



ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Pipeline Split and New Construction

Amendment/Addition to Allow Conversion of Service to the New Southern Extension Pipeline

July 8, 2010

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Decision 2010-322: ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South)

Amendment/Addition to Allow Conversion of Service to the New Southern Extension Pipeline

Application No. 1606327

Proceeding ID. 707

July 8, 2010

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**ATCO GAS AND PIPELINES LTD. (SOUTH)
PIPELINE SPLIT AND NEW CONSTRUCTION
AMENDMENT/ADDITION TO ALLOW
CONVERSION OF SERVICE TO THE
NEW SOUTHERN EXTENSION PIPELINE**

**Decision 2010-322
Application No. 1606327
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1 INTRODUCTION

1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (South) (Applicant) filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or Commission) seeking approval for an amendment/addition to Permit/Licence 2526 for the following:

- Split Line 14 into Lines 14 and 105;
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 106 – 1.96 km of 168.3 mm OD pipe);
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 107 – 0.10 km of 168.3 mm OD pipe); and
- Addition of newly constructed pipeline (Line 108 – 0.59 km of 168.3 mm OD pipe)

(Project).

2 BACKGROUND

2. The application was registered on June 30, 2010 as Application 1606327 (Application).

3. The Applicant stated that the amendment/addition was necessary to allow for the conversion of service to the new Southern Extension Pipeline and future abandonment of the vintage Southern Extension Pipeline. The proposed 168 mm pipeline will tie in to the new Southern Extension Pipeline and connect to three existing laterals. These laterals are required to supply customers in the town of Ponoka and surrounding areas. The new pipelines must be installed and tied in to prevent loss of customers when the existing, vintage Southern Extension Pipeline is decommissioned and abandoned.

4. The Application states that a participant involvement program has been conducted by the Applicant and that there are no outstanding public or industry objections or concerns.

5. ATCO Pipelines proposed to install a new above-ground valve assembly for the 114 mm lateral from the new 219 mm Southern Extension Transmission (Licence 2526). ATCO Pipelines has notified affected landowners of the above-ground valve assembly, received letters of non-objection from the landowners, and obtained the necessary surface lease for the valve assembly.

6. ATCO Pipelines has also completed consultation with the local municipalities including the Town and County of Ponoka. The proposed pipeline alignments were determined through consultation with the stakeholders, as well as the affected landowners.

7. Traditional Land Use Consultation meetings with the four First Nations in the Hobbema area were held in October and November of 2009. Letters of support were received from Samson Cree Nation on January 19, 2010, Montana First Nation on December 15, 2009, Louis Bull Tribe on December 14, 2009, and Ermineskin Cree Nation on November 18, 2009.

3 DISCUSSION

8. The Commission has reviewed the Application and has determined that it meets the requirements as stipulated in *AUC Rule 020*.

9. Since no parties objected to the Application and the Project is necessary to allow conversion of service to the new Southern Extension Pipeline, the Commission considers the Project to be in the public interest.

4 DECISION

10. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Pipeline Act* and section 4.1 of the *Gas Utilities Act*, the Commission approves the amendment/addition to Permit/Licence 2526 for the Project and grants the Applicant the amended Permit/Licence as set out in Appendix 1 – Gas Utility Pipeline – Pipeline Split and New Construction – Permit/Licence No. 2526 – July 8, 2010 (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on July 8, 2010.

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

(original signed by)

Thomas McGee
Commissioner