

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

Pipeline Split, Removal, New Construction and Mapping Amendment

**Calgary International Airport** 

March 11, 2011

### The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2011-094: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
Pipeline Split, Removal, New Construction and Mapping Amendment
Calgary International Airport
Application No. 1607043
Proceeding ID No. 1095

March 11, 2011

# Published by

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Calgary, Alberta

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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. 5895, pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, for the following:
  - splitting Line 84 into Lines 84 and 150
  - removal of Line 84
  - addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 151 4.93 kilometres (km) of 219.1 millimetre OD Pipe)
  - mapping amendment of Line 84
  - line 150 to remain in place

(the project).

- 2. The application was registered on February 22, 2011, as Application No. 1607043. This application was amended on March 9, 2011.
- 3. ATCO stated that the removal and replacement of the pipeline is required to accommodate the planned Calgary Airport Runway Expansion program. Due to the tight construction timelines associated with the Calgary Airport Runway Expansion program, the application for this relocation project has been broken up into two separate segments, Segment 1 and Segment 2. This application is for Segment 1 (16-16-25-29-W4M to 14-4-25-29-W4M) only. This segmentation would allow for the accommodation of the City of Calgary's planned extension of Airport Trail which impacts Segment 2, while advancing the construction of Segment 1. On March 8, 2011, ATCO filed the document stating that the City of Calgary had no objection to the installation of Segment 1. A subsequent application for the installation of Segment 2 will be made in the near future so that Segment 1 and Segment 2 can be connected and put into service before May 1, 2011.
- 4. In an amendment to the application filed on March 9, 2011, ATCO stated that all work would be completed within the boundaries of federally-owned land which is administered by the Calgary Airport Authority. ATCO stated that an environmental impact assessment was not completed for this relocation project because the regulations under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) do not require airport authorities or Transport Canada to conduct federal environmental assessments.

- 5. ATCO also stated that as per their land agreement with the Calgary Airport Authority, in the event of the airport's expansion, ATCO would be responsible for the cost of the relocation of pipeline.
- 6. ATCO stated that pipeline would be removed by excavating bell holes and pulling existing pipeline out in sections. Any liquids contained in the pipeline to be removed, would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. If necessary the pipeline would be excavated, removed and the resultant trench backfilled. Topsoil would be stripped and stockpiled for the Calgary Airport Authority at the Airport Authority's request.
- 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 related to this application.

## 2 Findings

- 8. The Commission notes that the City of Calgary has provided their non-objection to the installation of Segment 1. The Commission also considered ATCO's statement that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.
- 9. The Commission has taken into account ATCO's submission that all work will be completed within the boundaries of federally-owned land. The Commission is of the view that due to the location and scope of the project, the environmental impacts are minimal in nature.
- 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*. The Commission finds that the pipeline split, removal and new construction are necessary to accommodate the planned Calgary Airport Authority Runway Expansion program.
- 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. 5895 for the project and grants th ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Pipeline Split, Removal, New Construction and Mapping Amendment – Permit and Licence No. 5895 – March 11, 2011 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 11, 2011.

#### **The Alberta Utilities Commission**

(original signed by)

Kay Holgate Commission Member