



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split, Removal, and Record Correction

**Amendment to Remove an Exposed Section
of Pipeline and Correct the Record**

September 3, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-433: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

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Amendment to Remove an Exposed Section of Pipeline and Correct the Record

Application No. 1606510

Proceeding ID. 805

September 3, 2010

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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)
PIPELINE SPLIT, REMOVAL, AND RECORD CORRECTION
AMENDMENT TO REMOVE AN EXPOSED SECTION
OF PIPELINE AND CORRECT THE RECORD**

**Decision 2010-433
Application No. 1606510
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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 1950 for the following:

- Split Line 80 into Lines 80, 119, and 120;
- Length Correction of Line 80;
- Mapping Correction of Line 80; and
- Removal of Line 119

(Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on August 30, 2010, as Application 1606510 (Application).

3. ATCO stated that in 1980 this portion (NE 21-24-09-W5M) of the Banff Pipeline was abandoned to accommodate the realignment of Highway 1A. A new pipeline was put in place during the highway construction. A portion of the abandoned pipeline is exposed along a ledge parallel to Highway 1A and the CP railway tracks. At the time of abandonment, the line was purged with air and abandoned in place.

4. ATCO proposed to remove the exposed section of abandoned 168 mm pipeline for safety reasons and to comply with pipeline Regulations. Approximately 160 metres of pipe will be removed.

5. ATCO stated that the removal operations are to be completed upon receipt of approval from the AUC and that approval has been received from CP Railway for the removal. The removal cost will be assumed by ATCO Pipelines.

6. ATCO proposed to remove the pipe by excavating a catch pit and digging bell holes along the pipeline. The pipeline will be cut and pulled into the catch pit. The removal procedure will minimize surface disturbance. Any liquids contained in the pipe to be removed will be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. All disturbed areas will be reclaimed to the condition they were in before the removals took place.

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

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 remove an exposed section of pipeline and correct the record, 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 amendment to Permit/Licence 1950 for the Project and grants ATCO the amended Permit/Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Split, Removal, and Record Correction – Permit/Licence No. 1950 – September 3, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on September 3, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Thomas McGee
Commissioner