

# ATCO

## SHAPE the conversation



PROJECT UPDATE

February 2018

## 7L65 LINE REBUILD PROJECT

### Routing Update

In September 2017, ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) distributed project information about the 7L65 Line Rebuild Project to landholders in the vicinity of the planned transmission line and invited feedback on our preliminary routes. We also held a series of open houses in October for people to learn more about the project.

Since then, we have been meeting individually with landholders in the vicinity of the routes under consideration. To date, we have had over 400 conversations with landholders about the project. We would like to thank everyone who provided their feedback.

The input we received during the first round of consultation has been compiled and examined. This input has been used in combination with other available information to refine the route options and reduce the overall impact of the transmission line. An updated Reference Map showing the selected routes is enclosed.

You continue to have the opportunity to provide your input on the project. Please contact us at **1 855 420 5775** to share your thoughts.

If you received this package in the mail, updated Route Mosaic Maps are enclosed showing the selected route options in relation to your property. Rejected options — routes no longer considered — are also shown. Mosaic maps for the entire length of the routes are available at **www.atcoelectric.com** (click on "Projects") or can be mailed to you upon request.



### Project Details

ATCO is proposing to rebuild the existing 7L65 transmission line to allow the facility to operate at full thermal capacity. The proposed new 144-kilovolt (kV) transmission line will be located between the Vegreville and the Vermilion substations. The existing 7L65 line will be removed once the rebuilt line is operating but will remain in operation until that time.

### Next Steps

We are now in the process of providing additional details about the right-of-way locations and potential construction activities to those directly affected by the selected route options. In the weeks ahead, we will be contacting these parties, and follow-up consultations will be conducted in an effort to reduce potential impacts.

Route refinements at this stage will typically involve localized adjustments to the line location in response to site-specific concerns and constraints.

For more information on route selection, please see the inside of this newsletter.

**If you are not in the direct vicinity of the selected routes, you will not be contacted during our second round of personal consultations. Please check the enclosed maps to verify the location of your property in relation to the selected routes.**

**Parties on rejected routes will be removed from our project mailing list unless they request otherwise.**

# LOCAL BENEFITS

Upgrading the transmission system in your area will:

- Improve access to safe, secure and reliable power
- Allow future businesses to connect to Alberta's electric system
- Encourage investment in our province

If you are a local business, and would like to be considered for the ATCO approved vendors list, please contact us toll free at **1 800 668 2248**.



## Your Input

All transmission line projects have impacts. Some can be mitigated while others cannot. Our goal is to find the location for the transmission line that will have the least overall impact.

The concerns we have heard most frequently relate to:

- Agricultural operations
- Proximity to residences
- Future development

Additionally, concerns related to visual impacts and impacts to wildlife and their habitat have also been identified.

If you have any further input to provide or require further information, please contact us.

## Route Selection

The selected routes were chosen based on consultation feedback and combined with other available information to refine the route options in an effort to reduce potential impacts. In some locations, preliminary route options were dropped from further consideration. In other locations, new options were developed as a result of your feedback.

Consultation feedback is not the only factor that must be considered during the route selection process. We must also consider a range of important factors, including proximity to residences,

environmentally sensitive areas, wetlands, existing infrastructure (such as other transmission lines, roads, well sites and pipelines), planned developments, agricultural operations, visual factors and construction requirements. Whenever possible, consideration is given to routing new transmission lines along existing linear features, such as quarter section lines, roads, and other powerlines.

The consultation process for this project is ongoing. That means we have yet to determine the preferred route for the transmission line, and in some areas we

may decide to propose both preferred and alternative route options. Although multiple route options may be proposed, only one route will be built.

Project updates are available at [www.atcoelectric.com](http://www.atcoelectric.com). Please contact us if you have questions, concerns or would like to request a personal consultation.

# THE PROCESS



## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

is a continuous process that occurs throughout the life of the project.

