



AltaGas Ltd.

Temporary Pouce Coupe Power Plant

July 5, 2010



ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-311: AltaGas Ltd.

Temporary Pouce Coupe Power Plant

Application No. 1606267

Proceeding ID. 679

July 5, 2010

Published by

Alberta Utilities Commission

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

**ALTAGAS LTD.
TEMPORARY POUCE COUPE POWER PLANT**

**Decision 2010-311
Application No. 1606267
Proceeding ID. 679**

1 INTRODUCTION

1. AltaGas Ltd. (AltaGas) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) to construct and operate a temporary Pouce Coupe Power Plant (Power Plant). The application was registered on June 7, 2010 as Application No. 1606267 (Application).
2. AltaGas proposed to install and operate a 1.25-MW temporary natural-gas fired power plant. The application was filed pursuant to section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*. The Power Plant would be located within the Pouce Coupe Sour Gas Processing Plant located at LSD 3 of Section 3, Township 81, Range 13, West of the 6th Meridian. AltaGas contracted with Finning International Inc. to provide the temporary electric generation at the site.
3. The Power Plant is required until permanent electric service is installed by ATCO Electric Ltd. which is expected by October 31, 2010. The Power Plant would not be connected to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System or to the facilities of a Distribution Facility Owner.
4. The Power Plant would be located completely within the Pouce Coupe Sour Gas Processing Plant. Surrounding land use is generally used for agriculture. AltaGas conducted a participant involvement program in accordance with the *AUC Rule 007*, which included consultation with government authorities, agencies landowners and local residents. There were no issues raised relating to power generation. No concerns have been expressed regarding the AltaGas proposal to install a temporary power plant at the gas plant site.
5. A development permit from Saddle Hills County was issued for the entire Pouce Coupe Sour Gas Processing Plant expansion and service utilities.
6. A Noise Impact Assessment dated May 26, 2010, was submitted in support of the application. The Permissible Sound Level at the nearest residence located at 850 metres southwest of the facility was determined at 40 dBA Leq nighttime. To ensure compliance with *AUC Rule 012*, AltaGas committed to implementing noise control measures including a commitment to operate the facility with all doors and windows closed during the nighttime period, operate the VFD cooling fans at 70 per cent fan speed or less during the nighttime period, and replace two exhaust silencers. With the installation of the noise control measures, the predicted noise level at the nearest residence would be less than 40 dBA Leq and would satisfy the requirements of *AUC Rule 012 – Noise Control*.

2 COMMISSION FINDINGS

7. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements of *AUC Rule 007* for a power plant.
8. In particular, the Commission notes that a participant involvement program has been conducted and finds that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns. The Commission also notes that the temporary power plant would be located within the Pouce Coupe Sour Gas Processing Plant, a disturbed site.
9. The Commission finds that there are no outstanding technical, location, noise, or environmental concerns associated with construction and operation of the Power Plant and that the proposed Power Plant meets the requirements of *AUC Rule 012 – Noise Control*.
10. Based on the above, the Commission finds the proposed Power Plant is in the public interest because it will provide temporary power with minimal impacts until the permanent electric facilities are built.

3 DECISION

11. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the Application and grants AltaGas the approval set out in Appendix 1 –Power Plant – Approval No. U2010-262 – July 5, 2010 (the Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on July 5, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Thomas McGee
Commissioner