



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Record Correction

March 2, 2011



The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2011-077: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Record Correction

Application No. 1606910

Proceeding ID No. 1034

March 2, 2011

Published by

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Fifth Avenue Place, Fourth Floor, 425 First Street S.W.

Calgary, Alberta

T2P 3L8

Telephone: 403-592-8845

Fax: 403-592-4406

Website: www.auc.ab.ca

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. 2354 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for

- the removal of installation No. 3 from the pipeline licence, and
- correction of the driver power source for installation No. 3

(the proposed amendment).

2. The application was registered on January 7, 2011 as Application No. 1606910.

3. ATCO stated that in 1973, ATCO Pipelines, a division of ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (ATCO Pipelines), then known as Canadian Western Natural Gas completed the installation of a natural gas compressor station which included a compressor skid housed in a metal building on a concrete foundation. Related assets included waste oil and liquids tanks (underground), yard piping (above and below ground) and a filter separator. The site (purchased by ATCO Pipelines in fee simple) is shared with an ATCO Pipelines receipt/meter station.

4. ATCO stated that in 2004, ATCO Pipelines determined that the compressor station was no longer required. The compressor (compressor package and building) was subsequently sold to Petrofund Corporation, which removed the assets in the fall of 2005. ATCO Pipelines retained ownership of the site as it was still needed for an existing ATCO Pipelines receipt/meter station.

5. The Commission asked ATCO to describe its policy and standard practice in regard to contaminant assessment and site remediation when modifying or decommissioning compressor sites. In response to this information request, ATCO stated that once it has been determined that a facility is no longer needed, it is ATCO policy to obtain a reclamation certificate. Further, ATCO's "Site Reclamation and Remediation" work instruction (WI406) describes its standard practice with respect to establishment of reclamation criteria and the reclamation certification process for abandoning non-utilized sites. WI406 includes detailed instruction and responsibilities to ensure compliance with all regulatory requirements.

6. The Commission also asked ATCO to confirm that an environmental assessment was conducted prior to the facilities decommissioning. In response to this information request, ATCO stated that it will retain ownership of this site (fee simple) as it is still needed for the operation of an existing ATCO meter station. ATCO contracted Matrix Solution Inc. (Matrix) to direct the assessment and remediation of the subsoil on the compressor-related portion of this shared site. Matrix was onsite during removal of the assets (compressor foundation, underground tanks, and separator) to identify, evaluate and supervise the excavation of any affected soil. ATCO provided

a report that shows that soil assessment and site remediation were conducted on that site and that no environmental impacts remain.

7. In response to another information request, ATCO stated that if ATCO identifies a requirement for site abandonment/reclamation in the future, work will be conducted in accordance with applicable regulatory guidelines/requirements as described in their “Site Reclamation & Remediation” work instruction (WI406).

8. ATCO stated that it has not received any public inquiries or complaints since the assets were sold and removed in 2005 and has requested that the Commission waive the participation involvement program requirements listed in AUC Rule 20: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

2 Findings

9. The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that no residual environmental concerns remain since the removal of the compressor station and other equipment (compressor foundation, underground tank and separator).

10. Since the compressor and related assets were removed in 2005 and ATCO has not received any public inquiries or complaints, the Commission hereby waives the participation involvement requirements listed in AUC Rule 20: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

11. Based on the foregoing, the Commission considers the proposed amendment 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. 2354 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Record Correction – Permit and Licence No. 2354 – March 2, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 2, 2011.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Anne Michaud
Commission Member