

May 18, 2017

Decision 22625-D01-2017

ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)
7210 – 42 Street N.W.
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3H1

Attention: Justin Middleton, E.I.T.
Project Engineer, Operations Engineering

**Relocation of the Nisku Airport Lateral Pipeline and the Skyharbour Branch Pipeline
Licences 2045 and 8909
Proceeding 22625
Applications 22625-A001 and 22625-A002**

Minor pipeline project applications

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by applications 22625-A001 and 22625-A002, registered on May 3, 2017, filed applications with the Alberta Utilities Commission under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following near Nisku.

Pertaining to Licence 2045:

- splitting of line 10 into lines 10 and 16
- removal of line 16
- splitting of line 5 into lines 5 and 17
- removal of line 5
- pipe grade amendment of line 5 from grade 207 to grade A
- addition of newly constructed pipeline (line 18 – 0.75 kilometres of 114.3-millimetre outside-diameter pipeline)

Pertaining to Licence 8909:

- splitting of line 1 into lines 1, 14 and 15
- removal of line 14
- addition of newly constructed pipeline (line 16 – 0.10 kilometres of 168.3-millimetre outside-diameter pipeline)

2. ATCO proposed to replace approximately 650 metres of the existing 114.3-millimetre Nisku Airport Lateral Pipeline, lines 5 and 16 of Licence 2045, with approximately 750 metres of new 114.3-millimetre pipeline, line 18 of Licence 2045, in a new alignment to accommodate a proposed land development, as requested by Remington Development Corporation, and the

widening of Highway 19, as requested by Alberta Transportation. Approximately 300 metres of the new 114.3-millimetre pipeline would be installed by horizontal directional drilling, to be paid by Alberta Transportation, and the remaining 450 metres would be installed by open trench method, to be paid by Remington Development Corporation. After the 650 metre section of pipeline is removed, ATCO would restore the right-of-way to meet the developer's requirements. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$1,285,000. Alberta Transportation and Remington Development Corporation would be responsible for \$650,000 and \$635,000 of the project costs respectively.

3. In addition, ATCO proposed to relocate 100 metres of the 168.3-millimetre Skyharbour Branch Pipeline, within the same alignment at a greater depth of cover to accommodate a proposed land development, as requested by Remington Development Corporation. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$240,000. Remington Development Corporation would be responsible for 100 per cent of the project costs.

4. The Commission accepts ATCO's assessment that both projects meet the criteria for an abbreviated need project as per Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, Section 3.3, Table 3.1, as they are relocation projects for existing facilities where the project is reimbursed under the terms of a third-party contribution, project costs are forecast at less than \$2,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts. The combined cost of the projects is estimated at \$1,525,000.

5. ATCO prepared an environmental protection plan¹ for the proposed projects. The Commission accepts ATCO's statement that all recommendations included in the environmental protection plan would be implemented. No application is required for Navigable Waters (Transport Canada) under the *Navigable Waters Act* since this crossing is not within a scheduled watercourse. These projects do not require a historical resources impact assessment since the proposed work area is not referenced in the latest edition of Alberta Culture and Tourism's listing of historic resources.

6. ATCO stated that the pipelines would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. The topsoil would be stripped and stored and all surface disturbances would be backfilled before the topsoil is returned. ATCO would obtain a reclamation certificate as required by the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations* prior to discharging the right-of-way.

7. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020 and that the landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to these projects. Construction of these projects is scheduled to commence in June of 2017.

8. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the projects. Since the projects involve limited ground disturbance, the resultant environmental impact of the work has been assessed with no significant impact identified. The landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the projects.

¹ Exhibits 22625-X0004 & 22625-X0010, Environmental Protection Plan.

9. Based upon the information provided, ATCO has demonstrated that the proposals are of a minor nature, no person other than the landowners and occupants of the land upon which the projects take place will likely be directly affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact will be caused by the proposed projects.

10. The Commission approves the application. The amended licences are attached.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Brian Shand, P. Eng.
Director, Gas Facilities
On behalf of the Alberta Utilities Commission

Attachments