## Access Trails and Temporary Workspace

Access trails may be required in areas where terrain conditions or the presence of wetlands make driving along the right-of-way impractical. In each location, access trails will be either temporary or permanent, and will be approximately 7 metres (m) wide.

In addition, a minimum of 3 m of temporary workspace is required alongside the right-of-way to accommodate the movement of equipment during construction. At corners or locations where the line bends, additional areas may be required to string the transmission line and accommodate the movement of equipment. These areas will vary in size up to 18 m wide and extend as much as 100 m from the corner structure.

For salvage of the existing transmission line, a minimum of 8 m of temporary workspace is required along both sides of the existing transmission line to provide appropriate space for the safe removal of wires and structures.

If you own or occupy land in the vicinity of these access trails and temporary workspaces then your package will also contain one or more detailed Facility Detail Maps.

Arrangements for access trails and temporary workspace will be discussed and negotiated with landowners individually. Actual dimensions of these features may vary with final plans.



Typical Current Structure



Revised Typical Planned Structure  
(See Structure Details Fact Sheet)

## The Right-of-Way

The term right-of-way refers to the area a transmission line uses including areas on either side of the line. Rights-of-way must have a minimum width to ensure safety and ongoing access for maintenance. For safety reasons, some general restrictions on the use of the land in the direct vicinity of the transmission line may apply. These include setbacks for development. The typical right-of-way for this project is 18 m (9 m when following a road).

Once a proposed route has been submitted to the AUC, ATCO begins obtaining agreements with landholders to acquire the right-of-way.

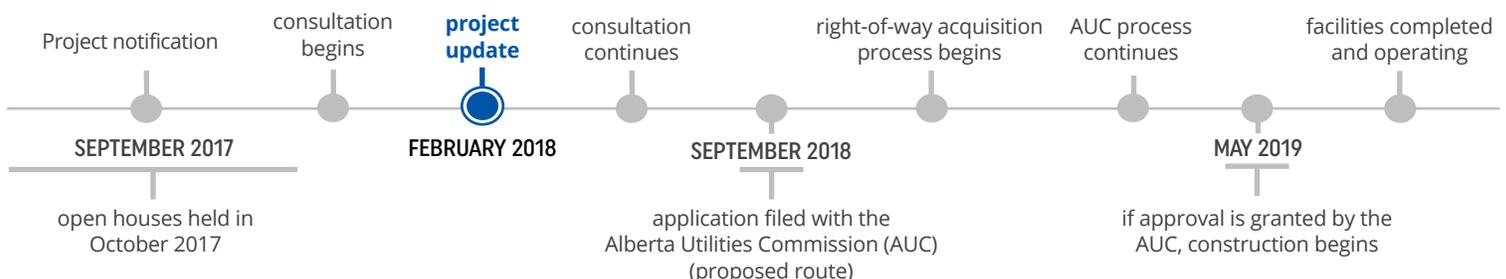
Once the transmission line is constructed, landholders may continue to use the right-of-way, subject to the terms of agreements made between the landholder and ATCO.

## Decommission and Salvage

Once the new line is constructed, the existing 7L65 line is no longer needed. The existing structures and conductor wires will be removed and the right-of-way areas reclaimed.

Construction of this project is planned to occur in up to three phases, separated into regional sections of line. The exact timing and location of each phase has yet to be determined, as is the timing of decommissioning and salvage of the existing 7L65 line. Details regarding the construction of this project will be shared with directly affected landholders as plans are finalized.

## THE SCHEDULE



# CONTACT INFORMATION

Your comments and concerns are important to us. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about this project, or if you would like to share information with us.

