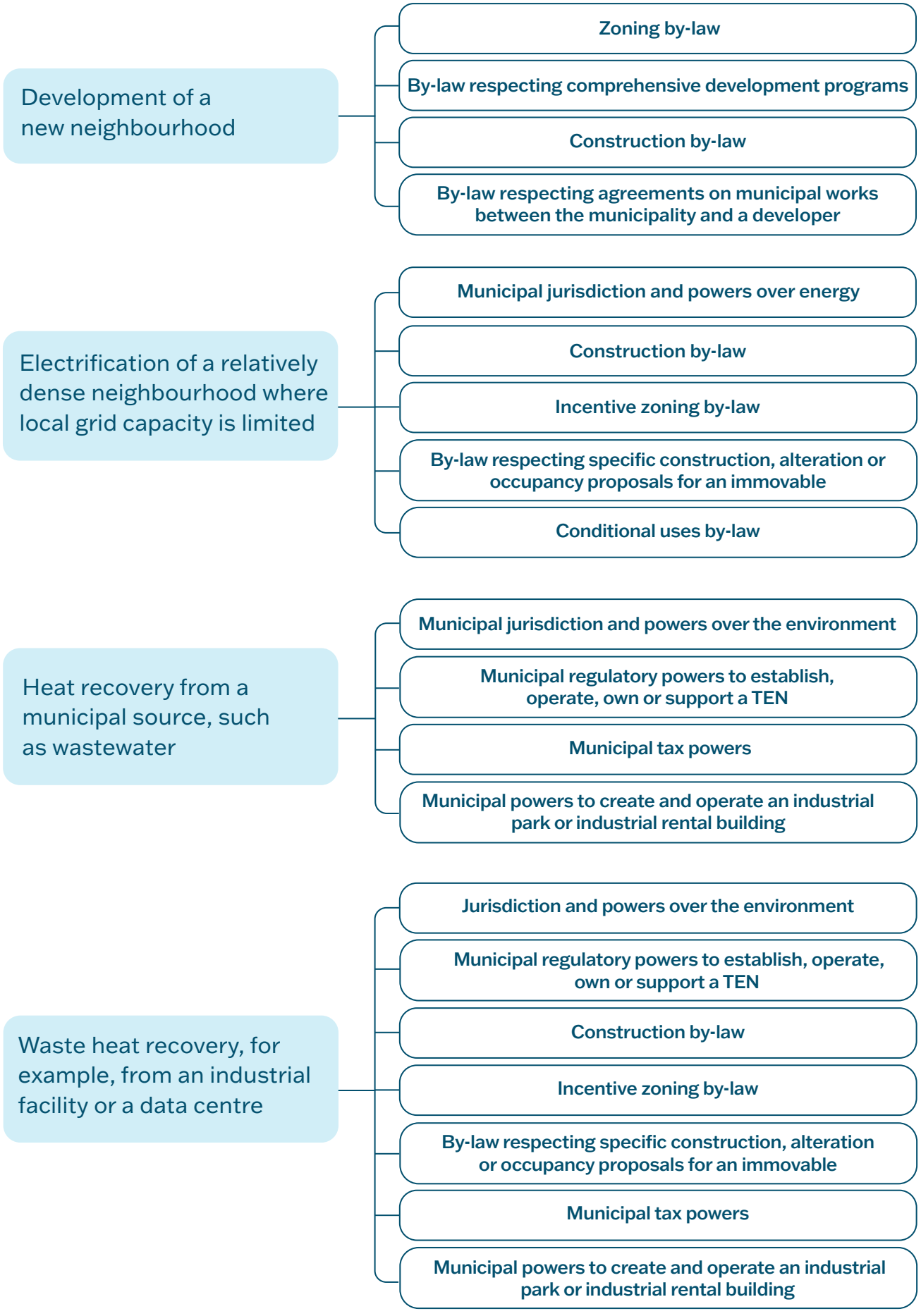
Executive Summary

This report outlines the powers and areas of jurisdiction that provincial legislation currently grants Québec municipalities to deploy thermal energy networks (TENs).

In Canada, the terms “thermal energy networks” and “district energy systems” are used interchangeably to describe energy infrastructure that provides heating, cooling or both to multiple buildings through shared pipes. This summary uses “thermal energy network” (boucle énergétique in the French report).

The report examines four scenarios for deploying a TEN and, for each one, identifies the most promising legal tools, which are explained in the body of the report (in French):

1. Development of a new neighbourhood;
2. Electrification of a relatively dense neighbourhood where local grid capacity is limited;
3. Heat recovery from a municipal source, such as wastewater;
4. Waste heat recovery, for example, from an industrial facility or a data centre.


Development of a new neighbourhood
Zoning by-law
By-law respecting comprehensive development programs
Construction by-law
By-law respecting agreements on municipal works between the municipality and a developer
Electrification of a relatively dense neighbourhood where local grid capacity is limited
Municipal jurisdiction and powers over energy
Construction by-law
Incentive zoning by-law
By-law respecting specific construction, alteration or occupancy proposals for an immovable
Conditional uses by-law
Heat recovery from a municipal source, such as wastewater
Municipal jurisdiction and powers over the environment
Municipal regulatory powers to establish, operate, own or support a TEN
Municipal tax powers
Municipal powers to create and operate an industrial park or industrial rental building
Waste heat recovery, for example, from an industrial facility or a data centre
Jurisdiction and powers over the environment
Municipal regulatory powers to establish, operate, own or support a TEN
Construction by-law
Incentive zoning by-law
By-law respecting specific construction, alteration or occupancy proposals for an immovable
Municipal tax powers
Municipal powers to create and operate an industrial park or industrial rental building