

DA2013-143

June 14, 2013

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

Attention: Jo-Anne Van Sickle
Pipelines Engineering Clerk

Pipeline Split and Removal
Permit and Licence No. 20954
Application No. 1609614
Proceeding ID No. 2624

Minor pipeline project application

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1609614, registered on May 27, 2013, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following in the city of Edmonton:

- Splitting Line 5 into Lines 5, 14 and 15.
- Splitting Line 13 into Lines 13 and 16.
- Removal of Lines 13 and 14.
- Lines 15 and 16 will be abandoned under a subsequent application.
- Line 5 will remain in operation.

The proposed work is related to minor pipeline splits and removals within the original right-of-way previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Permit and Licence No. 20954.

ATCO proposed to remove two small segments of pipeline, Lines 13 and 14, totaling approximately 70 metres and to abandon in place approximately 440 metres of the 323.9 millimetre outside diameter pipeline (Lines 15 and 16) between 15-29-52-24-W4M and 02-32-52-24-W4M, in the city of Edmonton, under a subsequent application.

The cost for this removal and abandonment would be covered by ATCO due to contractual obligations with the exception of the excavation on the north side of the river, which would be completed at the City of Edmonton's cost.

ATCO stated that this removal and abandonment is required by the City of Edmonton in order to accommodate the construction of the new Walterdale Bridge across the North Saskatchewan River.

ATCO stated that, on the north side of the river, it would remove approximately 50 metres of pipeline, Line 13, from where it runs from the footings of the old bridge and would conflict with the construction of the footings for the new bridge. The segment of pipeline that would be abandoned in place, Line 16, would be purged with air and capped underground.

ATCO stated that on the south side of the river, it would remove approximately 20 metres of the pipeline, Line 14, at the base of Walterdale Hill Road where it conflicts with the installation of future utilities infrastructure for the City of Edmonton. The approximately 200 metre long segment of pipeline in between this removal and the south side of the old Walterdale Bridge, Line 15, would be filled with grout and abandoned in place¹.

ATCO stated that Turtle Island Cultural Resource Management completed a historical resource impact assessment for ATCO's proposed excavation work. The historical resource impact assessment was submitted to Alberta Culture for approval, and *Historical Resources Act* clearance was received on May 24, 2013. The City of Edmonton's contractor would be completing all of the excavation on the north side of the river. The City of Edmonton obtained the *Historical Resources Act* clearance for this proposed excavation work on January 25, 2013. Once the pipeline has been exposed, ATCO would cut the pipeline, cap the section of pipeline that will remain in place and remove the remaining pipeline segment. Any liquids contained within the pipe, if present, would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. There are no watercourse crossings that would be affected by the pipeline removal/abandonment activities.

ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 20: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*. Confirmation of Non-Objection by directly and/or adversely affected landowners and occupants was obtained by ATCO on May 16, 2013. No customers will be affected by the completion of this project.

ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves no significant ground disturbance and is within the original right-of-way, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed, with no significant impact identified. ATCO received no objections from landowners or occupants of the affected lands.

Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person other than the landowners and occupants 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.

The Commission approves the application. The amended permit and licence is attached.



Brian Shand, P. Eng.
Director, Gas Facilities
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission
Attachment

¹ DA2012-355 ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) – Pipeline Split and Removal to Accommodate City of Edmonton Bridge Removal Project, Permit and Licence No. 20954, Application No. 1609014, Proceeding ID No. 2259, November 26, 2012.