

Having Your Say

Landowners or residents that have concerns related to the development of gas utility pipelines should become involved as early as possible after notification. Ongoing dialogue also builds trust and is one way for you to have greater influence on the development of gas utility pipelines.

As a landowner or resident, there are several key points in the application process when your questions and concerns may be addressed. Note, though, that you have the right to expect any reasonable concerns to be promptly addressed at any point during this process and at any time during the life of a gas utility pipeline.

Usually, a company will offer to consult with you at your home. If you and the company cannot resolve your concerns, either party may ask an AUC staff member to facilitate a meeting or meetings between you and the company or you or the company may request that the AUC arrange for a third-party mediator to assist you.

However, if objections cannot be resolved, you must submit your objections in writing to the AUC indicating whether:

- you own or reside on the land or have other rights that may be affected by the proposed pipeline,
- the potential effect to your property or rights of the proposed pipeline,
- you are affected in a different way or to a greater degree than members of the general public.

The AUC will consider your objections and determine whether or not to hold a hearing.

If you need further information, please contact the AUC at (780) 427-4903 or visit the website at www.auc.ab.ca



Understanding Gas Utility Pipeline Development in Alberta

This brochure contains basic information to help you understand a proposed gas utility pipeline development and how it affects you.

A representative from a gas utility pipeline company has approached you and wants to conduct activities on or near your land.

You and the company will be discussing the proposed development and its potential impact on you, as well as alternatives and measures to minimize impacts. You may also be negotiating a pipeline right-of-way agreement and discussing compensation.



AUC Requirements and Expectations for Participant Involvement

The landowner or resident: The AUC application process provides the landowner or resident with an opportunity to share their questions and concerns with the company. There are many things the landowner or resident can do to participate in the planning of proposed gas utility pipeline.

Industry: Industry is required to notify and if necessary consult with landowners and residents whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by proposed gas utility pipeline.

The AUC: As the regulator of gas utility pipelines (certain natural gas pipelines), the AUC has the authority to approve or deny the installation of these gas utility pipelines in the province of Alberta and to place enforceable conditions on any licenses issued. The AUC also assists individuals, communities, and other interested groups to understand the regulatory requirements and expectations and how they apply at the local level.

Your Rights and the Company's Rights

In Alberta, both the landowner and the company have rights.

Rights to information: Under AUC legislation and rules the company must provide information to all parties whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a proposed gas utility pipeline so they can fully understand what is being proposed. If you are concerned about surface impacts, the company must give you details about how and why it chose the proposed pipeline route. The company should also tell you what to expect during the construction and operation phase of the gas utility pipeline.

The company may provide any agreements you make with it, as well as records of discussions, to the AUC during the application process. That material becomes part of the AUC's record of the application, which is a public record available to the public. In addition, information provided to the AUC (whether as part of the application process or otherwise) may be available under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Selecting a Pipeline Location

When selecting a pipeline right-of-way, the company must consider potential impacts on present and future land uses. The company must ensure that you understand what substance the pipeline is to transport, answer your questions on its plans for soil handling and reclamation, and address any other concerns you may have related to the proposed pipeline.

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