

July 13, 2017

Decision 22776-D01-2017

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

Attention: Dobry Mihov, P. Eng.
Project Engineer, UPR Conversions

Pipeline Splits and Removals in Calgary
Licences 4891, 5895 and 16841
Proceeding 22776
Applications 22776-A001 to 22776-A003

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (ATCO), by applications 22776-A001, 22776-A002 and 22776-A003 registered on June 30, 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 in the city of Calgary:

- splitting of line 4 of Licence 4891 into lines 4, 9 and 10
- splitting of line 135 of Licence 5895 into lines 135 and 204
- removal of lines 1, 4, 8 and 10 of Licence 4891
- removal of line 2 of Licence 16841
- abandonment of line 204 in place along with lines 51, 52, 137 and 139 of Licence 5895 and recorded in a future application
- conversion of line 9 of Licence 4891 to low-pressure distribution service and deleted from the licence in a future application
- conversion of line 135 of Licence 5895 to low-pressure distribution service along with lines 40, 138 and 198 and deleted from Licence 5895 in a future application
- mapping amendment of original line 135 of Licence 5895
- mapping amendment of lines 1 and 2 of Licence 16841
- length amendment of original line 135 of Licence 5895 from 3.94 kilometres to 3.84 kilometres
- amendment of “From and To Location” legal subdivision (LSD) of line 8 of Licence 4891 from LSD 7 to LSD 1

2. The proposed work is related to the minor split, removal and transfer of existing pipe, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed and operating in accordance with approvals granted in licences 4891, 5895 and 16841.

3. ATCO stated that the pipelines listed above were identified in its urban pipeline replacement application, approved in Decision 2014-010,¹ to be removed from high-pressure service and either abandoned or converted to low-pressure distribution service. The pipeline splits are required in order to facilitate the removals and conversions. The status changes will be recorded in future applications. In addition, Viterra Inc. has requested the removal of lines 1 and 10 of Licence 4891 and would remove those lines under ATCO's supervision. The cost of those pipeline removals is estimated at \$50,000. Viterra Inc. would be responsible for 100 per cent of the cost.

4. ATCO indicated that no additional environmental approvals are required since construction would not take place within 30 metres of the bed and banks of any watercourses. Any liquids contained in the pipelines would be captured and removed prior to abandonment and removal activities. ATCO also indicated that it would comply with the requirements of the *Guide for Pipelines Pursuant to the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations* (Alberta Environment, 1994) and industry best practices.

5. ATCO stated that notification of landowners and occupants for this work was completed in accordance with Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines* requirements. Construction is scheduled to begin in August of 2017.

6. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. The Commission accepts that the removals to accommodate Viterra Inc. are required. Since the project involves limited ground disturbance and is within the original right-of-way, 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 project.

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

8. The Commission approves the applications. In approving the applications, however, the Commission makes no determination regarding the regulatory treatment of the costs of the assets to be removed, retired, transferred or abandoned pursuant to the application, the costs incurred in carrying out these activities, or the associated rate implications.

¹ Decision 2014-010: ATCO Pipelines, a division of ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. – Urban Pipeline Replacement Project, Proceeding 1995, Application 1608617, January 17, 2014. Errata issued on February 21, 2014.

9. 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