

DA2013-253

October 29, 2013

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

Attention: Brad Cann, P. Eng.
Senior Engineer, Pipelines Engineering

Sheep River Exposed Pipeline Replacement
Permit and Licence No. 2027
Application No. 1610005
Proceeding ID No. 2884

Minor pipeline project application

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1610005, registered on October 24, 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 approval of the following in Township 20, Range 29 west of the Fourth Meridian:

- splitting Line 10 into Lines 10, 147 and 148
- addition of a proposed pipeline (Line 149 – 0.41 kilometres (km) of 323.9 -millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipeline)
- Line 147 is to be abandoned at the time of construction under a separate application and then removed at a separate time under a subsequent application

The proposed work is related to a minor split and replacement of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 2027.

ATCO stated that its Mainline South is a 323.9 mm steel high pressure natural gas pipeline that provides supply to Okotoks and Calgary. As a result of the southern Alberta flooding experienced in this region this season, a significant exposure developed within the Sheep River at LSD 13-22-20-29-W4M. The pipeline is currently isolated, depressurized and has been purged with air. Under winter conditions, this pipeline must be operational to meet the demand of customers in the Okotoks and Calgary regions. As such, this work is being accelerated and a construction crew to replace the watercourse crossing is scheduled to be mobilized in October or November 2013. The proposed pipeline would be installed via horizontal directional drill.

ATCO stated that it has submitted a Code of Practice notification in accordance with the *Water Act* for pipelines crossing a water body, a Department of Fisheries and Oceans Operational Statement and an application to Transport Canada under the *Navigable Waters Protection Act*.

In addition, an application for *Historical Resources Act* clearance has been made to Alberta Culture. ATCO Pipelines stated that it would not proceed with the work until the 14 day notification period has elapsed and all approvals have been obtained. ATCO Pipelines would comply with all conditions included in those approvals.

ATCO stated that it has issued notifications and obtained confirmation of non-objection for the proposed pipeline from all landowners in accordance with AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* requirements.

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

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.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Shand".

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

Attachment