



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Abandonment and Mapping Correction

Amendment to Accommodate the
Service Under a Canal

August 20, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-410: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
Amendment to Accommodate the Service Under a Canal
Application No. 1606463
Proceeding ID. 781

August 20, 2010

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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

**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
PIPELINE ABANDONMENT AND MAPPING CORRECTION
AMENDMENT TO ACCOMMODATE THE
SERVICE UNDER A CANAL**

**Decision 2010-410
Application No. 1606463
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1 INTRODUCTION

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) seeking approval for an amendment to Permit/Licence 10844 for the following:

- Abandonment of Line No. 6; and
- Mapping Correction of Line No. 8

(Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on August 18, 2010, as Application 1606463 (Application).

3. ATCO stated that the amendment was necessary to accommodate the rehabilitation of a canal located in 22-22-26-W4M to 12-23-26-W4M that the Western Irrigation District (WID) recently completed. The ATCO Pipelines Carseland branch crosses the canal at 14-26-22-26-W4M. At that location, the depth of the pipeline was insufficient across the canal to retain adequate cover after rehabilitation and, therefore, needed to be lowered at the same location or relocated elsewhere in the vicinity at a lower depth. Decision 2009-131¹ permitted a replacement of the crossing in a new location. ATCO advised that their standard is to remove any shallow pipelines. However, WID advised ATCO that the removal of the pipeline could create a void in the canal bed that could cause a loss of service to their customers. In view of the risk of service loss, ATCO stated that their decision was to abandon the pipeline in place rather than to remove it.

4. ATCO stated that a participant involvement program was conducted by ATCO and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

¹ Decision 2009-131: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South), Amendment/addition due to insufficient cover on the pipeline across a Western Irrigation District Canal (Application No. 1605416) (Released September 15, 2009)

3 DISCUSSION

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

6. Since the Project is necessary to accommodate rehabilitation of a canal, the Commission considers the Project to be in the public interest.

4 DECISION

7. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, the Commission approves the amendment to Permit/Licence 10844 for the Project and grants ATCO the amended Permit/Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Abandonment and Mapping Correction – Permit/Licence No. 10844 – August 20, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on August 20, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Thomas McGee
Commissioner