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Notice of hearing Nilrem to Vermilion Transmission Development Project

AltaLink Management Ltd. and ATCO Electric Ltd. have filed applications for transmission development in the Hardisty to Vermilion area

Proceeding 26145 Applications 26145-A001 to 26145-A008

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), the independent utilities regulator, will be holding a hearing to review the applications and submissions received to consider the electric transmission development applications in Proceeding 26145.

Initial written submissions are due March 17, 2021. Written evidence is due April 30, 2021.

AltaLink Management Ltd. has applied to construct and operate a single-circuit, 240-kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to be initially energized at 138 kV, designated as Transmission Line 333L, from Nilrem 574S Substation to the service territory boundary with ATCO Electric Ltd. It also proposed to alter the existing Nilrem 574S Substation.

ATCO Electric Ltd. has applied to construct and operate the Drury 2007S Substation and a single-circuit, 240-kV transmission line, to be initially energized at 138 kV, designated as Transmission Line 7L333, from Drury 2007S Substation to the service territory boundary with AltaLink Management Ltd. ATCO Electric Ltd. also proposed to construct and operate a double-circuit, 144-kV transmission line that would connect the Drury 2007S Substation to existing Transmission Line 7L65.

The map included with this notice identifies the applied-for routes. The Commission may approve the preferred route, alternate route, any of the route variants, or a combination thereof.

The applications have been filed under the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*.

Additional information about the applications

The applications and any associated documents are publicly available and can be accessed from the eFiling System on the AUC website <u>www.auc.ab.ca</u>. Basic information about <u>Nilrem to</u> <u>Vermilion Transmission Development project</u> can be found on the AUC website under Projects – Featured project summaries. Alternatively, for more information about what is being applied for, or for a copy of the applications, please contact:

AltaLink Management Ltd.	ATCO Electric Ltd.
Michelle Lemieux	Laurie Jenkin
Phone: 403-267-5909	Phone: 780-983-3939
Email: <u>regulatory@altalink.ca</u>	Email: <u>facilityapp@atcoelectric.com</u>

Participant information and virtual Q&A session

The AUC will be posting a video on the <u>Nilrem to Vermilion Transmission Development project</u> page to provide information about how you may become involved in this proceeding and funding that may be available to you. The project and its merits will not be discussed in this video.

The AUC will also hold a virtual question and answer session on March 10, 2021, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. to answer questions about how to participate in this proceeding. To register for the Q&A session, please <u>sign up here</u> or email <u>info@auc.ab.ca</u> for assistance by March 9, 2021.

If you cannot attend the virtual Q&A session, but want to learn more about the review process, or for more information about how you may become involved in this proceeding, please contact us or visit our website and review the information under "Have your say" or under "Review process."

Submissions

If you wish to participate in this proceeding, please visit our website and log in to the eFiling System, go to Proceeding 26145, and register to participate under the "registered parties" tab. Alternatively, please contact us at 310-4AUC or <u>info@auc.ab.ca</u> for more information or assistance with filing your submission. The lead application officer, Trevor Richards, can also be contacted at 403-592-4469 or by email at <u>trevor.richards@auc.ab.ca</u>.

Submissions must include your name, address, phone number, legal land location, description of your land in relation to the proposed development and a description of how you, your land, your business, or your activities may be affected by the proposed project. Please also briefly describe the issues you would like the AUC to consider when making its decision.

Privacy

To support an open and transparent process, information you send to the AUC will be publicly available to anyone registered in this proceeding. If there is confidential information you would like to file, a request must be made in advance of filing your submission.

Hearing

The Commission will host a virtual hearing, commencing on Monday, June 14, 2021. Further information about the virtual hearing will be issued closer to the date.

Participating in the hearing

Persons (including individuals and corporations) who have rights that may be directly and adversely affected by the Commission's decision on the applications are legally entitled to participate in a public hearing. This permission to participate in a hearing is referred to as standing, and persons with standing are referred to as interveners.

For the purposes of this proceeding, the Commission considers that persons who own or reside on property located within 800 metres surrounding the finalized right-of-way for any of the proposed routes have standing to participate in the process, and will qualify for funding under Section 22 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

Standing for other participants will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If the Commission receives an objection to a person's request to participate or status as an intervener, the Commission will make a decision on whether the person has standing or qualifies for intervener costs.

All interveners are encouraged to form groups, consider whether to hire legal representation, and prepare information requests and evidence, as early as possible.

Summarized process schedule

The Commission has established the following process to consider the applications:

Process step	Date
Virtual Q&A session	March 10, 2021, 6:30 p.m.
Interveners' participation submissions	March 17, 2021
Interveners' information requests (questions) to applicants	April 5, 2021
deadline	
Applicants' deadline to respond to information requests	April 16, 2021
Interveners' written evidence deadline	April 30, 2021
Information requests to interveners about intervener evidence	May 11, 2021
Interveners' deadline to respond to information requests	May 25, 2021
Applicants' reply evidence deadline	June 4, 2021
Commencement of hearing	June 14, 2021

Issued on February 5, 2021.

Alberta Utilities Commission

