



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

New Construction

Addition to Allow Conversion of Service to
the New Southern Extension Pipeline

July 8, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-324: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Addition to Allow Conversion of Service to the New Southern Extension Pipeline

Application No. 1606328

Proceeding ID. 709

July 8, 2010

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**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
NEW CONSTRUCTION
ADDITION TO ALLOW CONVERSION
OF SERVICE TO THE NEW
SOUTHERN EXTENSION PIPELINE**

**Decision 2010-324
Application No. 1606328
Proceeding ID. 709**

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 addition to Permit/Licence 2526 for the following:

- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 109 – 1.77 km of 168.3 mm OD pipe);
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 110 – 0.23 km of 168.3 mm OD pipe); and
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 111 – 0.03 km of 60.3 mm OD pipe)

(Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on June 30, 2010 as Application 1606328 (Application).

3. This project is required to allow for the conversion of service to the new Southern Extension Pipeline and future abandonment of the vintage Southern Extension Pipeline. The proposed 168 mm pipeline will tie in to the new Southern Extension Pipeline and connect to the existing Ponoka Gate 2, originally installed in 1965, that supplies customers in the town of the Ponoka. The proposed 60 mm pipeline will tie in to an existing lateral that supplies other customers. The new pipelines must be installed and tied in to prevent loss of customers when the existing, vintage Southern Extension Pipeline is decommissioned and abandoned.

4. The Application states that a participant involvement program has been conducted by the Applicant and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

5. ATCO Pipelines proposes to install a new above-ground valve assembly for the 168 mm lateral from the new 219 mm Southern Extension Transmission (Licence 2526). ATCO Pipelines has notified affected landowners of the above-ground valve assembly, received letters of non-objection from the landowners, and obtained the necessary surface lease for the valve assembly.

6. ATCO Pipelines has also completed consultation with the local municipalities including the Town and County of Ponoka. The proposed pipeline alignments were determined through consultation with the stakeholders as well as the affected landowners.

7. Traditional Land Use Consultation meetings with the four First Nations in the Hobbema area were held in October and November of 2009. Letters of support were received from Samson Cree Nation on January 19, 2010, Montana First Nation on December 15, 2009, Louis Bull Tribe on December 14, 2009, and Ermineskin Cree Nation on November 18, 2009.

3 DISCUSSION

8. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in *AUC Rule 020*.

9. Since no parties objected to the Application and the Project is necessary to allow conversion of service to the new Southern Extension Pipeline, the Commission considers the Project to be in the public interest.

4 DECISION

10. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, the Commission approves the addition to Permit/Licence 2526 for the Project and grants the Applicant the amended Permit/Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – New Construction – Permit/Licence No. 2526 – July 8, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on July 8, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Thomas McGee
Commissioner