



AltaLink Management Ltd.

**2019 Deferral Accounts Reconciliation
Compliance Filing to Decision 25913-D01-2021
and Decision 26278-D01-2021**

May 13, 2021

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 26500-D01-2021

AltaLink Management Ltd.

2019 Deferral Accounts Reconciliation Compliance Filing to

Decision 25913-D01-2021 and Decision 26278-D01-2021

Proceeding 26500

May 13, 2021

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Eau Claire Tower

1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W.

Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

Telephone: 310-4AUC (310-4282) in Alberta

1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-511-4282) outside Alberta

Email: info@auc.ab.ca

Website: www.auc.ab.ca

The Commission may, within 30 days of the date of this decision and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected decision on its website.

1 Decision summary

1. This decision provides the Alberta Utilities Commission's determinations on AltaLink Management Ltd.'s 2019 projects deferral accounts reconciliation (direct assigned capital deferral account or DACDA) compliance application related to Decision 25913-D01-2021¹ and Decision 26278-D01-2021.² The Commission found that AltaLink has complied with the findings and directions from decisions 25913-D01-2021 and 26278-D01-2021, and approves AltaLink's proposal to dispose of its final settlement balances for 2019 of \$2.6 million through a one-time billing to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) as filed.

2 Introduction

2. On April 29, 2021, AltaLink filed an application with the Commission requesting approval for its 2019 projects DACDA compliance application related to Decision 25913-D01-2021. AltaLink proposed to dispose of its final settlement balances for 2019 of \$2.6 million through a one-time billing to the AESO upon approval by the Commission.

3. In Decision 25913-D01-2021, the Commission directed AltaLink to identify any findings related to the Proceeding 26278 decision, AltaLink's 2016-2018 DACDA, that are applicable to its 2019 DACDA and to true up any impact as part of either a separate compliance application or as part of its next general tariff application (GTA). On April 27, 2021, the Commission issued Decision 26278-D01-2021. AltaLink advised that it would file an update to its current application after it had completed its review of Decision 26278-D01-2021. AltaLink filed the aforementioned update on May 7, 2021.

4. The Commission issued a notice of the application on May 3, 2021, with statements of intent to participate due May 10, 2021. Consistent with Bulletin 2016-18 regarding rate proceeding process improvements,³ the Commission determined that the compliance filing addressing Decision 25913-D01-2021 was routine in nature and did not include any contentious issues. As such, the Commission indicated that it would make its decision with no further notice or process.

5. Notwithstanding, an intervener is permitted challenge the Commission's designation of routine by filing a written submission on the record of the proceeding. The submission should

¹ Decision 25913-D01-2021: AltaLink Management Ltd., 2019 Projects Deferral Accounts Reconciliation Application, Proceeding 25913, March 19, 2021.

² Decision 26278-D01-2021: AltaLink Management Ltd., 2016-2018 Deferral Accounts Reconciliation Compliance with Directions from Decision 24681-D01-2020 and Decision 25369-D01-2020, April 27, 2021.

³ Bulletin 2016-18, Rates proceedings process improvements, October 18, 2016.

clearly explain the necessity for the intervention. No submissions were filed regarding the current application.

6. The Commission considers the close of record for the proceeding to be May 10, 2021.

7. In reaching the determinations throughout this decision, the Commission has considered all relevant materials comprising the record of this proceeding, including the evidence and arguments provided by each party. Accordingly, references in this decision to specific parts of the record are intended to assist the reader in understanding the Commission's reasoning relating to a particular matter and should not be taken as an indication that the Commission did not consider all relevant portions of the record with respect to a particular matter.

3 Commission findings

8. The Commission is satisfied that AltaLink's compliance filing adequately addresses and responds to directions 1, 3, 4, and 5 from Decision 25913-D01-2021, while Direction 2 is related to additional information to be filed in future DACDA and GTA applications. The Commission finds that AltaLink has complied with:

- Direction 3 of Decision 25913-D01-2021 by removing \$465,035⁴ from the ATCO Jasper actual additions because it was determined that not all costs were prudently incurred.
- Direction 4 of Decision 25913-D01-2021 and finds that AltaLink's requested true-up amount provided in its revised reconciliation in Appendix 1⁵ and its explanation that it is not seeking approval of the payment of interest pursuant to Rule 023: *Rules Respecting Payment of Interest* complies with Direction 4 of Decision 25913-D01-2021.
- Direction 5 of Decision 25913-D01-2021 by properly identifying the impact of Decision 26278-D01-2021 on the 2019 DACDA.

9. In addition, the Commission considers that AltaLink has also complied with directions 1 and 2 from Decision 26278-D01-2021.

10. The Commission finds that AltaLink has properly applied a reduction to 2019 trailing costs of three projects⁶ in compliance with Direction 1 of Decision 26278-D01-2021 regarding the disallowance of a portion of DACDA support costs. The Commission also considers that AltaLink's explanation that adjustments to rate base for disallowances will be reflected in its upcoming 2022-2023 GTA is reasonable.

11. With respect to Direction 2 from Decision 26278-D01-2021, the Commission accepts AltaLink's explanation that the costs incurred in 2019 for the 2016-2018 DACDA were charged to the relevant 2016-2018 projects and are included in trailing costs in the 2019 DACDA.

⁴ Exhibit 26500-X0003.01, AML 2019 DACDA Compliance - B-1 Attachment (Project Summary Schedules).

⁵ Exhibit 26500-X0002.01, AML 2019 DACDA Compliance - Appendix 1 Deferral Account Reconciliation 2019.

⁶ Projects: D.0310 SATR Medicine Hat 138 kV Area Reconfig., D.0394 S-W Edmonton Transmission Development - Harry Smith, and D.0513 S-W Edmonton Transmission Development - Saunders Lake 289S.

12. Based on the above, the Commission approves AltaLink's proposal to dispose of its final settlement balances for 2019 of \$2.6 million through a one-time billing to the AESO as filed.

4 Order

13. It is hereby ordered that:

- (1) AltaLink Management Limited is to collect \$2.6 million through a one-time billing from the Alberta Electric System Operator to dispose of its final settlement balances for 2019.

Dated on May 13, 2021.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Heather Gnenz
Director, Electric and Gas Transmission
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Appendix 1 – Proceeding participants

Name of organization (abbreviation) Company name of counsel or representative
AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink)

Alberta Utilities Commission
Delegated authority H. Gnenz, Director, Electric and Gas Transmission
Commission staff M. McJannet F. Alonso J. Halls