



September 17, 2015

Decision 20792-D01-2015

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

Attention: Konstantin Kaindl, EIT
Project Engineer, Pipelines Engineering

**Pipeline Split and Removal of the Red Deer Lake Transmission System
Licences 4156 and 13128
Proceeding 20792
Applications 20792-A001 and 20792-A002**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by applications 20792-A001 and 20792-A002 registered on September 1, 2015, filed applications 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 city of Calgary:

Pertaining to Licence 4156:

- removal of Line 6
- lines 2, 3 and 4 are to be abandoned under a subsequent application

Pertaining to Licence 13128:

- splitting Line 3 into lines 3 and 4
- removal of Line 3
- Line 4 is to be abandoned under a subsequent application

2. The proposed work is related to the minor split and removal of pipe, within the original rights-of-way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in licences 4156 and 13128.

3. ATCO stated that the need to replace the Red Deer Lake aluminum transmission pipeline was established in business case 2014-3357.¹ After researching this project further, ATCO determined that the functionality of the Red Deer Lake transmission pipeline and the connected

¹ Decision 2013-430, Proceeding 2322, Application 1609158, 2013-2014 General Rate Application, Section 4.5.3.29, PDF page 36 of 128.

low-pressure gas distribution services could be maintained by the consolidation of customers from the combined system onto another low-pressure gas distribution system operated by ATCO Gas, making the Red Deer Lake transmission system redundant. ATCO identified that the removal of the high-pressure pipelines from within the Calgary transportation utility corridor would also facilitate the future construction of the Stoney Trail ring road. ATCO stated that the cost of the proposed project would be reduced from \$1,900,000 to \$325,000.

4. ATCO stated that an environmental protection plan² has been prepared for this project based on a site assessment. The environmental protection plan for the proposed project includes a description of the existing environmental and land-use conditions on the proposed project site and the anticipated environmental impacts, including mitigation plans for the project. All recommendations included in the environmental protection plan would be implemented by ATCO. There are no watercourses or other crossings that would be affected by the proposed project activities.
5. ATCO stated that it received *Historical Resources Act* clearance on March 23, 2015.
6. ATCO stated that the pipelines would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of.
7. ATCO stated that it obtained Ministerial Consent MCC14-0015,³ dated July 13, 2015, and has received a right-of-entry order. Consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*. Confirmation of non-objection by directly and adversely affected landowners and occupants was obtained by ATCO Pipelines on July 23, 2015. Construction is scheduled to commence in the fall of 2015.
8. The Commission accepts that the need for the replacement of the Red Deer Lake aluminum pipeline was established in Decision [2013-430](#),⁴ and that the proposed pipeline abandonments and utilization of the ATCO Gas distribution system will achieve a similar result at lower cost.
9. The Commission has reviewed the application and has determined that it meets the requirements, including the public involvement and consultation requirements of Rule 020. The Commission observes in this respect ATCO's confirmation that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.
10. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves limited ground disturbance and is within the original rights-of-way, 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.

² Exhibits 20792-X0014&15, Environmental Protection Plan (EPP).

³ Exhibits 20792-X0005&10, Ministerial Consent.

⁴ Decision 2013-130: ATCO Pipelines 2013-2014 General Rate Application, Proceeding 2322, Application 1609158, December 4, 2013.

11. 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.

12. The Commission approves the application. The amended licences are attached.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

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

Attachments