- Call us toll free at 1 855 420 5775 or
- Use the enclosed reply form and postage-paid envelope to share feedback or
- Contact the project planner directly:

**Nathan Jones**  
Right-of-Way Planning  
ATCO  
10035 - 105 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5J 2V6  
Phone: 780 420 4184

Email: [consultation@ATCOelectric.com](mailto:consultation@ATCOelectric.com)  
Fax: 780 420 5030

[www.ATCOelectric.com/Projects/Project-List](http://www.ATCOelectric.com/Projects/Project-List)

**Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)**  
Phone: 1888 866 2959  
Email: [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

**Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)**  
Phone: 780 427 4903  
(for toll-free, dial 310-0000 first)  
Email: [consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)



## Project Need

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. The AESO acts in the interests of all Albertans to determine what electrical infrastructure is needed.

As per the AESO's long-term plan, 7L65 is required to continue operating indefinitely at its full capacity. However, 7L65 is currently operating lower than its full capacity due to the age and condition of the line.

7L65 is at the end of its operating life, as well the electrical system in the area is experiencing localized load growth. Therefore, ATCO is planning a complete replacement of the line to ensure suitable operability into the future.

## Approval Process

Alberta's electrical system is regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), an independent agency of the province that ensures the fair and responsible delivery of utility services. Before ATCO can begin construction on this project, the AUC must approve the facility application, which includes details such as location of electric transmission facilities and proposed alterations. For more information about how you can participate in the AUC approval process, please refer to the enclosed AUC brochure, *Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development*.

If you are affected by the route(s) in our application, information you shared with us will be summarized in our facility application to the AUC. The AUC will consider this input in its review of the application.

### Included in this package:

- **Project fact sheet** — The Structure Details
- **Reference map** — reflects the entire project area
- **Route mosaic maps** — maps are included to your specific land or area interests
- **Facility Detail Maps** — these maps provide additional detail to your land interest
- **AUC brochure:** *Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development*
- Reply form and postage-paid envelope

# ATCO

# The Structure Details

February 2018

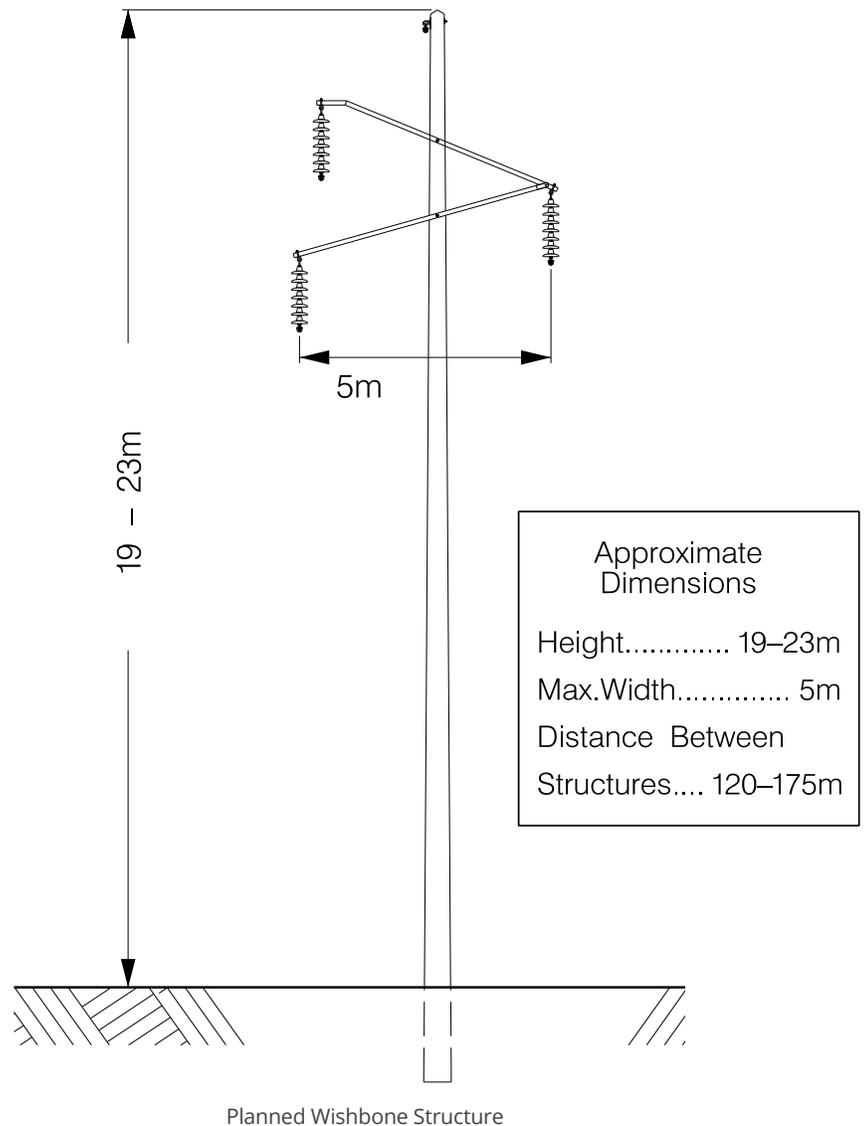
## 7L65 LINE REBUILD PROJECT — TYPICAL STRUCTURE UPDATE

