



AltaGas Utilities Inc.

New Construction

Township 43, Ranges 25 and 26, West of the Fourth Meridian

July 8, 2011

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2011-298: AltaGas Utilities Inc.

New Construction

Township 43, Ranges 25 and 26, West of the Fourth Meridian

Application No. 1607360

Proceeding ID No. 1263

July 8, 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

1 Introduction

1. AltaGas Utilities Inc. (AltaGas) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) seeking approval for an amendment to Permit and Licence No. 1055 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 106 – 0.08 kilometres (km) of 88.9 millimetres (mm) outside-diameter (OD) Pipe).
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 107 – 8.31 km of 97.0 mm OD Pipe).
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 108 – 0.10 km of 88.9 mm OD Pipe).
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 109 – 0.84 km of 97.0 mm OD Pipe).

(the project).

2. The application was registered on May 31, 2011, as Application No. 1607360.

3. AltaGas stated that the proposed pipeline is required to provide gas supply for industrial growth in the area.

4. AltaGas proposed to tie into their proposed purchase meter station at 03-22-43-25-W4. AltaGas further proposed to install an 88.9 mm steel gas pipeline across the railway and highway rights-of-way in SW 22-43-25 W4 and across another highway right-of-way in N 12-43-26-W4. For the remainder of the route, AltaGas would install 97 mm OD flexpipe and tie into their proposed regulating station at 16-11-43-26 W4.

5. AltaGas stated that the right-of-way boundaries would be surveyed according to the *Survey Act*. Construction of the pipeline would commence shortly after the AUC permit is received.

6. AltaGas submitted Appendix 3 – Noise Impact Assessment Summary Forms for the proposed regulating station and the proposed Purchase Meter Station. In its submission, AltaGas predicted that the noise level would be in compliance with AUC Rule 012: *Noise Control* (AUC Rule 012).

7. AltaGas stated that the proposed development is in an agricultural rural setting¹ surrounded by industrial sites. The proposed pipeline would also cross a low area that is subject to seasonal wet conditions. In this area, the pipeline would be installed using directional drilling

¹ Exhibit No. 10.00AUI-1263 Response to Information Request AUC-AUI-1(a)

to avoid surface disturbance in the area. AltaGas provided its design, construction and operating criteria wherein it described its plan to mitigate any environmental risk.²

8. AltaGas stated that during the consultation process, potentially affected parties were provided with pictures of meter and regulating stations³ similar to the proposed stations and were given a description of the equipment contained in the proposed purchase meter station and regulating station. In its submission, AltaGas stated that the requirements of the consultation and notification program were met and that no outstanding objections or concerns remained in regards to the application.

2 Findings

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. Due to the nature of the project, a notice of application was not issued and, therefore, a hearing was not required as the Commission considered that its decision or order would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

11. The Commission finds that the project is necessary to provide gas supply to new industrial gas customers in the area.

12. The Commission accepts Appendix 3 - Noise Impact Assessment Summary form and AltaGas' responses to information requests which indicated that the requirements of AUC Rule 012 will be fulfilled. In addition, the Commission finds that AltaGas' selected location for the pipeline and proposed construction techniques will mitigate the effects of the project on the environment.

13. The Commission notes AltaGas' submission that a participant involvement program was conducted and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

14. 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

15. 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. 1055 and grants AltaGas the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline - New Construction – Permit and Licence No. 1055 – July 8, 2011 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on July 8, 2011.

² Exhibit No. 10.00AUI-1263 response to Information Request AUC-AUI-1(b)

³ Exhibit No. 10.00AUI-1263 Response to Information Request AUC-AUI-2(a)

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Neil Jamieson
Commission Member