

**DA2014-237**

October 24, 2014

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

Attention: Justin Middleton, E.I.T.  
Project Engineer, Pipelines Engineering

**Pipeline Split, Removal and New Construction**  
**Licence No. 2176**  
**Application No. 1610909**  
**Proceeding No. 3471**

### **Minor pipeline project application**

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by Application No. 1610909 registered on October 9, 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 12, Range 27, west of Fourth Meridian:

- splitting Line 11 into lines 11, 22, 23, 24 and 25.
- removal of Line 23.
- lines 11 and 25 remain in place as operating.
- lines 22 and 24 to be abandoned in place under a future application.
- addition of newly constructed pipeline [Line 26 – 0.13 kilometres (km) of 60.3-millimetre (mm) outside-diameter (OD) pipeline].
- stress level amendment of Line 11 from zero to 40.

The proposed work is related to a minor removal and replacement of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in Licence No. 2176.

ATCO stated that a watercourse exposure on the 60.3 mm Willow Creek lateral pipeline at a drainage canal was discovered in August 2013. Approximately three metres of pipeline is currently exposed and undercut within the drainage canal. ATCO completed an analysis of the hydrology and canal channel dynamics and determined that, due to the high rate of channel erosion, there is a risk of further pipeline exposure in the future. Therefore, ATCO proposed to install 130 metres of new pipeline by way of horizontal directional drilling from one side of the canal to the other. The new pipeline would be installed slightly offset from the existing pipeline, but within the same right-of-way.

ATCO stated that the watercourse involved in this exposure is classified as a privately owned drainage canal. It was determined, by means of the self-assessment tool provided by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, that the work for this project does not require a request for

review. No application is required for Navigable Waters (Transport Canada) under the Navigable Waters Act as this crossing is not within a scheduled watercourse. No application is required for the Historical Resources Act clearance, as the affected lands have not been assigned a Historic Resource Value according to the Listing of Historic Resources (September 2014 Edition) by Alberta Culture. The watercourse is a privately owned drainage canal and is not a classified watercourse within the Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development code of practice.

ATCO also stated that the pipeline would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The topsoil would be stripped and stored, and all surface disturbances would be backfilled before the topsoil is returned.

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 owner 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