



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Abandonments

Township 78, Range 21, West of the Fifth Meridian

August 29, 2011

The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2011-357: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Abandonments – Township 78, Range 21, West of the Fifth Meridian

Application No. 1607605

Proceeding ID No. 1410

August 29, 2011

Published by

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. 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. 2725 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- Abandonment of Lines 7 and 9.

(the project).

2. The application was registered on August 22, 2011, as Application No. 1607605.

3. ATCO stated that the project is a part of the replacement of an exposed pipeline within a canal. The replacement of the pipeline beneath the canal was completed through the use of horizontal directional drilling. The exposed portion was removed at the time of the replacement. The remaining unexposed portion of the existing pipeline was abandoned as per this application.

4. 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 regards to this application.

5. In its submission, ATCO also stated that the pipeline was abandoned in accordance with AUC requirements, all associated surface facilities would be removed and the surface site would be reclaimed within one year.

2 Findings

6. 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.

7. 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*.

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 finds that the project is a necessary part of the replacement of the exposed pipeline in a canal.

10. The Commission also notes ATCO's submission that the pipeline was abandoned in accordance with AUC requirements, all associated surface facilities would be removed and the surface site would be reclaimed within one year.

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. 2725 and grants ATCO the amended permit and licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Abandonments – Permit and Licence No. 2725 – August 29, 2011 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on August 29, 2011.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Tudor Beattie, QC
Commission Member