

August 7, 2015

Decision 20659-D01-2015

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
7210 – 42 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3H1

Attention: Jason Cunha, P. Eng.
Project Leader, UPR Conversions

**Pipeline Splits in the North Edmonton Area
Licence 2594 and Licence 28588
Proceeding 20659
Applications 20659-A001 and 20659-A002**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Applications 20659-A001 and 20659-A002 registered on July 23, 2015, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following in the north Edmonton area:

Pertaining to Permit and Licence 2594:

- splitting Line 35 into lines 35 and 295
- Line 295 is to be abandoned under a subsequent application

Pertaining to Permit and Licence 28588:

- splitting Line 1 into lines 1, 5 and 6
- splitting Line 3 into lines 3 and 7
- lines 4, 5, 6 and 7 are to be abandoned under a subsequent application
- Line 1 is to be converted to low pressure service under a subsequent application

2. The proposed work is related to the minor splits of existing pipe, within the original rights-of-way, previously constructed and operated in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 2594 and Licence 28588.

3. ATCO proposed to split various pipelines under Licence 2594 and Licence 28588, in order to remove pipeline segments from high pressure service, as identified in its urban pipeline replacement (UPR) project application. The Commission approved the need for the UPR project

as a whole in Decision [2014-010](#).¹ As part of the overall UPR hydraulic assessment completed in coordination with ATCO Gas, it was determined that functionality of the distribution system in north Edmonton could be maintained by transferring a portion of Line 1 of Licence 28588 to ATCO Gas to use as a low-pressure distribution pipeline.

4. ATCO stated that the line splits are required to accommodate the conversion of Line 1 to low-pressure service, and the abandonments of lines 4, 5, 6, and 7 of Licence 28588, lines 13, 17 and 18 of Licence 6317, lines 1 and 2 of Licence 602, and Line 295 of Licence 2594. The remaining portion of Line 3 of Licence 28588 would be connected to Line 35 of Licence 2594 with a proposed valve assembly contained within a surface lease in the transportation and utility corridor.

5. ATCO stated that Licence 28588 and Licence 602 are part of the 273.1-millimetre Bittern Lake South Transmission pipeline. Norcen Energy installed the section of this pipeline, under Licences 28588 and 6317, in 1952 and the section of this pipeline, under Licence 6317, in 1967. In 1995 ATCO purchased these pipelines from Norcen Energy. Line 35 of Licence 2594 is a part of the North Edmonton Loop Transmission pipeline. This pipeline was originally installed in 1956.

6. ATCO stated that the Bittern Lake South Transmission pipeline crossing of the North Saskatchewan River would be abandoned in place. No additional environmental approvals are required as all work would take place at least 30 metres away from the bed and banks of the river. Any liquids contained in the pipe would be captured and disposed of prior to the abandonment.

7. ATCO stated that it had sent notification of the project to all landowners and occupants on June 17, 2015 in accordance with requirements of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*. Construction is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2015.

8. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves limited ground disturbance, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified. The landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the project.

9. Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person other than the landowners and occupants of the land upon which the project takes place will likely be directly affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed project.

10. The Commission approves the applications. The amended licences are attached. No changes to Licence 602 or Licence 6317 are required at this time.

¹ Decision 2014-010: ATCO Pipelines, a division of ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. – Urban Pipeline Replacement Project, Proceeding 1995, Application 1608617, January 17, 2014. Errata issued on February 21, 2014.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Brian Shand, P. Eng.
Director, Gas Facilities
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachments