

February 22, 2019

**Decision 24194-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

Removal of Sections of the 114.3-Millimetre Enoch Transmission Pipeline Licence 13281
Proceeding 24194
Application 24194-A001

## Minor pipeline project application

- 1. ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. (ATCO), by Application 24194-A001 registered on December 28, 2018, 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 near the city of Edmonton:
  - splitting line 6 into lines 6 and 13
  - splitting line 7 into lines 7 and 14
  - splitting line 8 into lines 8 and 15
  - removal of lines 7, 13 and 15
  - 'To Location' legal subdivision and section amendment of original line 6
  - 'From Location' legal subdivision and section amendment of original line 7
  - 'To Location' legal subdivision and section amendment of original line 8
  - mapping amendment of lines 6, 7 and 8
  - lines 1, 8, 9 and 10 are to be abandoned in place and then recorded as abandoned under a subsequent application
  - lines 2, 4, 5 and 14 are to be converted to low-pressure and then deleted from the licence under a subsequent application
- 2. The proposed work is related to the minor split and removal of portions of the existing pipeline, within the original right-of-way, previously constructed in accordance with approvals granted in Licence 13281.

- 3. ATCO proposed to remove a 260-metre segment of the operating 114.3-millimetre Enoch Transmission Pipeline and remove a 20-metre segment of the abandoned 114.3-millimetre Enoch Transmission Pipeline to accommodate road construction for a retail development, as requested by land developers. After removal activities, lines 2, 4, 5 and 14 would be converted to low-pressure service and transferred to ATCO Gas Distribution. ATCO Gas Distribution would then tie-in to line 14 to feed the existing downstream customers. The total project cost is estimated at \$200,000 for the removal of the pipeline segments, which will be a 50/50 cost share between developers, Panattoni Development Company and Acheson Commercial Corner LP, based on an agreement. The proposed removal would take place on private land.
- 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 costs are forecast at less than \$1 million and there are no unresolved interested party objections or significant environmental impacts.
- 5. ATCO also stated that after reviewing its as-built information, it determined that Licence 13281 did not reflect the correct location of original lines 6, 7 and 8. Therefore, ATCO has also applied to amend the pipeline licence and base map to accurately reflect the record of these pipelines.
- 6. ATCO prepared an environmental evaluation report<sup>1</sup> for the proposed project. The Commission accepts ATCO's statement that all recommendations included in the environmental evaluation report would be implemented. 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 would be tested for liquids prior to removal and any liquids found would be removed and properly disposed of. ATCO also stated that if soil contamination is observed in the project disturbance area during construction, it would collect and test soil samples to determine if the contamination is related to ATCO's operation of the pipeline. If the contamination is related to ATCO's pipeline, remediation to the applicable Alberta Tier 1 Soil and Groundwater Remediation Guidelines would occur or the contamination would be managed in accordance with the principles contained in the Alberta Government's Contaminated Sites Policy Framework and Alberta Exposure Control Plan documents. If third-party contamination were found on ATCO's right-of-way, it would report the findings to the Alberta Energy Regulator or Alberta Environment and Parks, as applicable, and work with them to resolve the issue.
- 7. ATCO stated that consultation with landowners and occupants for this work has been completed in accordance with Rule 020. Construction of this project is scheduled to commence in the spring of 2019.
- 8. ATCO has provided information respecting the need, nature and extent of the project. Because the project involves limited ground disturbance and is within 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit 24194-X0004, Environmental Evaluation Report.

- 9. The Commission accepts ATCO's submission that the need for the project arose from a request from land developers to accommodate road construction for a retail development where the estimated cost of the project will be borne by land developers.
- 10. 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.
- 11. The Commission approves the application. In approving the application, however, the Commission makes no determination regarding the final 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.

## **Alberta Utilities Commission**

(original signed by)

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

Attachment