In the initial Project Newsletter sent in September 2017, we indicated that the typical structure for the rebuilt transmission line would be a single circuit 'Davit Arm.' Upon further technical review of the Project, ATCO is changing the typical structure to a slightly different design.

If approved, the new typical structure for the project will be a 'Wishbone' design, consisting of a single wood pole. The notable difference between the 'Davit Arm' and 'Wishbone' designs is the hardware connecting the wires to the pole. The size of pole and overall dimensions remain similar to the previously proposed 'Davit Arm' design. The distance between structures will range from 120 m - 175 m.

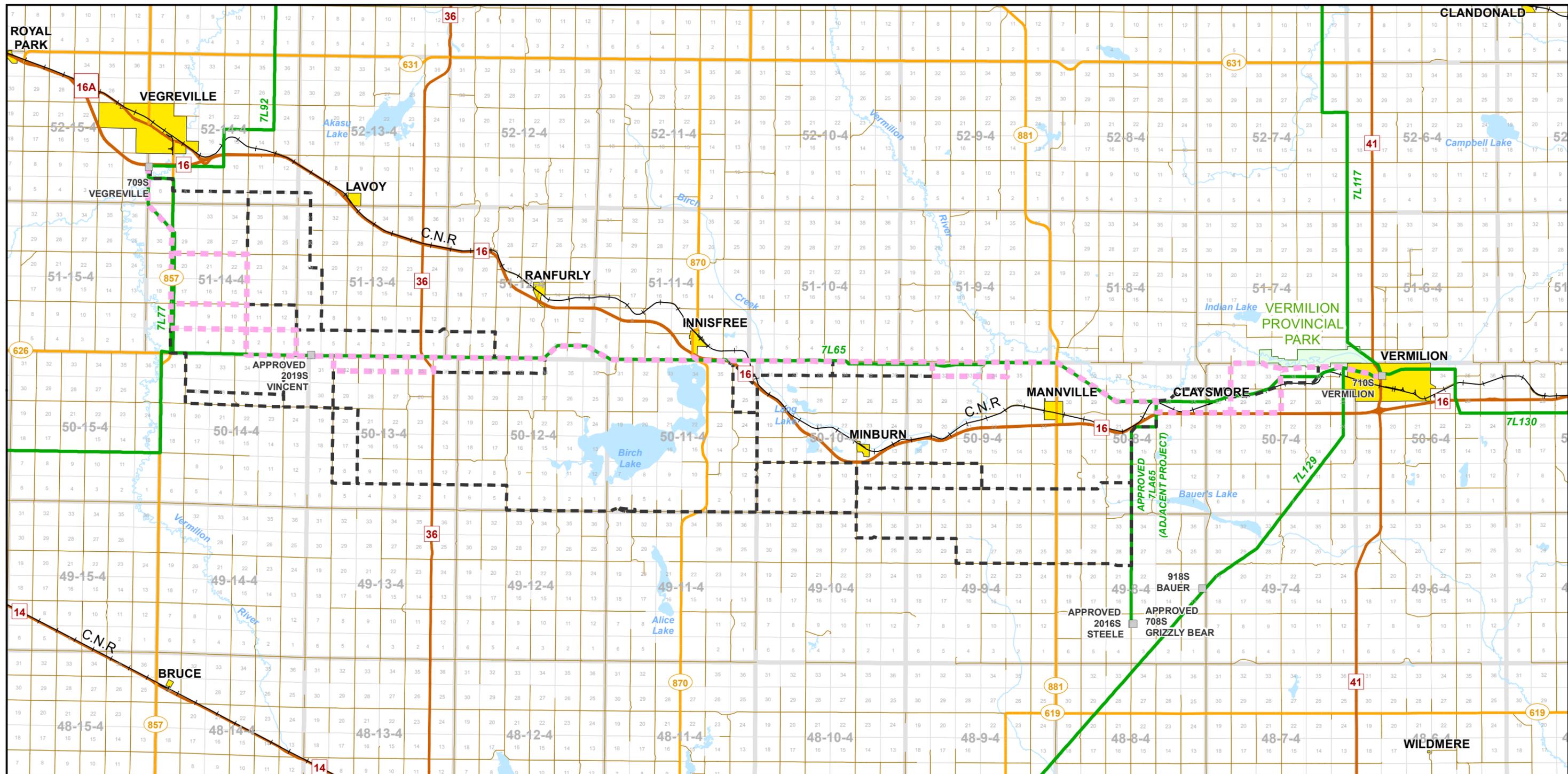
The 'Wishbone' design is common to some other transmission lines in the Project area. Non-typical structures with wider bases and/or guy wires and anchors may be required where the line ends or bends, at corners and to go over and around obstacles. In all cases, minimum clearance will meet or exceed the requirements of provincial safety regulations.

