

March 3, 2016

Decision 21337-D01-2016

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

Attention: Adam Wood, P. Eng.
Project Leader, Pipelines Engineering

**North Edmonton Loop Line Removal and Replacement
Licence 2594
Proceeding 21337
Application 21337-A001**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 21337-A001 registered on February 16, 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 Edmonton area:

- splitting Line 259 into lines 259, 304 and 305
- splitting Line 264 into lines 264, 306 and 307
- removal of lines 304 and 306
- lines 259, 264, 305 and 307 are to remain in operation
- addition of a newly constructed pipeline [Line 308 - 1.25 kilometres (km) of 219.1-millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipeline]
- addition of a newly constructed pipeline [Line 309 - 1.25 km of 323.9-mm OD pipeline]

2. The proposed work is related to the minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 2594.

3. ATCO stated that the project is required to accommodate land development in northeast Edmonton. The existing 323.9-mm and 219.1-mm pipelines, lines 304 and 306, currently run parallel in a common right-of-way through the developer's lands. ATCO proposed to install 1.25 km of new 323.9-mm pipeline, Line 309, and 1.25 km of new 219.1-mm pipeline, Line 308, in a new common right-of-way inside the Edmonton transportation utility corridor. ATCO would then remove lines 304 and 306 in order to allow the land development to be completed.

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$1,600,000. The developer 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 application, as per Table 3.1 in Section 3.3 of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, since it is an ATCO third-party replacement project where the project costs are forecast at less than

\$2,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.

5. ATCO stated that it would meet the requirements of the Guide for Pipelines pursuant to the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations* (Alberta Environment, 1994). The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that construction and removal activities would not result in significant impacts on the environment since the pipelines would be relocated to a pipeline corridor adjacent to an ongoing development. ATCO would apply for a pipeline reclamation certificate for the removed pipelines once construction is completed. The pipelines 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 a search of the historic resource listings, maintained by Alberta Culture and Tourism, did not reveal any historical resources within the project area.

7. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020 and that it has obtained confirmation of non-objection from directly and adversely affected landowners and occupants. Ministerial consent was obtained by the developer for this project on January 5, 2016, under file number MCE15-0026.¹ Construction of this project is scheduled to commence in April of 2016.

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 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

¹ Exhibit 21337-X0008, Ministerial consent.