

August 12, 2019

Decision 24782-D01-2019

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

Attention: Justin Middleton, P.Eng.
Project Engineer, Transmission Engineering

**Alix, Mirror, Bashaw Transmission Pipeline Split and Removal
Licence 835
Proceeding 24782
Application 24782-A001**

Minor pipeline project application

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd., by Application 24782-A001 registered on July 29, 2019, filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission under Section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and Section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act* for the following:

- splitting line 12 into lines 12 and 13
- removal of line 12
- “From Location” legal subdivision amendments of lines 10 and 12
- “To Location” legal subdivision amendment of line 2
- pipe grade amendments of lines 2, 11 and 12
- mapping amendments of lines 2, 10, 11 and 12

2. The proposed work is related to a minor split and removal of a section of an abandoned pipeline, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 835.

3. ATCO stated that a portion of the abandoned segment of the 60.3-millimetre Alix, Mirror, Bashaw Transmission Pipeline is in conflict with a new staging area proposed by Rahr Malting Canada. As a result, ATCO is proposing to remove approximately 40 metres of the pipeline to accommodate Rahr Malting Canada’s construction plans. The total project cost is estimated at \$20,000 and Rahr Malting Canada would be responsible for 100 per cent of the project costs.

4. The Commission accepts ATCO’s assessment that the project meets the criteria for an abbreviated need project as per Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*, Section 3.3, Table 3.1. This is a removal project for an existing facility where the project is reimbursed under

the terms of a third-party contribution, the project costs are forecast at less than \$2,000,000 and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.

5. ATCO included an environmental evaluation report¹ for the proposed project. The Commission accepts ATCO's statement that all recommendations included in the environmental evaluation report would be implemented by Rahr Malting Canada, who will complete the removal under ATCO's supervision. Specifically, ATCO stated that during construction it would comply with the requirements of the *Guide for Pipelines Pursuant to the Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act and Regulations* and industry best practices. The pipeline segments would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of.

6. ATCO stated that the project location is contained on Rahr Malting Canada-owned land and the removal has been initiated by them. There are no other consultations required for this project.

7. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Because the project involves limited ground disturbance and is within or adjacent to the original right-of-way, ATCO assessed the resultant environmental impact of the work as limited. The landowners and occupants of the affected lands did not object to the project.

8. Based upon the information provided, the Commission is satisfied that the proposal is of a minor nature, no person will be directly and adversely affected by the proposal, and no significant adverse environmental impact is likely to be caused by the proposed project.

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

10. The Commission may, within 30 days of the date of this decision and without notice, correct typographical, spelling and calculation errors and other similar types of errors and post the corrected decision on its website.

Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

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

Attachment

¹ Exhibit 24782-X0002, Alix, Mirror, Bashaw Abandoned Transmission Pipeline Removal – EER Final.