

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Deletion Township 67, Range 10, West of the Fifth Meridian

March 22, 2012

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2012-078: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) Pipeline Deletion – Township 67, Range 10, West of the Fifth Meridian Application No. 1608160 Proceeding ID No. 1718

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Calgary, Alberta

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
Pipeline Deletion
Township 67, Range 10, West of the Fifth Meridian

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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. 20102 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*. ATCO requested the deletion of Line 15 from Permit and Licence No. 20102 in order to effect the transfer of Line 15 from ATCO to Devon Canada Corporation (Devon).
- 2. The application was registered as Application No. 1608160 on February 14, 2012.
- 3. ATCO stated that they have previously abandoned this pipeline and have no future plans for its use. Devon has requested to purchase the line to enhance their system within this area.
- 4. ATCO stated that ATCO Pipelines and Devon have a signed purchase and sales agreement with the approval of the transfer from the AUC being part of the final process to complete the transfer. Upon approval from the AUC, ATCO would proceed to transfer the pipeline within the Energy Resource Conservation Board (ERCB) digital data submission system to complete the transaction. Devon would receive a new ERCB license and line number at that point for line number 15 of Permit and Licence No. 20102. Upon the acceptance from the ERCB, ATCO Pipelines stated that it would notify the AUC.
- 5. ATCO stated that this portion of pipeline is not in ATCO's rate base.
- 6. 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

- 7. 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.
- 8. 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*.
- 9. 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*.

- 10. The Commission accepts ATCO's statement that they have no future plans to use the abandoned pipeline and that Devon has requested to purchase this line to enhance their system within this area. The Commission also accepts ATCO's assurance that the abandoned pipeline is not in its rate base.
- 11. 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

12. 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. 20102 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Deletion – Permit and Licence No. 20102 – March 22, 2012 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 22, 2012.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Tudor Beattie, QC Commission Member