

March 3, 2010

Alberta Utilities Commission Releases Heartland Information Session Schedule

Calgary, Alberta... Alberta's independent utilities regulator has finalized details of information sessions being held in anticipation of an application for the Heartland Transmission Project. The information sessions, part of a program of enhanced participation opportunities, are designed to inform interested parties about the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) public hearing process and intervener funding rules.

Beginning March 16, the AUC will be holding information sessions at six locations throughout the greater Edmonton region to explain its public hearing process, how potentially-affected parties can participate in the process and details of the regulator's local intervener funding program.

The need for the Heartland Transmission Project has already been determined by the Government of Alberta. The project's proponents, EPCOR and AltaLink, have stated in their public materials they intend to file a facilities application for the Heartland project, setting out routing and equipment, in the spring of this year. The Commission will hold a public hearing to determine if the project is in the public interest.

In order to maximize the preparation time for parties that may be directly and adversely affected by the AUC's decision and in recognition of the scope, nature and timeframe of this proceeding, the AUC on January 20 announced enhanced participation opportunities. These enhancements include streamlined standing procedures, pre-registration, flexibility in the degree to which participants may become involved in the Commission's quasi-judicial hearing, and a series of early information sessions.

Each session will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation covering the AUC's hearing process and intervener funding, followed by a question and answer period. Details of the information sessions are as follows:

Date/Time	Location	Venue
7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 16	Sherwood Park	Coast Edmonton East 2100 Premier Way
7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 17	Fort Saskatchewan	Lakeview Inn & Suites 10115-88 Avenue
7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 18	Morinville	St. Jean Baptiste Hall 10010-101 Avenue
7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 23	Spruce Grove	Elks Hall 400 Diamond Avenue
7:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 24	Bon Accord	Community Hall 4931-50 Avenue
7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 25	South Edmonton	Woodvale Facility & Golf Clubhouse 4540-50 Street

The AUC is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the province of Alberta. The Commission has jurisdiction over the siting of facilities deemed to be critical transmission facilities as well as other transmission facilities, electric power plants and natural gas transmission pipelines. The AUC is committed to delivering innovative and efficient regulatory solutions for Alberta.

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