

Notice of Hearing

Application No. 1605359
Proceeding ID No. 278
Hanna Region (East-Central Alberta)
Transmission System Development
Needs Identification Document Application

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is a quasi-judicial regulatory body responsible for making decisions about utility-related applications, such as siting for transmission lines, substations and power plants. The AUC is also responsible for making decisions about the need for transmission system development, including the need for new or rebuilt transmission lines and facilities.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (the AESO), which is responsible for planning electric transmission system development in Alberta, has applied to the AUC for approval of the need for new transmission development throughout east-central Alberta. This Needs Identification Document (NID) Application (Needs Application) deals with *the need for transmission development - and not the construction of the facilities*. The construction of transmission lines and facilities requires a separate application to the AUC.

Notice of Hearing:

The AUC has decided to hold a hearing on the Needs Application on **Monday, February 22, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.** The location of the hearing is the **Stettler Recreation Centre, 6202 44 Ave, Stettler, Alberta**

If no letters or submissions objecting to the Needs Application are received by **Friday, December 18, 2009**, the AUC will cancel the hearing and must approve the application.

Description of Needs Identification Document Application:

Pursuant to section 34 of the *Electric Utilities Act*, the AESO submitted Needs Application No. 1605359 for approval of the proposed Hanna Region (east-central Alberta) Transmission System Development. In the Needs Application, the AESO stated that the need for transmission development in east-central Alberta is driven predominantly by load growth and the forecast development of wind-powered generation. The AESO's transmission planning activities have been based on its forecast that the regional load will more than double from approximately 420 megawatts (MW) in 2008 to approximately 970 MW in 2017, and that up to 700 MW of wind-powered generation will be located in the east central area of Alberta by 2017.

The AESO evaluated **three transmission development alternatives** in developing its Hanna Region (east-central Alberta) Transmission System Development Needs Application. The AESO has selected **Alternative 3 with higher capacity conductors** as for the proposed 240-kV

development as the preferred alternative to meet the need for transmission development in east-central Alberta.

The AESO has applied for, and the AUC is considering, only the preferred alternative.

Preferred Alternative 3, Single Extended 240-kV Loop

A regional breakdown of the proposed development (**Alternative 3**) is outlined below:

1. 240-kV AC looped system in east Hanna Area:

- Base components:
 - a. A new 240-kV Pemukan 932S substation near the existing Monitor 774S substation (LSD NE-1-35-5W4);
 - b. A new 240-kV transmission line, 9L966, from the existing Hansman Lake 650S substation (LSD 1-40-5W4) to Pemukan 932S substation;
 - c. A new 240-kV Lanfine 959S substation near the existing Oyen 767S substation (LSD SW-2-28-4W4);
 - d. A new 240-kV transmission line, 9L46, from Pemukan 932S substation to Lanfine 959S substation;
 - e. A new 240-kV Oakland 946S substation south of the existing Anderson 801S substation (LSD N-29-28-13W4);
 - f. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission lines 9L70 and 9L97 from Oakland 946S substation to the existing Anderson 801S substation;
 - g. A new 240-kV Coyote Lake 963S substation, west of Oakland 946S substation;
 - h. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission lines 9L29 and 9L31 from Oakland 946S substation to Coyote Lake 963S substation;
 - i. New double-circuit 144-kV transmission lines 7L127 and 7L141 from Pemukan 932S substation to the existing Monitor 774S substation;
 - j. New double-circuit 144-kV transmission lines 7L132 and 7L151 from Lanfine 959S substation to the existing Oyen 767S substation;
 - k. Re-termination of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L79 from the existing Monitor 774S substation to the new Pemukan 932S substation;
 - l. Re-termination of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L98 from the existing Oyen 767S to the new Lanfine 959S substation;
 - m. Salvage of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L224 from Monitor 774S to Loyalist 903S substation (LSD 4-23-34-5W4);
 - n. Salvage of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L760 from Oyen 767S to the existing substation Bindloss 914S (LSD 12-10-22-3W4) tap-off point; and,
 - o. Modification of the existing substations Hardisty 377S (LSD 5-29-42-9W4), Three Hills 770S (LSD SW-18-32-23W4), Stettler 769S (LSD NW-20-38-19W4), Battle River 757S (LSD SW-29-40-15W4), Metiskow 648S (LSD 4-6-40-4W4), Youngstown 772S (LSD NW-27-29-9W4) and Coronation 773S (LSD SW-1-36-11W4).
- Additional components elected for this alternative:
 - a. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission lines 9L24 and 9L65 from Oakland 946S substation to Lanfine 959S substation; and
 - b. Salvage of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L98 from Monitor 774S substation to the existing Excel 910S substation (LSD 15-20-28-4W4).

2. Hardisty-Area System Reinforcement:

- a. A new 240-kV Nilrem 574S substation, near Tucuman 478S substation (LSD 2-32-42-9W4);
 - b. New 240-kV double-circuit transmission lines from Nilrem 574S substation to the existing 240-kV transmission line 9L953;
 - c. New 138-kV double-circuit transmission lines from Nilrem 574S substation to Tucuman 478S substation; and
 - d. Upgrade the existing 138-kV transmission line 704L from Tucuman 478S substation to Hardisty 377S substation to bigger conductor.
3. West Hanna-Area System Reinforcement:
- a. A new 144-kV Cornish Lake 954S substation, to replace the existing Rowley 768S substation (LSD SE-13-32-20W4);
 - b. New double-circuit 144-kV transmission lines from Cornish Lake 954S substation to the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L25;
 - c. A new 144-kV Heatburg 948S substation, to replace the existing Delburne 760S substation (LSD NW-25-38-23W4);
 - d. New double circuit 144-kV transmission lines from Heatburg 948S to the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L16;
 - e. A new 144-kV transmission line 7L143 from the existing Nevis 766S substation (LSD NW-30-39-21W4) to the existing Stettler 769S substation;
 - f. A new 144-kV transmission line 7L128 from Coyote Lake 963S substation to the existing Michichi Creek 802S substation (LSD NE-22-29-20-W4);
 - g. Convert the existing 72-kV Stettler 769S substation to a 144-kV substation;
 - h. Convert the existing 72-kV Hanna 763S substation (LSD NE-4-31-14W4) to a 144-kV substation;
 - i. A new 144-kV transmission line 7L108 from Coyote Lake 963S substation to Hanna 763S substation;
 - j. Salvage of the existing 72-kV line 6L31 between Nevis 766S substation and Stettler 769S substation, including the tap to Delburne 760S substation;
 - k. Salvage of the existing 72-kV line 6L44 from Rowley 768S substation to Big Valley 778S substation (LSD SW-30-36-19W4);
 - l. Salvage of the existing 72-kV line 6L22 from Michichi Creek 802S substation to Rowley 768S substation; and
 - m. Salvage of the existing 72-kV line 6L56 from Michichi Creek 802S substation to Hanna 763S substation.
4. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line from the existing Ware Junction 132S substation (LSD 12-17-22-14W4) to the existing West Brooks 28S substation (LSD 13-28-18-15W4) with one side strung.
5. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line, 9L49, between Halkirk 401S switching station and Cordel 755S substation (LSD SW-29-40-15W4) with one side strung.

The locations of the proposed development for the preferred Alternative 3 are conceptually shown on the map (East-Central Alberta Proposed Transmission Development) and are described in detail in the Needs Application.

The AESO has also considered other alternatives. Regional breakdowns of these alternatives are outlined below:

Alternative 1, Double 240-kV Loop

1. 240-kV AC Looped system in east Hanna Area:
 - Base components: same those in Alternative 3.
 - Additional components elected for this alternative:
 - a. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission line 9L24 from Oakland 946S substation to Lanfine 959S substation;
 - b. A new 240-kV Clement 988S substation,;
 - c. A new 240-kV transmission line 9L14 from Clement 988S substation to Pemukan 932S substation;
 - d. A new 240-kV transmission line 9L06 from Clement 988S substation to Oakland 946S substation;
 - e. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission line from Clement 988S substation to the existing 240-kV transmission line 9L59; and
 - f. Salvage of the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L98 from Monitor 774S substation to the existing Excel 910S substation.
2. Hardisty-Area System Reinforcement: same as Alternative 3.
3. West Hanna-Area System Reinforcement: same as Alternative 3.
4. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line from Ware Junction 132S to West Brooks 28S substation: same as Alternative 3.
5. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line between Halkirk 401S switching station and Cordel 755S substation: same as Alternative 3.

Alternative 2, Single Reinforced 240-kV Loop

1. 240-kV AC Looped system in east-Hanna Area:
 - Base components: same those in Alternative 3;
 - Additional components elected for this alternative:
 - a. A new 240-kV Clement 988S substation;
 - b. New 240-kV transmission lines, 9L14 and 9L25, from Clement 988S substation to Pemukan 932S substation;
 - c. New 240-kV transmission lines, 9L06 and 9L52, from Clement 988S substation to Oakland 946S substation; and
 - d. New double-circuit 240-kV transmission lines from Clement 988S substation to the existing 240-kV transmission line 9L59;
2. Hardisty Area System Reinforcement: same as Alternative 3.
3. West Hanna Area System Reinforcement: same as Alternative 3.
4. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line from Ware Junction 132S to West Brooks 28S substation: same as Alternative 3.
5. A new double-circuit 240-kV transmission line between Halkirk 401S switching station and Cordel 755S substation: same as Alternative 3.

