

**DA 2011-70**

September 26, 2011

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)  
7210 – 42 Street N.W.  
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3H1Attention: Jo-Anne Van Sickle  
Pipelines Engineering Clerk**Amendment to Meet Minimum Depth of Cover Code Requirements  
Permit and Licence No. 18185 – September 26, 2011 Amendment  
Application No. 1607676  
Proceeding ID No. 1451****Minor pipeline project application**

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1607676 registered on September 19, 2011, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following in Township 71, Range 5, west of the Sixth Meridian:

- Splitting Line 3 into Lines 3, 21 and 22.
- Removal of Line 21.
- Addition of a newly constructed pipeline (Line 23 - 0.15 kilometres (km) of 88.9-millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipe).
- Environmental Code correction of original Line 3.

(the project)

The project is related to a minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, within the original right-of way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Permit and Licence No. 18185.

ATCO stated that the purpose of the proposed construction is to lower the existing pipeline further beneath a Bear River tributary so that the crossing meets the minimum depth of cover as per code requirements. The new pipeline segment would be installed using a horizontal directional drill to minimize the impact of the watercourse crossing.

ATCO also stated that the old pipe would be removed by excavating "bell holes" and pulling the pipe out in sections. Any liquids contained in the pipe to be removed, would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. If necessary, the pipeline would be excavated and removed, and the resultant trench backfilled.

The Commission notes that ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the minor pipeline project. Since the minor pipeline project involves no significant ground disturbance, and is within the original right-of-way, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified. The Commission notes that the owner of the affected lands did not object to the project.

Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person other than the owner of the land upon which the pipeline project takes place will likely be directly affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed pipeline project.

The Commission approves the application. The amended permit and licence is attached.



Wade Vienneau  
Executive Director, Facilities Division

On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachment