

DA2013-221

September 20, 2013

AltaGas Utilities Inc.
5509 – 45th Street
Leduc, Alberta T9E 6T6

Attention: Sebastian Liberona, P.Eng.
Engineer, System Planning and Design

Relocation of gas supply
Permit and Licence No. 203
Application No. 1609917
Proceeding ID No. 2830

Minor pipeline project application

AltaGas Utilities Inc. (AltaGas), by Application No. 1609917, registered on September 12, 2013, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the addition of a proposed pipeline (Line 62 – 0.10 kilometres (km) of 60.3 millimetre (mm) outside diameter pipeline) and a meter/regulating station in Township 71, Range 16, west of the Fourth Meridian.

AltaGas stated that it currently supplies the Northern Athabasca Region near the hamlet of Wandering River from the Suncor Energy pipeline. This pipeline is the current source for their Northern Athabasca distribution system. Suncor Energy has changed the terms of the gas supply agreement and AltaGas has been put on month to month notification, which affects the reliability of AltaGas' gas supply. Therefore, AltaGas is changing to a different gas supplier, TransCanada Pipelines Ltd. To access the TransCanada supply the project requires the construction of a transmission pipeline, a new receipt station, and a distribution pipeline. The original meter/regulating station will be retired once construction of the new station facility is complete.

AltaGas stated that the new pipe would be installed using the open trench technique. The topsoil would be stripped away and all soils would be separated into topsoil and subsoil as necessary and stored appropriately to prevent co-mingling of the soil types. In the back fill phase, the stored topsoil and subsoil would be returned to their original layers. The same procedure would be used with the soil from the bell holes. Horizontal directional drilling would be used when crossing other pipeline right-of-ways.

AltaGas stated that there are no environmentally significant areas in or near the project area that would be affected. However, the construction would be in a historically significant area. Application for construction in the historically significant area has already been submitted. The work area is in Upper Athabasca region and therefore the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan does not apply.

AltaGas stated that the size of the proposed purchase meter station, AT078, is 10.0 metres by 10.0 metres, and it would be placed in their right of way. This station would be inside a building

and would be protected by a fence. The purchase meter station would consist of regulators, meter equipment and a relief valve. AltaGas provided a Rule 12 Appendix 3 – Noise Impact Assessment Summary Form for the proposed meter/regulating station. The information provided on the Noise Impact Assessment Summary Form fulfills the requirements of AUC Rule 012: *Noise Control*.

AltaGas stated that all land owners and occupants have been given written notification of the proposed construction, including a general description of the project. All land owners and occupants have given confirmation that they have no objection to the project.

AltaGas has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Since the project involves no significant ground disturbance, 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.

Based upon the information provided, AltaGas 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.

The Commission approves the application. The amended permit and licence is attached.



Wade Vienneau
Executive Director, Facilities Division
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachment