



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction

Township 24, Range 2, West of the Fifth Meridian

February 3, 2012

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2012-036: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction

Township 24, Range 2, West of the Fifth Meridian

Application No. 1608065

Proceeding ID No. 1677

February 3, 2012

Published by

The Alberta Utilities Commission

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1 Introduction

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) seeking approval for an amendment to Permit and Licence No. 1951 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- Splitting Line 9 into lines 9 and 13.
- Removal of lines 9 and 12.
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 14 – 0.88 kilometres of 406.4 millimetre outside-diameter pipeline).
- Line 13 remains in place.

(the project).

2. The application was registered as Application No. 1608065 on January 19, 2012.

3. ATCO stated that this project is required because the existing 273 millimetre pipeline cannot supply the forecast natural gas demand in the area. In light of the City of Calgary's planned development of the Sarcee Trail road right-of-way, ATCO intends to design and install a new 406 millimetre pipeline that would not be in conflict with future infrastructure plans. The new pipe has been sized to allow for the abandonment and removal of the existing 273 millimetre pipeline.

4. ATCO stated that the entire route of this pipeline is within the City of Calgary property. A utility line assignment (ULA) was granted by the City of Calgary on October 19, 2011, ULA number 11-1753.

5. ATCO stated that public notification advertisements describing the proposed pipeline were published in the Calgary Herald and Calgary Sun on Friday, December 2, 2011.

6. ATCO stated that pipe would be removed by excavating bell holes and pulling the existing pipe out in sections. Any liquids contained in the pipe to be removed, would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. If necessary the pipeline would be excavated, removed and the resultant trench backfilled. The site would be reclaimed to City of Calgary specifications.

7. ATCO also stated that clearance under the *Historical Resources Act* for this project was granted on January 3, 2012.

8. In its submission, ATCO stated that the requirements of the consultation and notification program were met and that no outstanding objections or concerns remain in regards to the application.

2 Findings

9. The Commission considered ATCO's submission that a participant involvement program has been conducted and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

10. The Commission has reviewed the application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

11. Due to the nature of the application, a notice of application was not issued and, therefore, a hearing was not required as the Commission considered that its decision or order would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

12. The Commission finds that the pipeline split, removal and new construction are necessary to meet the forecasted natural gas demand in the area and to avoid conflict with future infrastructure plans.

13. Based on the foregoing, the Commission considers the project to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

3 Decision

14. Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, the Commission approves the amendment to Permit and Licence No. 1951 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction – Permit and Licence No. 1951 – February 3, 2012 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on February 3, 2012.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Tudor Beattie, QC
Commission Member