



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

**Pipeline Splits, Removals, New Construction, and
Record Correction**

**Amendment/Addition to Accommodate the Removal and
Replacement of an Exposed Pipeline in a Canal in
Township 78, Ranges 20, 21, and 22, West of the 5th Meridian**

October 25, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-503: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
Amendment/Addition to Accommodate the Removal and
Replacement of an Exposed Pipeline in a Canal
Application No. 1606642
Proceeding ID. 878

October 25, 2010

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**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
PIPELINE SPLITS, REMOVALS, NEW CONSTRUCTION,
AND RECORD CORRECTION
AMENDMENT/ADDITION TO ACCOMMODATE THE
REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF AN
EXPOSED PIPELINE IN A CANAL**

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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 2725 and Permit/Licence 4254 for the following:

Pertaining to Permit and Licence 2725:

- Split Line 6 into Lines 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10;
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 11 – 0.34 km of 114.3 mm OD pipe)
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 12 – 0.27 km of 60.3 mm OD pipe)
- Removal of Line 8 and Line 10; and
- Lines 6, 7, and 9 to remain in place;

Pertaining to Permit and Licence 4254:

- Split Line 1 into Lines 1 and 7;
- ‘From’ LSD Correction of Line 1;
- Removal of Line 1; and
- Line 7 to remain in place;

(Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on October 7, 2010, as Application 1606642 (Application).

3. ATCO stated that the 114 mm OD Worsley McLennan Pipeline is exposed in a canal located near the Town of Falher. The pipeline exposure would be corrected by relocating the pipeline. The block valve located near the existing canal crossing would also be relocated. The 60 mm OD lateral which feeds the Town of Falher from the 114 mm OD Worsley McLennan Pipeline would also be relocated to maintain gas supply to the Town of Falher.

4. ATCO stated that Line 8 of Licence 2725 would be removed at the request of the landowner in securing a new right-of-way for the new pipeline proposed for construction on the landowner's land. In addition, an encroachment also exists over ATCO's existing right-of-way. Line 8 would be removed from under the landowner's building to eliminate a safety concern.
5. North of the canal, removal of Line 10 of Licence 2725 is at the request of the landowner as it currently lies under the landowner's porch and it would obstruct the landowner's proposed development of the land. The remainder of Line 10 would be removed at the canal because it is exposed in the canal and is considered a safety risk.
6. ATCO stated that Line 1 of Licence 4254 would be removed because it is in close proximity to the canal bank and at risk of being exposed due to erosion and causing a safety concern in the future.
7. ATCO stated that the majority of the Project would be replacement of the canal crossings, which would be installed by trenchless methods to minimize disturbance. No drilling fluid would be used to install the pipelines due to the small pipe diameter. For the small part of the Project where the pipeline is to be installed using a trench, topsoil would be stripped and stockpiled. The pipeline would be removed by excavating bell holes and pulling the existing pipeline out in sections. If necessary, the pipeline would be excavated, removed and the resultant trench backfilled.
8. ATCO stated that any liquids contained in the pipe to be removed would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity and that all disturbed areas would be reclaimed to the condition that they were in before the removal took place.
9. ATCO stated that a Participant Involvement Program has been conducted and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

3 DISCUSSION

10. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in *AUC Rule 020*.
11. Since no parties objected to the Application and the Project is necessary to accommodate the removal and replacement of an exposed pipeline in a canal, the Commission considers the Project to be in the public interest.

4 DECISION

12. 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 2725 and Permit/Licence 4254 for the Project and grants ATCO the amended Permits/Licences as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline - Pipeline Split, Removals, and New Construction – Permit/Licence No. 2725 – October 25, 2010, and Appendix 2 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Split, Removal, and Record Correction – Permit/Licence No. 4254 – October 25, 2010 (Appendices 1 and 2 will be distributed separately).

Dated on October 25, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Tudor Beattie, Q.C.
Commissioner