

March 22, 2016

Decision 21400-D01-2016

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

Attention: Alex Burnside, E.I.T.
Project Engineer, Operations Engineering

Pipeline Splits and Removals in the Cold Lake Area
Licence 4575
Proceeding 21400
Application 21400-A001

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 21400-A001 registered on March 4, 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 city of Cold Lake:

- splitting of line 1 into lines 1, 22 and 23
- splitting of line 15 into lines 15, 24 and 25
- removal of lines 3, 16, 18, 20, 22 and 24

2. The proposed work is related to the minor split and removal of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed and abandoned in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 4575.

3. ATCO stated that the 88.9-millimetre (mm) Cold Lake transmission pipeline was replaced with a new 114.3-mm pipeline and the 88.9-mm pipeline was abandoned in place in 1984. ATCO proposed to remove the following:

- 30 metres of the 88.9-mm pipeline, line 22, since it does not meet depth of cover requirements
- 40 metres of the 88.9-mm pipeline, line 24, to accommodate the construction of 12 Avenue in the city of Cold Lake
- 200 metres of the 88.9-mm pipeline, lines 3, 16, 18 and 20, since these line segments are located in residential subdivision lots in the city of Cold Lake

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$320,000 and that ATCO would be responsible for all of the project costs due to existing land rights.

5. ATCO stated that a historical resources impact assessment is not required since the affected land is not referenced in Alberta Culture and Tourism's latest listing of historic resources.
6. 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 concurs with ATCO's expectation that construction and removal activities would not result in any significant impacts on the environment due to the level of disturbance to the land resulting from development. The pipelines would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The pipeline alignment would be returned to its original condition in accordance with ATCO's standard backfill procedure.
7. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* and that there are no objections or concerns related to this project.
8. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that the pipeline removals are required due to shallow cover of abandoned pipe, road construction and subdivision development. 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.
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