



Jurassic Solar GP Ltd.

Jurassic Solar+ Project Connection

March 20, 2023

Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 28049-D01-2023

Jurassic Solar+ Project Connection

Proceeding 28049

Application 28049-A001

March 20, 2023

Published by the:

Alberta Utilities Commission

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, no later than 60 days from 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 Jurassic Solar GP Ltd.¹ for a new transmission line for the Jurassic Solar+ Project Connection.

2 Application

2. The Commission previously approved an application from Jurassic to construct and operate a 220-megawatt solar power plant, a battery energy storage system with a storage capacity of up to 80-megawatt-hours and the associated Raptor 1080S Substation², located approximately 6.4 kilometres southwest of the hamlet of Iddesleigh in Special Area No. 2 and Cypress County.

3. Jurassic submitted a system access service request to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) to connect the Jurassic Solar+ Project to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System. The AESO determined a technical solution to meet the need consisting of a new 240-kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the approved Raptor 1080S Substation to existing Transmission Line 944L. On February 21, 2023, under ISO Rules Section 501.3 - *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, the AESO issued a letter of approval for the need for transmission development to respond to the system access service request from the market participant.³

4. On February 28, 2023, Jurassic applied to the AUC for approval to construct and operate a 240-kV transmission line, designated as 944AL (the transmission line). The transmission line would originate at the approved Raptor 1080S Substation and connect to the existing AltaLink Management Ltd. 240-kV Transmission Line 944L in a T-tap configuration. The application was filed under sections 14, 15 and 18 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act* and registered as application 28049-A001.

5. Jurassic stated that Transmission Line 944AL would be approximately 45 metres in length. The proposed route is the shortest possible connection to the substation and it is located almost entirely on the same quarter section as the substation. The transmission line will not require any structures as it will be strung from the receiving structure within the Raptor 1080S Substation to an existing steel lattice transmission structure on Transmission Line 944L.

6. The targeted in-service date for the project is December 14, 2023.

¹ On behalf of Jurassic Solar LP.

² Decision 27623-D01-2022: Jurassic Solar GP Ltd. – Jurassic Solar+ Project, Proceeding 27623, Applications 27623-A001 and 27623-A002, November 16, 2022.

³ Exhibit 28049-X0003, Appendix B - P2411 - ANAP Approval Letter Final RSD, PDF pages 1 and 2.

7. Jurassic, as an electricity market participant under Section 24.31 of the *Transmission Regulation*, would jointly operate Transmission Line 944AL with AltaLink Management Ltd. for approximately six months following construction completion. After this period of time, Jurassic would transfer the ownership and operation to AltaLink. Jurassic and AltaLink signed an asset transfer agreement on January 31, 2023, which includes the written agreement with AltaLink for the temporary operation of the transmission facility.

3 Findings

8. For the reasons that follow, the Commission finds that approval of the proposed development is in the public interest having regard to the social, economic, and other effects of the proposed facilities, including their effect on the environment.

9. Jurassic's participant involvement program (PIP) meets the requirements of Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines*. The Commission accepts that no Indigenous consultation was required as the project is located on private land and is classified as a Category B project under Appendix A1-B of Rule 007. However, the Commission expects Jurassic will provide an update about the transmission line approval to the Blood Tribe, Siksika Nation and Piikani Nation given that these Indigenous groups were included in the PIP for the Jurassic Solar+ Project and Jurassic committed to having the Indigenous Communities conduct a ceremony prior to construction.⁴ Based on the nature of the application, and Jurassic's statement that no concerns about the transmission line were raised, a notice of application was not issued and a hearing was not required as the Commission considered that its decision or approval would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person under Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

10. Jurassic retained Matrix Solutions Inc. to conduct an environmental evaluation and prepare an environmental protection plan. The evaluation considered the entire Jurassic Solar+ Project (i.e., power plant, substation and transmission line). Matrix concluded that the potential effects of the entire project on vegetation, wetlands, wildlife and wildlife habitat would not be significant provided that Jurassic implements recommended environmental protection measures.⁵ After reviewing these documents and Jurassic's application for the transmission line, the Commission is satisfied that the new transmission line is not likely to result in adverse effects to the environment given the short length of the line, that no transmission structure is required and that the line is routed entirely on cultivated land.

11. Based on the foregoing, the Commission considers the application to be in the public interest in accordance with Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

⁴ Exhibit 27623-X0015, Attachment 14 – Participant Involvement Program Report, PDF page 6.

⁵ Exhibit 28049-X0006, Appendix E - 512 EE R 2022-10-19 final V2.0, PDF page 67.

4 Decision

12. Pursuant to sections 14, 15 and 19 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants Jurassic Solar GP Ltd. the approval set out in Appendix 1 –Transmission Line Permit and Licence 28049-D02-2023 to construct and operate Transmission Line 944AL (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on March 20, 2023.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Kristi Sebalj
Vice-Chair