

DA2014-254

November 14, 2014

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

Attention: Patrick Bain, P. Eng.
Senior Engineer, Major Projects

Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction
Licence No. 1950
Application No. 1610868
Proceeding No. 3430

Minor pipeline project application

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1610868 registered on September 24, 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* for the following in Township 25, Range 8, west of Fifth Meridian:

- splitting Line 3 into lines 3, 143, 144, 145, 146 and 147
- removal of lines 144 and 146
- lines 3 and 147 remain in place as operating
- lines 143 and 145 to be abandoned in place under a future application
- addition of newly constructed pipeline [Line 148 – 0.08 kilometres (km) of 219.1-millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipeline]
- addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 149 – 0.07 km of 219.1 mm OD pipeline)

The proposed work is related to a minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, within the original location, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence No. 1950.

ATCO stated that the existing 219.1 mm Banff Transmission pipeline crosses the Bow River on the underside of the old Highway 1 bridge (Seebe Bridge) that is located within LSD 03-04-25- 08-W5M at the TransAlta Kananaskis hydroelectric plant site. The bridge and pipeline were installed in 1950/1951. The pipeline crossing is critical to ATCO's high pressure transmission pipeline network in the Exshaw, Canmore and Banff areas. ATCO has determined that a new crossing of the Bow River needs to be installed in order to maintain safe and reliable service in those areas. The project involves the removal of 70 metres of the existing pipeline, Line 146, over the Bow River and the installation of approximately 70 metres of new 219.1 mm pipeline, Line 149, on a new double truss pipeline bridge over the Bow River.

ATCO also proposed to replace 80 metres of existing pipeline, lines 143, 144 and 145, located on the south side of the river, with 80 metres of new 219.1 mm pipeline, Line 148, in order to address depth of cover concerns in this area. Lines 143 and 145 would be abandoned in place under a future application and Line 144 would be removed.

ATCO previously provided project justification details for this project in the Install Banff Transmission Bow River Crossing at Exshaw business case¹ which was submitted as part of ATCO's 2013/2014 General Rate Application. The business case for this project was approved by the Commission in Decision 2013-430.²

ATCO stated that it engaged the services of CCI Solutions Inc. to prepare a pre-construction site assessment and Environmental Protection Plan³ (EPP) for this project. ATCO has received Historical Resources Act clearance from Alberta Culture, completed the Code of Practice notification in accordance with the Water Act and received consent from the local municipality due to the presence of a registered environmental easement that lines 143, 144 and 145 are located within. ATCO stated that it would have environmental inspectors on site along with a local First Nation's liaison for the duration of construction activities to ensure compliance with the recommendations set out in the EPP. ATCO also engaged in dialogue with the local wildlife biologist from Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development obtaining concurrence with respect to wildlife setbacks for the project.

ATCO stated that the sections of pipeline to be removed or abandoned would be cleaned and any liquids, if present, would be captured and disposed of prior to the removal or abandonment activity.

ATCO stated that it has completed consultation and notification in accordance with AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* requirements including private landowners, public lands, disposition holders and the local municipality. ATCO has also undertaken extensive aboriginal consultation with the Stoney Nakoda First Nation due to the proximity of the project to the Stoney Indian Reserves. ATCO indicated that there are no outstanding objections or concerns related to this project.

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.

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.

¹ Exhibit No. 0001.00.ATCOPIPE-2322, Business Case 2014-3762 - Install Banff Transmission Bow River Crossing at Exshaw, Pages 136-140 of 143.

² Decision 2013-430: ATCO Pipelines 2013-2014 General Rate Application, Application No. 1609158, Proceeding No. 2322, December 4, 2013, page 37 of 128.

³ Exhibit No. 5.00.ATCO -3430, Environmental Protection Plan.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Shand". The signature is written in a cursive style with some overlapping letters.

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

Attachment