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DA2014-83

April 1, 2014

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

Attention: Jo-Anne Van Sickle

Senior Administrative Coordinator

Pipeline Removal Permit and Licence No. 2653 Application No. 1610381 Proceeding No. 3118

Minor pipeline project application

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1610381 registered on March 7, 2014, 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* to remove Line 1 in Township 50, Range 1, west of the Fourth Meridian. The proposed work is related to the minor removal of existing pipe previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Permit and Licence No. 2653.

ATCO stated that the application is for approval to remove approximately 700 metres of 60.3-millimetre outside diameter pipeline (Line 1 of Permit and Licence No. 2653). Line 1 was commissioned by the Lloydminster Gas Company Ltd. in 1959 and was subsequently abandoned and acquired by ATCO as part of a larger system acquisition. The pipeline licence was never updated to reflect Line 1 as abandoned and there are no land rights currently registered for the pipeline. The landowner requested the removal of the line, and ATCO considers that it is obligated to comply because no land rights exist.

ATCO stated that there are no watercourse crossings that would be affected by the removal activities. Any liquids contained in the pipe would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal activity. There are no surface facilities associated with Line 1 of Permit and Licence No. 2653 which require abandonment. Once the pipeline removal has been completed, a reclamation plan would be developed to reclaim the right-of-way in accordance with the Environmental Handbook for Pipeline Construction (Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development 1998). ATCO would apply for a reclamation certificate in accordance with the Pipeline Reclamation Certificate Form - 2006, after the right-of-way has been fully reclaimed.

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 landowner 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 landowner 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.

Brian Shand, P. Eng. Director, Gas Facilities

On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachment