

January 18, 2016

**Decision 21237-D01-2016**

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

Attention: Kristyn Mahoney  
Project Engineer, Pipelines Engineering

**Pipeline Splits and Removals near North Cooking Lake  
Licence 9413  
Proceeding 21237  
Application 21237-A001**

**Minor pipeline project application**

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 21237-A001 registered on January 6, 2016, 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 Cooking Lake area.

- splitting Line 47 into lines 47, 80, 81, 82 and 83
- splitting Line 49 into lines 49, 84, 85, 86 and 87
- removal of lines 80, 82, 84 and 86
- mapping amendment of original Line 49

2. The proposed work is related to the minor split and removal of abandoned pipelines, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 9413.

3. ATCO stated that the work would involve excavating and removing sections of the abandoned 304.8-millimetre Viking #1 and 323.8-millimetre Viking #2 transmission pipelines from both sides of the Range Road 210 crossing that lie within 35 metres of the range road. The sections of pipeline directly under the road crossing would be filled with grout and left in place. The need for the project arose after a portion of one of the abandoned pipelines was found to be exposed on the west side of Range Road 210. Upon further investigation ATCO determined that the unexposed segments of the two pipelines are shallow and require removal on both sides of the road.

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project is estimated at \$265,000 and it would be responsible for 100 per cent of the project costs. The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that this project meets the criteria for an abbreviated need project, as per Table 3.1 in Section 3.3 of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, since it is an ATCO removal project where

the project costs are forecast at less than \$1,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.

5. ATCO stated that the pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The topsoil would be stripped and stored and all surface disturbances would be backfilled before the topsoil is returned.

6. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020. Confirmation of non-objection from directly and adversely affected landowners and occupants has been obtained by ATCO. Construction is proposed to begin in March of 2016.

7. 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 right-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.

8. 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.

9. The Commission approves the application. The amended licence is attached.

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

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

Attachment