\* Details may change as the project develops and designs are finalized.



**Typical right-of-way width for this project — 18 metres.**

*Rights-of-way are cleared of trees, bush and debris to allow access for construction, and ongoing operation and maintenance.*



- 144 kV Transmission Line Selected Routes
- Rejected Routes
- Existing/ Approved Substation
- Existing/ Approved 144 kV Transmission Line
- Primary Highway
- Secondary Highway
- Road
- +— Railway
- Town/ Village

- Provincial Park
- Waterbody
- Watercourse



**NOTES:**  
 - Only facilities in the vicinity of the project are shown.  
 - Several routes are shown, but only one will be built.

This map is the property of ATCO. This map is not intended to be used in place of Alberta One Call.  
 Always practice extreme caution when near power lines!

# ATCO

## 7L65 Line Rebuild Project REFERENCE MAP

February 2018

RS-7L65 - N2 - 01

## Step 6: The public hearing process\*

The public hearing process provides an opportunity for those who have been unable to resolve their concerns with the applicant and have made a filing, to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members. The panel reviews the initial filings and grants what is referred to as standing to those who may be directly and adversely affected by the proposed project. Standing is necessary to continue involvement as an intervener in the proceeding which may include the filing of evidence and participation in an oral or written hearing.

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing setting out the hearing date, location and additional process steps and deadlines. An AUC public hearing operates similarly to a court proceeding and is a quasi-judicial process. The general public is welcome to attend as an observer and the hearings are often broadcast online so that those interested can listen-in.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by legal counsel. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

Persons who hire legal counsel or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance may be available under Rule 009, recovery of costs is subject to the Commission assessing the value of the contribution provided by counsel and technical experts. People with similar interests and positions are expected to work together to ensure that any expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

## Step 7: The decision

For electric transmission facilities, the need for transmission development filed by the Alberta Electric System Operator to the AUC must be considered to be correct unless someone satisfies the Commission that the needs application is technically deficient, or that to approve it would be contrary to the public

interest. For electric needs applications, the Commission can either approve, deny, or send the application back with suggestions for change.

