Decision 23004-D01-2017



October 20, 2017

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

Attention: Mike Mayner, P.Eng. Senior Engineer, Pipelines Engineering

Removal of Sections of the North Edmonton Loop Pipeline Licence 2594 Proceeding 23004 Application 23004-A001

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (ATCO), by Application 23004-A001 registered on October 6, 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 in the city of Edmonton:

- splitting of previously abandoned line 284 into lines 284, 320 and 321
- removal of lines 284 and 321
- line 320 is to remain abandoned in place

2. The proposed work is related to the minor split and removal of a previously abandoned pipeline, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 2594.

3. ATCO proposed to remove 47 metres of the abandoned 323.9-millimetre North Edmonton Loop Pipeline, lines 284 and 321, to accommodate a request from the City of Edmonton to remove sections of pipeline that are in conflict with a land development project planned by the City of Edmonton. The proposed removal is on private land owned by the City of Edmonton. The total project cost is estimated at \$40,000. ATCO would be responsible for 100 per cent of the project costs due to existing agreements with the City of Edmonton.

4. ATCO stated that this 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. There are no watercourse crossings that would be affected by the removal activities. ATCO stated that during construction it would comply with the requirements of the *Guide for Pipelines* pursuant to the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations (Alberta Environment, 1994)* and industry best practices. The pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be captured and properly disposed of.

5. ATCO stated that the consultation with landowners and occupants for this work was completed in accordance with Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* and indicated that the landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the project. Construction of this project is planned for the first quarter of 2018.

6. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves limited ground disturbance and is within the original right-of-way, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified.

7. The Commission accepts ATCO's submission that the need for the project has arisen from a request from the City of Edmonton to accommodate the land development project and that the full cost of the project will be borne by ATCO.

8. 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.

9. 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