



## **ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)**

**Compressor Removal**

**Township 49, Range 17, West of the Fourth Meridian**

**May 9, 2012**

**The Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 2012-125: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Compressor Removal

Township 49, Range 17, west of the Fourth Meridian

Application No. 1608276

Proceeding ID No.1805

May 9, 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. 2526 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the removal of Pipeline Installation No. 1 (compressor station).
2. The application was registered as Application No. 1608276 on March 23, 2012.
3. ATCO stated that the compressor was installed in the 1950s by ATCO (Northwestern Utilities Limited at the time). The site is owned fee simple by ATCO and is shared with an ATCO regulating station and an ATCO Gas communication tower. In 1991, ATCO determined that this compressor installation was no longer required, therefore, it has not operated since that time.
4. ATCO stated that they are now proceeding with a site reclamation program. Part of the fee simple site will be retained for the continued operation of the existing ATCO regulating station and the ATCO Gas communication tower. A phase 1 environmental site assessment has been completed and a phase 2 environmental site assessment is now underway. Completion of the phase 2 environmental site assessment will require the removal of some compressor assets to facilitate soil sampling.
5. ATCO stated that the phase 2 environmental site assessment scope includes a groundwater quality assessment component. The consultant proposed a minimum of five groundwater monitoring wells. Groundwater samples will be analyzed for petroleum hydrocarbons, dissolved metals, herbicides and pesticides, glycols, and salinity.
6. ATCO stated that they currently plan to apply for a reclamation certificate upon successful completion of the environmental site assessment and completion of the necessary remediation/reclamation tasks.
7. 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**

8. 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.

9. The Commission considered ATCO's submission of a phase 1 environmental site assessment and ATCO's statement of commitment to obtain a reclamation certificate. The Commission expects ATCO to remediate and reclaim this site as indicated in the application and to obtain a reclamation certificate in a timely fashion.
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 removal is necessary since the compressor station is no longer required and has not operated since 1991.
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. 2526 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline - Compressor Removal – Permit and Licence No. 2526 – May 9, 2012 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on May 9, 2012.

### **The Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Neil Jamieson  
Commission Member