

March 23, 2016

**Decision 21412-D01-2016**

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

Attention: Doug Rowan, P. Eng.  
Senior Project Engineer, Pipeline Engineering

**Cochrane Branch Line Removal and Replacement  
Licence 2184  
Proceeding 21412  
Application 21412-A001**

**Minor pipeline project application**

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 21412-A001 registered on March 8, 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 Cochrane area:

- splitting line 1 into lines 1, 24 and 25
- removal of line 24
- lines 1 and 25 are to remain in operation
- addition of a newly constructed pipeline (line 26 – 0.28 kilometres of 60.3-millimetre outside-diameter pipeline)
- environmental code amendment of line 1
- mapping amendment of lines 1 and 14

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 2184.

3. ATCO stated that the project is required in order to accommodate a future residential subdivision development in the town of Cochrane. A 140 metre long section of the 60.3-millimetre Cochrane Branch pipeline, line 24, would be removed and replaced with a 280 metre long section of 60.3-millimetre pipeline in a new right-of-way on private land within the town of Cochrane.

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$450,000. 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 project, as per Table 3.1 in Section 3.3 of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, since it is an ATCO third party reimbursed 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 a *Historical Resources Act* clearance has been acquired.
6. ATCO stated that an environmental protection plan (EPP) has been prepared for the project and that it would implement all of the recommendations included in the EPP. A nest sweep would be completed to ensure that no impact to birds or their nesting habitat would occur as a result of construction activity. The pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. No watercourse crossings would be affected by the installation or removal activities. After line 24 is removed, ATCO Pipelines would restore the right-of-way to satisfy the developer's requirements. ATCO Pipelines would obtain a reclamation certificate as required by the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* prior to discharging the right-of-way.
7. ATCO stated that consultation with affected parties for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020 and that it has obtained confirmation of non-objection from the landowner directly affected by this project. ATCO has also completed industry notifications as well as notifications to the Town of Cochrane and Rocky View County. Construction of this project is scheduled to start and finish in the summer 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 landowner 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 owner 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