

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

**Pipeline Split and Removal** 

Township 38, Range 28, west of the Fourth Meridian

June 22, 2011

# **The Alberta Utilities Commission**

Decision 2011-268: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) Pipeline Split and Removal Application No. 1607399 Proceeding ID No. 1288

June 22, 2011

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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

Calgary, Alberta

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) Pipeline Split and Removal

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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. 2595 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:
  - Splitting Line 25 into Lines 25 and 39.
  - Removal of Line 25.
  - Line 39 remains in place.

(the project).

- 2. The application was registered on June 10, 2011, as Application No. 1607399.
- 3. ATCO proposed to remove 80 metres of existing abandoned 168 millimetre pipeline. ATCO stated that the landowner has further plans for development of this parcel and existing land rights do not allow for the abandoned pipeline to remain in place. Therefore, the removal will be at cost to ATCO.
- 4. ATCO stated that the pipeline would be removed by excavating a catch pit and digging bell holes along the pipeline and that surface disturbances would be minimized. The pipeline would be cut and pulled into the catch pit. Any liquids contained in the pipeline to be removed would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity.
- 5. 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

- 6. 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*.
- 7. The Commission finds that the pipeline split and removal are necessary to accommodate the landowner's request to remove the pipeline.
- 8. The Commission notes in the ATCO submission, that the requirements of the consultation and notification program were met and that no outstanding objections or concerns remain related to this application.

9. 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

10. 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. 2595 for the project and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Pipeline Split and Removal – Permit and Licence No. 2595 – June 22, 2011 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on June 22, 2011.

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

(original signed by)

Neil Jamieson Commission Member