Submissions:

After reviewing the privacy information in this notice, if you intend to participate in this Needs Application, you must send a letter or submission and provide the information described below. Send one copy of your submission to the applicant at the name and address below, and an electronic copy of the submission to filings@auc.ab.ca. **The deadline for providing intention to participate is December 18, 2009.**

If you are unable to make a submission by way of email, send one copy of the submission to:

Alberta Utilities Commission
Facilities Division
Fifth Avenue Place, 4th Floor, 425 – 1 Street SW
Calgary, AB T2P 3L8

Subject: Application No. 1605359/EPS Proceeding ID 278

Any submission filed should include the following information:

- (i) the manner in which the intervener's rights may be directly and adversely affected by a decision of the Commission on the Needs Application;
- (ii) the nature and scope of the intervener's intended participation;
- (iii) the disposition of the hearing that the intervener advocates, if any
- (iv) the reasons why the intervener believes the Commission should decide in the manner that the intervener advocates;
- (v) the intervener's efforts, if any, to resolve issues associated with the hearing or other proceeding directly with the Applicant;
- (vi) the location of the land, residence or activity of the person in relation to the Needs Application ;
- (vii) the name, address in Alberta, telephone number, fax number, if any, and if available, an email address of the person;
- (viii) if the intervener is represented by another person, the name, address in Alberta, telephone number, fax number and, if available, email address of the representative;
- (ix) if the intervener is an unincorporated organization, the nature of the intervener's membership.

Details on intervener funding to assist in presenting your concerns in a well-prepared, well-reasoned and well-documented way are available on our website under Involving Albertans, or can be obtained by contacting the AUC as indicated in this notice. Intervener funding will also be a topic at the AUC Information Session.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

Subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, all documents filed in this proceeding, including any documents filed prior to the start of this proceeding, must be placed on the public record. Your written submissions and any other documents you file will be accessible to the public and all other participants in the proceeding through the Proceeding Search System (EPS) on the AUC website. Please ensure that any document you file is free of information that you do not want to appear on a public record. If you do not want your document or a part of it placed on the public record, you must apply to the Commission under section 13 of the *AUC Rules of Practice* for a confidentiality order **before you file your document**.

Contact Information

Information about this Needs Application and opportunities for participation are available on our website www.auc.ab.ca under Items of Interest.

Use the following URL for electronic documents regarding this Needs Application:

https://www.auc.ab.ca/eub/dds/EPS_Query/ProceedingDetail.aspx?ProceedingID=278

To obtain additional information or a paper copy of the Application, contact the applicant at:

AESO
2500, 330 – 5th Ave SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Attention: Deanna Merrick
Telephone: 403-539-2563
Email: deanna.merrick@aesocanada.ca

For information about AUC procedures, contact:

Facilities Division
Attention: Kai Yang
Telephone: (403) 592-4424
Email: Kai.Yang@auc.ab.ca

Information sessions

The AUC is committed to ensuring that Albertans who believe that they may be directly and adversely affected by this planned transmission development are informed about the application and understand their opportunity for participation in the hearing process. The AUC will be holding information sessions about the hearing procedure, how to access the full application, and how to obtain funding to support your position, in the following communities:

	Date	Venue	Venue Address	Time
Drumheller	November 30, 2009	Drumheller Inn	100 S Railway Ave, Drumheller, Alberta	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Hanna	December 1, 2009	Hanna Legion Hall	224 2 nd Ave West, Hanna, Alberta	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Stettler	December 2, 2009	Stettler Recreation Centre	6202 44 Ave, Stettler, Alberta	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Hardisty	December 3, 2009	Hardisty Community Hall	4807 49 Street, Hardisty, Alberta	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Schedule

If no letters or submissions objecting to the Needs Application are received by **Friday, December 18, 2009**, the commission will cancel the hearing.

Letters of concern, objections or support	December 18, 2009
Submissions of all information by interested persons	January 11, 2010
Reply submission by the AESO and all interested persons	January 25, 2010
Commencement of Hearing in Stettler (Stettler Recreation Centre, 6202 44 Ave, Stettler, AB)	February 22, 2009, 9:00 a.m.

All submissions are due by the deadline time on the date indicated. Late submissions will normally not be admissible.

Issued at Calgary, Alberta on November 2, 2009.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION
Douglas A. Larder, Q.C., General Counsel