

Notice of Cancellation of Hearing

Proceeding ID No. 1262

Application No. 1607358
Alberta Electric System Operator
Airdrie Area 138-kV Transmission Reinforcement Needs Identification Document

Application No. 1607465
AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink)
Airdrie Area Transmission Reinforcement

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) filed a needs identification document (NID) Application No. 1607358 (need application) with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) on May 27, 2011, requesting approval of the need to reinforce the Airdrie area 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission system. AltaLink filed Application No. 1607465 (facility application) on June 30, 2011, requesting approval to construct and operate a new 240/138-kV Twin Lakes 248 substation, associated 240-kV transmission line, new double-circuit 138-kV transmission line and associated reconductoring of the existing 138-kV transmission line in the Airdrie area to meet the need identified in the AESO's NID application.

The Commission issued a notice of hearing for the above-mentioned applications on October 28, 2011, which scheduled a public hearing commencing on February 15, 2012 in Calgary.

The Commission received a notice of withdrawal of the need application from the AESO on January 13, 2012. In the notice, the AESO states that the changes in the underlying demand forecasts have led the AESO to conclude that the determination of the means by which or manner in which that need may best be addressed should be deferred. The Commission approved the withdrawal of the need application because the AESO must conduct further studies and assessments, including alternatives, to address the need for system reinforcement in the Airdrie area. Both the need and facility applications were closed because AltaLink's application cannot proceed further without an approved NID.

As a result, the Commission cancels the public hearing scheduled for February 15, 2012.

Issued on January 18, 2012

The Alberta Utilities Commission
Douglas A. Larder, QC, General Counsel