



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

**Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction**

**Township 55, Range 22, west of the Fourth Meridian**

**April 20, 2011**

**The Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 2011-165: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split, Removal, and New Construction

Application No. 1607192

Proceeding ID No.1163

April 20, 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) seeking approval for an amendment to Permit and Licence 4861 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- Splitting Line 18 into Lines 18, 21 and 22
- Removal of Line 21
- Addition of a newly constructed pipeline (Line 23 – 0.08 km of 273.1 mm OD Pipe)
- Lines 18 and 22 to remain in place

(the project).

2. The application was registered on April 12, 2011 as Application No. 1607192.

3. ATCO stated that due to a leak on the 273millimetre (mm) pipeline located under the Canadian National Railway (CNR) tracks, a 50metre (m) long section of 219mm pipeline was installed within the existing casing in August 2010. At that time, the condition of the casing was unknown and in order to ensure that the replacement was successful, a smaller diameter pipe was used. This was a temporary replacement, as stated in the notification to the AUC in writing on August 13, 2010.

4. ATCO stated that after the temporary replacement was completed, the integrity of the existing 406mm casing was determined to be unfavorable to allow a permanent replacement within the casing across the CNR tracks.

5. ATCO proposed to proceed with a permanent replacement of the crossing and update the licence accordingly. A new 80m long, 273mm pipeline crossing of the CNR tracks would be completed via horizontal direction drill (HDD) within the existing right-of-way, paralleling the existing pipeline approximately 6m to the south. The temporary 50m long section of 219mm pipeline would be removed along with 15m of 273mm pipeline on either side (80m total) and the 406mm casing pipe would be capped, filled with grout and abandoned in place. Any liquids found within the pipeline section would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity.

6. ATCO also stated that approval from CNR for the new 273mm HDD crossing was received on December 9, 2010 and that construction would be started immediately upon receipt of approval from the AUC.

7. In its submission, ATCO stated that the requirements of the consultation and notification program were met and that there are no outstanding objections or concerns related to this application.

## **2 Findings**

8. The Commission considered ATCO's statement 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 the pipeline split, removal and new construction are necessary to replace a temporary pipeline crossing with a permanent pipeline crossing.

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 4861 for the project and grants the applicant the amended Permit and Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction – Permit and Licence No. 4861 – April 20, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on April 20, 2011.

### **The Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

Mark Kolesar  
Commission Member