Commission decisions made about applications filed for a specific utility development, including electric transmission lines, gas utility pipelines and power plants, may be approved, approved with conditions or denied. Decisions are typically released within 90 days from the close of the record as a written report. The decision, available on the AUC website, will summarize the Commission's findings and state its reasons for the decision with any conditions or approval time limits if applicable.

Sometimes needs and facility applications are considered together in a single proceeding.

## Step 8: Right to appeal

A participant in a hearing who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Commission may request that the Commission review and vary its decision. Such a request must follow the procedure set out in Rule 016: *Review of Commission Decisions*.

A dissatisfied participant may also file a leave to appeal motion in the Court of Appeal of Alberta within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

## Step 9: Construction and operation

Any applicant that receives a permit to construct and licence to operate a facility from the Commission must adhere to any conditions that were set out in the decision. If you notice something during the construction or operational phases of a project that concerns you, bring this to the applicant's attention. If you are not satisfied with the response you receive, please bring your concerns to the attention of the AUC.

**\*Denotes opportunity for public involvement**

**The Alberta Utilities Commission is committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by utility development in Alberta have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered. If you believe you may be directly and adversely affected, you can become involved in the AUC application and review process.**

## Contact information

Phone: 780-427-4903  
Email: [consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)

Dial 310-0000 prior to the 10-digit numbers for toll-free access anywhere in Alberta.

## Information session

It is our goal to ensure that you understand the process, and your opportunities for involvement in proceedings to consider utility development applications. For those interested in having an AUC staff member further explain the application and review process or answer questions you may have about your involvement in utility development proceedings, please contact us as we may schedule a formal information session for you. The virtual information session on our website, found under Involving Albertans, will also provide you with further details which could assist you in understanding the process and having your say in a utility development proceeding.

This brochure provides general information only. Specific participation opportunities may differ depending on the type of application.



## Public involvement in a proposed utility development

*Understanding your rights and options for participating in a proceeding to consider applications for a proposed project in your area*

## Application process

### Step 1\*

Public consultation by the applicant.

### Step 2

Application filed with the AUC.

### Step 3

The AUC issues a notice of application or notice of hearing.

### Step 4\*

Interested parties submit filings to the AUC with any outstanding issues or objections.

If the AUC does not receive any submissions, the application will be reviewed and a decision may be made without a hearing.

### Step 5\*

The AUC issues a notice of hearing, if it was not already issued in Step 3.

- Continued opportunity for consultation and negotiation with the applicant.

### Step 6\*

Public hearing.

### Step 7

The AUC issues its decision. Below are the options the AUC may consider for:

Needs applications from the Alberta Electric System Operator:

- Approval of application.
- Return to the Alberta Electric System Operator with suggestions.
- Denial of application.

Facilities applications:

- Approval of application.
- Approval of application with conditions.
- Denial of application.

### Step 8

Option to appeal decision or ask the AUC to review its decision.

### Step 9

Approvals, construction and operation of facility, if approved.

## Having your say

Early discussions with the applicant about proposed utility developments will often result in greater influence on what is filed in the application for approval. Utility developments include natural gas pipelines, electric transmission lines and substations (including Alberta Electric System Operator needs identification documents), and power plants. Should you have concerns related to a proposed utility development, it is best to have early and ongoing discussions with the applicant.

If your objections cannot be resolved, or you have outstanding concerns upon the filing of an application with the AUC, you have an opportunity to submit an initial filing with your objections in writing to the AUC containing the following information:

- How you may be affected by the proposed project and the location of your land or residence in relation to it or any alternative proposed in the application.
- The potential effect the proposed project may have on your property or interest in the property .
- A description of the extent to which you may be affected, and how you may be affected in a different way or to a greater degree than other members of the general public.

