



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.

North Edmonton Loop Pipeline Project

September 16, 2021

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 26811-D01-2021

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd.

North Edmonton Loop Pipeline Project

Proceeding 26811

Application 26811-A001

September 16, 2021

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The Commission may, no later than 60 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. In this decision, the Alberta Utilities Commission approves an application from ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. for an amendment to perform a line split, removal and resumption of discontinued pipelines and to install two new pipeline segments under Licence 2594.

2 Application

2. On August 26, 2021, ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. filed Application 26811-A001 with the Commission seeking approval for an amendment to Licence 2594 pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- splitting line 214 into lines 214 and 342
- abandonment of lines 215 and 342, which would be recorded in a subsequent application
- removal of line 295
- resumption of lines 213 and 214
- addition of newly constructed pipeline (line 343 – 0.02 kilometres of 323.9-millimetre outside-diameter pipe)
- addition of newly constructed pipeline (line 344 – 0.16 kilometres of 323.9-millimetre outside-diameter pipe)

3. ATCO's application included:

- An engineering assessment¹ for the resumption of the discontinued segments of the pipeline. The assessment concluded that the pipeline is suitable for resumption provided that the recommended actions are completed by ATCO.
- An environmental evaluation report² for the project. ATCO stated that all recommendations in the environmental evaluation report would be followed during construction activities.
- Ministerial consents^{3,4} issued by Alberta Infrastructure for work planned within the Edmonton transportation and utility corridor.

¹ Exhibit 26811-X0006, 1048627 EA R0 North Edmonton Loop Re-Commissioning.

² Exhibit 26811-X0007, 1048627 EER - North Edm Loop_AUC.

³ Exhibit 26811-X0004, MCE21-0002 - Letter and Attachment.

⁴ Exhibit 26811-X0005, 2nd AMD MCE19-0016 - letter and attachment.

4. ATCO stated that the project is part of the urban pipeline replacement program⁵ to ensure reliable gas supply to northeast Edmonton.

5. ATCO also stated that consultation and notifications with landowners and occupants for the project has been completed, in accordance with Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines* (formerly Rule 020),⁶ and there are no outstanding concerns or objections related to the project. Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2021.

3 Discussion and findings

6. Due to the nature of the current application, a notice of application was not issued and a hearing was not required as the Commission considered that its decision would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

7. The Commission has reviewed the current application and has determined that it meets the requirements of Rule 007.

8. The Commission accepts ATCO's submission that a participant involvement program has been conducted and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

9. The Commission has reviewed the engineering assessment and accepts ATCO's assessment that the pipeline is suitable for resumption of service provided the recommendations of the assessment are implemented. The Commission expects that ATCO will implement the recommendations of the assessment within the target completion timelines.

10. The Commission finds that the potential environmental impacts of the project have been sufficiently addressed in ATCO's environmental evaluation report and accepts ATCO's commitment to implement the recommendations presented in that report to reduce the risk of potential adverse environmental impacts associated with the project.

11. The Commission accepts that the project is required to allow ATCO to connect the required high-pressure pipelines to ensure reliable natural gas supply to northeast Edmonton.

12. For the above reasons, the Commission considers the project to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

⁵ Decision 2014-010 (Errata): ATCO Pipelines, a division of ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. Errata to Decision 2014-010 – Urban Pipeline Replacement Project, Application 1608617, Proceeding 1995, February 21, 2014.

⁶ Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* was rescinded on September 1, 2021, and is no longer in effect.

4 Decision

13. Pursuant to Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. the amended licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline Licence 2594 – September 16, 2021 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on September 16, 2021.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Neil Jamieson
Commission Member