

Notice of hearing

Vauxhall Area Transmission Development

The Alberta Electric System Operator and AltaLink Management Ltd. have filed applications for transmission development in the Vauxhall area

Proceeding 27776
Applications 27776-A001 to 27776-A003

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 27776.

Written evidence is due April 19, 2023.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has applied for approval of the need for the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development under the *Electric Utilities Act* and an exception under Section 15(2) of the *Transmission Regulation*. The proposed development would remove thermal criteria violations observed under normal operating conditions, and thereby allow for the unconstrained dispatch of all anticipated in-merit electricity.

AltaLink Management Ltd. has filed applications to meet the need under the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*. AltaLink applied to restore the capacity of Transmission Line 879L by replacing 21 and modifying 32 structures and removing 1.6 kilometres of underbuilt distribution line.

AltaLink also applied to rebuild 138-kilovolt Transmission Line 610L by constructing a new line. AltaLink proposed a preferred route, located along the south side of Township Road 102, and an alternate route, which can be seen on the map. The Commission may approve either of the proposed routes. The Commission's previous notice indicated that AltaLink had also applied to salvage the existing Transmission Line 610L, which is located on the north side of Township Road 102. In fact, while the AESO's application includes the need to salvage the line, AltaLink has indicated it will apply for the salvage at a later date.

Additional information about the applications

Basic information about the [Vauxhall Area Transmission Development](#) can be found on the AUC website under "Applications > Featured applications." The applications and any associated documents are publicly available and can be accessed from the eFiling System on the AUC website www.auc.ab.ca.

Alternatively, for more information about what is being applied for, or for a copy of the applications, please contact:

Alberta Electric System Operator
Brenda Hill
Phone: 403-539-2850
Email: brenda.hill@aes0.ca

AltaLink Management Ltd.
Michelle Lemieux
Phone: 403-267-5909
Email: regulatory@altalink.ca

Participant information session

The AUC will be holding a virtual information session on March 14, 2023, at 6 p.m. to provide information about how you may become involved in this proceeding and the funding which may be available to you to support your position, which includes costs for legal representation and expert witnesses. The project and its merits will not be discussed at this session. To register for the virtual information session, [please sign up here](#) or email trevor.richards@auc.ab.ca by March 13, 2023.

If you cannot attend the virtual information 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.” The lead application officer, Trevor Richards, can also be contacted at 403-592-4469 or by email at trevor.richards@auc.ab.ca.

New participant submissions

If you wish to participate in this proceeding and have not yet filed a statement of intent to participate, please visit our website and log in to the eFiling System, go to Proceeding 27776, and register to participate under the “registered parties” tab. For guidance on how to use the eFiling System, please visit www.auc.ab.ca/how-to-use-efiling. Alternatively, please contact us at 310-4AUC (310-4282) in Alberta or info@auc.ab.ca for more information or assistance with filing your submission.

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 your interest in the land, your business, or your activities which may be affected by the proposed project. Please also briefly describe the issues you would like the AUC to consider when making its decision.

The AUC must consider the AESO’s assessment of the need to be correct unless someone satisfies the Commission that the needs application is technically deficient, or that to approve it would be contrary to the public interest.

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 oral hearing, commencing on **June 12, 2023, at 10 a.m.**

The virtual oral hearing will be held remotely using a video conferencing platform. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they have access to all documentary evidence filed on the record of the proceeding, either through the eFiling System or in their preferred format. Further information about the virtual hearing process will be issued separately. Commission staff will contact the hearing participants and will send email invitations that include the links to access a mandatory test session and the hearing.

Participating in the hearing

If you intend to present evidence at the hearing, you must be present at the commencement of the hearing and submit written evidence by April 19, 2023. Your written evidence should include a statement about your intended level of participation. Please include whether you or your representative will:

- Attend the hearing.
- Cross-examine any of the applicants' witness panels.

Written evidence can be reports prepared by experts or written information (including maps, charts, photographs and narrative statements) prepared by an intervener personally, and clearly identified as such. Any report that was prepared by an expert, and which is being filed in support of an intervener's position, must clearly state the qualifications of the expert and the name of the intervener who directed that the report was to be prepared. Please be aware that the author of any report or other written evidence that an intervener expects the Commission to rely upon must be available to be cross-examined at the hearing.

Summarized process schedule

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

Process step	Date
Information session	March 14, 2023, 6 p.m.
Interveners' information requests (questions) to applicants deadline	March 22, 2023
Applicants' deadline respond to information requests	April 5, 2023
Interveners' written evidence deadline	April 19, 2023
Information requests to interveners about intervener evidence deadline	May 3, 2023
Interveners' deadline to respond to information requests	May 17, 2023
Applicants' reply evidence deadline	May 31, 2023
Commencement of hearing	June 12, 2023, 10 a.m.

Issued on February 16, 2023.

Alberta Utilities Commission



