

August 11, 2017

Decision 22848-D01-2017

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
7210 – 42 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alta. T6B 3H1

Attention: Amy Boettger, P. Eng.
Project Engineer, Operations Engineering

**Nisku Transmission Pipeline Removal and Replacement
Licence 2045
Proceeding 22848
Application 22848-A001**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application 22848-A001 registered on August 1, 2017, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following near the Edmonton International Airport:

- splitting line 17 into lines 17 and 19
- removal of line 19
- splitting line 2 into lines 2 and 20
- removal of line 2
- lines 17 and 20 are to remain in operation
- addition of a newly constructed pipeline (line 21 – 1.1 kilometres of 114.3-millimetre outside-diameter pipeline)

2. The proposed work is related to the minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 2045.

3. ATCO stated that the project is required in order to accommodate development near the Edmonton International Airport. A 600-metre long section of the 114.3-millimetre Nisku Transmission Pipeline, line 19, and a 400-metre long section of the 88.9-millimetre Nisku Transmission Pipeline, line 2, would be removed and replaced with a 1,100-metre long section of 114.3-millimetre pipeline in a new right-of-way.

4. ATCO stated that the total cost of the project was estimated to be \$1,000,000. The developer would be responsible for 100 per cent of the project costs. The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that this project meets the criteria for an abbreviated need project, as per Table 3.1 in Section 3.3 of Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, since it is an ATCO third party reimbursed replacement project where the project costs are forecast at less than

\$2,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.

5. ATCO stated that the project does not require a historical resources impact assessment since the proposed work area is not referenced in the latest edition of Alberta Culture and Tourism's listing of historic resources.

6. ATCO provided an environmental protection plan for the project and stated that it would implement all of the recommendations included in that plan.

7. The pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The topsoil would be stripped and stored, and all surface disturbances would be backfilled before the topsoil is returned. No watercourse crossings would be affected by the installation or removal activities. After lines 2 and 19 are removed, ATCO would restore the right-of-way to satisfy the developer's requirements. ATCO would obtain a reclamation certificate as required by the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* prior to discharging the right-of-way.

8. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020 and that it has obtained confirmation of non-objection from the landowners and occupants directly and adversely affected by this project. Construction of this project is planned for August and September of 2017.

9. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves moderate ground disturbance in a previously disturbed area, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified. The landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the project.

10. Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person other than the landowners and occupants of the land upon which the project takes place will likely be directly affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed project.

11. The Commission approves the application. In approving the application, however, the Commission makes no determination regarding the regulatory treatment of the costs of the assets to be removed, retired or abandoned pursuant to the application, the costs incurred in carrying out these activities, or the associated rate implications. The amended licence is attached.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Brian Shand, P. Eng.
Director, Gas Facilities
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachment