



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

**Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction
Town of Cochrane**

May 15, 2012

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2012-133: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction

Town of Cochrane

Application No. 1608316

Proceeding ID No. 1823

May 15, 2011

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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) requesting approval for an amendment to Permit and Licence No. 2184 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- Splitting Line 11 into Lines 11 and 22.
- Removal of Line 22.
- Line 11 is to remain in place.
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 23 – 0.08 kilometres (km) of 114.3 millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipe).
- Removal and replacement of a regulating station.
- Length amendment of original Line 11 (split into Lines 11 and 22) from 0.82 km to 0.51 km.
- Mapping amendment of original Line 11.

(the project)

2. The application was registered as Application No. 1608316 on April 3, 2012.

3. ATCO stated that the Town of Cochrane requested that ATCO relocate approximately 480 metres (m) of the 60 mm high pressure pipeline located within LSD 1-3-26-4-W5M and LSD 8-3-26-4-W5M to allow for commercial development. The Town of Cochrane also requested that ATCO relocate their existing regulating station currently located in LSD 8-3-26-4-W5M.

4. ATCO submitted a noise impact assessment for the proposed replacement regulating station.¹ The Appendix 3 - Noise Impact Assessment Summary Form and noise impact assessment stated that the most impacted dwelling was 450 m south of the proposed facility. The permissible sound level for the dwelling is 43 dBA Leq nighttime and 53 dBA Leq daytime. The overall predicted noise level (including the assumed ambient sound level) is 38 dBA Leq nighttime and 48 dBA Leq daytime, which are below the daytime and nighttime permissible sound levels. The Appendix 3 - Noise Impact Assessment Summary Form and supplementary noise impact assessment for the Cochrane M200 Gate Station are considered complete and fulfill the requirements of AUC Rule 12: *Noise Control* (AUC Rule 012).

¹ Exhibit No. 0005.00.ATCO-1823.

5. ATCO stated that it would reclaim their facilities in accordance with the *Alberta Environmental Protection & Enhancement Act* and its associated regulations. There is no known contamination along the existing pipeline right-of-way from ATCO's operations. The existing regulator site is an ATCO Gas facility and ATCO Gas must comply with *Alberta Environmental Protection & Enhancement Act* and its associated regulations. Any liquids during the removal process would be captured and properly disposed of.

6. ATCO confirmed that during its consultation, they informed potentially affected persons of the visual impact of the proposed replacement gate station and provided a description of the gate station along with a description of the equipment in the gate station.² No concerns or objections have been expressed.

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

10. The Commission finds that information in the application submitted by ATCO fulfills the requirements of AUC Rule 012.

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 project is necessary to accommodate the commercial development plans of the Town of Cochrane.

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. 2184 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. 2184 - May 15, 2012 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

² Exhibit No. 0011.00.ATCO-1823.

Dated on May 15, 2012.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Neil Jamieson
Commission Member