



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Removal

Township 25, Range 2, West of the Fifth Meridian

July 12, 2011

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2011-300: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Removal – Township 25, Range 2, West of the Fifth Meridian

Application No. 1607437

Proceeding ID No. 1308

July 12, 2011

Published by

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 No. 6353 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act*, Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* and the conditions set forth in Ministerial Consent MCC04-0033 for the removal of Line 2 (the project).

2. The application was registered on June 24, 2011, as Application No. 1607437.

3. ATCO stated that Alberta Transportation is currently constructing the Stoney Trail Ring Road and associated facilities at various locations throughout the Calgary Transportation/Utility Corridor (TUC). This pipeline removal project is necessary to accommodate a future storm sewer installation at the intersection of Stoney Trail and Crowchild Trail. As a result of Alberta Transportation's current project, the removal of approximately 100 metres of 42 millimetre outside diameter abandoned pipeline (Line 2) is necessary.

4. ATCO stated that it received notification from Stantec Consulting Ltd., consultant for Alberta Transportation, that a storm sewer installation contract would include the removal of Line 2 that crosses Crowchild Trail to allow construction of the storm sewer line in the median of the existing roadway. In addition, the removal of Line 2 would accommodate the City of Calgary's construction of the Light Rail Transit (LRT) which is also in the median at this location. Removal operations are proposed to commence upon receipt of approval from the AUC using Alberta Transportation's contractor under the direction of ATCO. The removal of the abandoned pipe is being conducted under Alberta Transportation's Ministerial Consent MCC04-0033.

5. ATCO stated that any liquids that may have been present in the pipeline were removed when the pipeline was originally abandoned several years ago.

6. In its submission, ATCO stated that the requirements of the consultation and notification program were met and that no outstanding objections or concerns remain in regard to the application.

2 Findings

7. The Commission considered ATCO's submission that a participant involvement program has been conducted and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

8. Due to the nature of the application, 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*.

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 removal is necessary to accommodate a future storm sewer installation at the intersection of Stoney Trail and Crowchild Trail.

11. The Commission notes that the removal of the abandoned pipe is being conducted under Alberta Transportation's Ministerial Consent MCC04-0033.

12. 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

13. Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act*, Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* and the conditions set forth in Ministerial Consent MCC04-0033, the Commission approves the amendment to Permit and Licence No. 6353 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Removal – Permit and Licence No. 6353 – July 12, 2011 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on July 12, 2011.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Anne Michaud
Commission Member