Following this initial filing, you may be able to fully participate in the proceeding. This could include having legal representation and participation in a public hearing. It is important to note that any applied for routes and segments (preferred and alternate) could be chosen as the approved route in the AUC decision.

### Step 1: Public consultation prior to application\*

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development, the applicant is required to conduct public consultation in the area of the proposed project, so that concerns may be raised, addressed and if possible, resolved.

The requirements for consultation and notification, namely the participant involvement requirements, are set out in Rule 007 for electric facilities and Rule 020 for gas utility pipelines.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial public consultation, as early involvement in discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

### Step 2: Application to the AUC

When the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the proponent of the utility development files an application with the AUC. The application must indicate the issues which came up during the public consultation and any amendments considered or made to the project. Any unresolved objections or concerns which arose from the public consultation must be identified in the application.

\*Denotes opportunity for public involvement

### Step 3: Public notification

The Commission will issue a notice when it receives an application that, in the Commission's opinion, may directly and adversely affect the rights of one or more people. The notice is typically sent by mail to residents in the project area and may also be published in local newspapers. The notice will provide key dates, contacts and participation information for those interested in becoming involved in the application process.

### Step 4: Public filings to the AUC\*

If you have unresolved objections or concerns about the proposed project filed with the AUC for approval and wish to participate in an AUC proceeding, you must make an initial written filing. Your filing must include your contact information, concern or interest in the application, an explanation of your position and what you feel the AUC should decide. Please be aware that any information or materials filed with the AUC, except information granted confidentiality, is available to the public.

### Filing your concerns

The eFiling System is a web-based tool created to manage applications and filings made to the AUC through a proceeding-based review. This system gives access to all public documents associated with applications filed with the AUC and is the most efficient way to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the related proceeding filings.

Those who do not have access to the Internet can send filings, evidence and other material by mail or fax and the AUC will upload the submission on your behalf.

### Participant cost reimbursement

A person determined by the Commission to be a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs incurred while participating in an AUC proceeding. Details regarding recovery of participants' costs are described in Rule 009: *Rules on Local Intervener Costs*.

### Step 5: Consultation and negotiation\*

The Commission supports ongoing efforts to reach a positive outcome for the applicant and all affected parties. The Commission encourages the applicant and those who have made filings to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, typically those matters will be addressed at an AUC public hearing.



10035-105 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2V6

# SHAPE THE CONVERSATION

## 7L65 LINE REBUILD PROJECT REPLY FORM

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization Name (if applicable):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Please help us identify new contacts**

You were contacted about this project because ATCO identified you or your company/organization as having a land interest in the vicinity of the project. Is there anyone else associated with your property, such as other owners, renters or occupants, who we should also contact? If so, please provide the name(s), contact information and their land interest.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive all future correspondence about this project by Email (If this is your preference, please check the box)

**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT PRIVACY:** *The information on this form is being collected to identify concerns with proposed changes to and/or the siting of power transmission facilities, and to comply with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) rules regarding the submission of transmission facilities applications. This information may be provided to electric facility owners, Alberta's Surface Rights Board, and the Alberta Electric System Operator. Your comments and personal information may also be publicly accessible through the AUC website, should it be submitted to the AUC as part of a transmission facility application – subject to Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. **If you wish to keep your information confidential, you must make a request to the AUC (403-592-4376).** If you have questions or concerns about your information or how it may be used or disclosed as part of this process, please contact us (see contact information below).*

### Please let us know by checking a box below if either statement applies to you:

I do not have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

I have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

### Please share any comments or concerns that you have about the Project:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**HOW TO SUBMIT:** Please use the enclosed envelope to return by mail or fax to 780-420-5030. If you would like more information about the project, please contact us toll free 1-855-420-5775 or by Email: [consultation@atcoelectric.com](mailto:consultation@atcoelectric.com).