



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Application for Removal of a Pipeline Installation

March 30, 2010



ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-134: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

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Application No. 1605723

Proceeding ID. 429

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Fifth Avenue Place, 4th Floor, 425 - 1 Street SW

Calgary, Alberta

T2P 3L8

Telephone: (403) 592-8845

Fax: (403) 592-4406

Web site: www.auc.ab.ca

**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
APPLICATION FOR REMOVAL
OF A PIPELINE INSTALLATION**

**Decision 2010-134
Application No. 1605723
Proceeding ID. 429**

1 INTRODUCTION

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (Applicant) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) seeking approval for an amendment to Permit/Licence No. 788 for the following:

- Removal of Installation No. 1 including an empty compressor building, concrete foundation, isolated piping, pipe supports and fencing (Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on December 15, 2009 as Application 1605723 (Application).

3. Installation No. 1 is located at LSD 05-24-53-05-W5M near Fallis, Alberta (Site), and was formerly the location of an operating compressor station.

4. Installation No. 1 was acquired by the Applicant in 1995 as part of a pipeline system purchase. A compressor originally installed on the Site was decommissioned and removed in the 1970's by the previous owner.

5. The Applicant stated that the amendment is necessary because the facility is no longer required for the operation of its pipeline system.

6. The Applicant requested approval to undertake work associated with removal of the remaining above-ground assets from this location. The Applicant also noted that a small fenced area would continue to exist at the Site to enclose the above-ground valve on the existing pipeline within the existing right-of-way.

7. The Applicant also filed information with the Commission indicating that environmental assessments have been conducted, including assessments to identify materials which may be hazardous and soils to be removed from the Site which may contain contamination at the Site. The Applicant also indicated that a reclamation work plan has been identified, and that the Applicant intends to reclaim the Site through the reclamation certificate process administered by Alberta Environment and according to Alberta Environment's *Upstream Oil and Gas Reclamation Certificate Application Guidelines*. The Applicant further noted that an application for a Reclamation Certificate requires successful completion of environmental site assessments, site remediation and reclamation, and a final site confirmatory inspection program.

8. The Applicant submitted that landowners within 1.5 kilometres were consulted and that no objections were received.

3 DISCUSSION

9. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in *AUC Rule 020*. The Commission notes that a participant involvement program has been conducted by the Applicant and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

10. Since no parties objected to the Application and the Project is necessary because the facility is not required for the operation of the Applicant's pipeline system, the Commission considers the Project to be in the public interest.

4 DECISION

11. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Pipeline Act*, section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, and *AUC Rule 020* of the Commission Rules, the Commission approves the Application for an amendment to Permit/Licence No. 788 and grants the Applicant the amended Permit/Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline: Pipeline Installation Removal – Permit/Licence No. 788 – March 30, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 30, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

N. Allen Maydonik, Q.C.
Commissioner