

March 22, 2018

**Decision 23409-D01-2018**

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

Attention: Dobry Mihov, P. Eng.  
Senior Project Engineer, UPR Conversions

**Removal of Sections of the Chestermere Lake Lateral Pipeline  
Licence 9530  
Proceeding 23409  
Application 23409-A001**

**Minor pipeline project application**

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (ATCO), by Application 23409-A001 registered on March 14, 2018, 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 within the city of Calgary and the Calgary transportation utility corridor:

- splitting line 8 into lines 8, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17
- splitting line 11 into lines 11 and 18
- removal of lines 8, 10, 11, 14 and 16
- lines 13 and 15 are to be abandoned in place and then recorded as abandoned under a subsequent application

2. The proposed work is related to the minor splits and removals of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 9530.

3. ATCO stated that the pipeline sections listed above were identified in its Urban Pipeline Replacement Program as lines to be removed from high-pressure service. On January 17, 2014, the Commission approved the need for the Urban Pipeline Replacement Program in Decision 2014-010.<sup>1</sup> As part of the overall urban pipeline replacement hydraulic assessment completed in co-ordination with ATCO Gas, it was determined that these pipeline segments would be abandoned in place. The line splits within this application are required in order to accommodate the removals as well as for upcoming abandonments, which would be submitted after construction has been completed.

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 2014-010: ATCO Pipelines, a division of ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. – Urban Pipeline Replacement Project, Proceeding 1995, Application 1608617, January 17, 2014. Errata issued on February 21, 2014.

4. ATCO also stated that as part of the Peigan Trail pipeline installation and the acquisition of the Peigan Trail Gate Station site from the City of Calgary, the city requested it to remove several pipeline segments within city owned property located at the southeast quarter of Section 35, Township 23, Range 29, west of the Fourth Meridian. Therefore, ATCO proposed to remove 780 metres of pipeline, line 14, 750 metres of pipeline, line 11, and 10 metres of pipeline, line 10, which are all contained within the city-owned property at that location. The proposed project would take place on private and public lands.

5. ATCO prepared an environmental evaluation report<sup>2</sup> for the proposed project. ATCO also indicated that 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. Any liquids contained in the pipelines would be captured and removed prior to abandonment and removal activities.

6. ATCO stated that notification of landowners and occupants for this work has occurred in accordance with Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*. ATCO sent notifications to landowners and occupants and allowed for the minimum notification response period prior to submitting this application. Construction is scheduled to commence in the second quarter of 2018.

7. With respect to development in the transportation utility corridor, Section 4(2) of the *Calgary Restricted Development Area Regulations* states:

No Minister of the Crown, government official or government agency shall, without the written consent of the Minister of Infrastructure, exercise any power under the *Municipal Government Act*, *The Pipeline Act, 1975*, the *Water Resources Act* or any other Act to order, authorize, approve, permit or consent to any operation or activity that causes, is likely to cause or will cause a surface disturbance of any land in the Area, or issue or cause to be issued any order, authorization, approval, permit, licence or consent instrument for that purpose.

8. ATCO indicated that it received a letter from Alberta Infrastructure<sup>3</sup> stating that it has no objections to the project and that ministerial consent for the project within the transportation utility corridor would be issued subsequent to Commission approval.

9. 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. 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.

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<sup>2</sup> Exhibit 23409-X0005, Environmental Evaluation Report.

<sup>3</sup> Exhibit 23049-X0006 and Exhibit 23409-X0007, MCC Letter of Non-Objection.

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 will be issued after the Commission receives ministerial consent indicating that Alberta Infrastructure has issued approval to ATCO for the proposed work within the transportation utility corridor.

**Alberta Utilities Commission**

*(original signed by)*

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