



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Approval to Allow Hydrostatic Testing of a Pipeline
Crossing Vermillion River with Water-Methanol Mix in
Township 49, Range 15, West of the 4th Meridian

November 23, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-546: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

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Crossing Vermillion River with Water-Methanol Mix

Application No. 1606761

Proceeding ID. 946

November 23, 2010

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**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
APPROVAL TO ALLOW THE HYDROSTATIC TESTING
OF A PIPELINE CROSSING VERMILLION RIVER WITH
WATER-METHANOL MIX**

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1 INTRODUCTION

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO) is the holder of Pipeline License 9416 issued on April 8, 2010, which approved the construction and operation of a gas utility pipeline from 13-04-049-15 W4M to 16-05-049-15 W4M. ATCO filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) under section 35(2) of the *Pipeline Regulation* pursuant to the *Pipeline Act*. ATCO requested approval to conduct a hydrostatic test of the 406.4 mm OD pipeline portion under the Vermillion River with a 60/40 water-methanol mix as the test medium.

2. The application was registered on November 22, 2010, as Application 1606761 (Application). The reason for the request to use a 60/40 water-methanol mix is that the hydrostatic test is required to be performed during cold ambient temperatures.

3. ATCO submitted descriptions of the proposed test medium, the proposed containment methods, including control points and available equipment in the event of a spill, and the time expected to be required to initiate containment procedures as required by section 35(2) of the *Pipeline Regulation*. ATCO also stated that an environmental inspector would be on site for the duration of the hydrostatic test.

2 DISCUSSION

4. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in *AUC Rule 020*. Since a hydrostatic test with a water-methanol mix is necessary to prevent freezing of the medium, the Commission considers the Application to be in the public interest.

3 DECISION

5. The Commission approves the use of a 60/40 water-methanol mix for the hydrostatic test of the 406.4 mm OD pipeline crossing Vermillion River, according to section 35 of the *Pipeline Regulation* made pursuant to the *Pipeline Act*.

Dated on November 23, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Mark Kolesar
Commissioner