

# Participant Involvement Program Summary

Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection

**Date:** January 16, 2025

Version: V1

Classification: Public

#### 1. Introduction

From October 2024 to December 2024, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection Needs Identification Document*. The AESO required the Market Participant, 2569059 Alberta Inc. (Market Participant) to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP. The AESO directed the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case AltaLink Management Ltd. to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP.

The AESO's PIP is designed to notify Stakeholders and Indigenous groups in the area where the AESO has reasonably determined that facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the request for system access service.

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1.2, NID12 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective March 28, 2024.

### 2. Stakeholder and Indigenous Group Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Need Overview document with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders and Indigenous groups of the following items:

- a description of the need for development;
- a description of the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- identification of the general area where facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- the AESO's contact information, including telephone, email and website, for further information; and
- the AESO's next steps.

Need Overview **AESO** website Α copy of the posted to the at was https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/laramide-battery-storage-facility-connection-2520 and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on October 23, 2024. Copies of the Need Overview posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The Need Overview was also included with the Market Participant and TFO's project-specific information package that was distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1 and 2.2.



# 2.1 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in the Market Participant's PIP

The Market Participant has advised the AESO that its PIP for the proposed Market Participant Development included notification within 800 meters of the proposed right-of-way for the transmission line as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.<sup>1</sup>

The Market Participant notified a total of approximately 161 Stakeholders, of which 11 were classified as private or individual landowners and 120 were private individuals that participated in the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Project PIP and also requested to be notified about the connection application. The other 22 notified Stakeholders and the 7 notified Indigenous groups are listed below:

- Alberta Culture and Status of Women
- Alberta Environment and Protected Areas
- Alberta Transportation
- Alberta Wilderness Association
- Bell
- Blood Tribe
- Canadian Wildlife Service Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Ducks Unlimited Inc.
- Dynegy Canda Inc.
- Foothills County
- Foothills County Fire Department
- FortisAlberta Inc.
- Lexin Resources Ltd.
- MLA Livingstone-MacLeod

- MPP Ltd.
- Nature Calgary
- Nature Conservancy of Canada
- NavCan
- Piikani Nation
- Rogers Communications Inc.
- Siksika Nation
- Stoney (Bearspaw) Band
- Stoney (Chiniki) Band
- Stoney (Goodstoney) Band
- Sunshine Gas Co-op Ltd
- Telus Communications Inc.
- Transport Canada
- Tsuut'ina First Nation
- Xplornet

Attachment 3 includes the Market Participant's project newsletter which included the AESO Need Overview, that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above on October 24, 2024. The TFO informed that a duplicate mailout was distributed on November 4, 2024.

The Market Participant's project newsletter, including the AESO Need Overview was posted on the Market Participant's project-specific webpage at <a href="https://www.enfinite.com/facility/laramide-besf/">https://www.enfinite.com/facility/laramide-besf/</a>. The Market Participant's project information package included the AESO's contact information, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

P2520 3 Public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Market Participant has identified its facility application to be of the type: Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting, as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.



#### 2.2 Stakeholders Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP for the proposed TFO Development included notification within 200 meters of the existing substation site boundary as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.<sup>2</sup>

The TFO notified a total 11 Stakeholders, of which 7 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 4 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- Alberta Environment and Parks Resource Management Program
- Foothills County
- FortisAlberta Inc.
- Telus Communications

Attachment 4 includes TFO's project newsletter which included the AESO Need Overview, that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above on October 18, 2024.

The TFO's project newsletter was posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at <a href="https://www.altalink.ca/project/laramide-battery-storage-facility-connection/">https://www.altalink.ca/project/laramide-battery-storage-facility-connection/</a>. The TFO's project information package included the AESO's contact information, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

### 3. Stakeholders Notified by the AESO

The AESO also notified four market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the Laramide Battery Facility Storage Connection. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, these market participants may be affected following the connection of the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the AESO Need Overview, was sent to the notified market participants on December 10, 2024.

The four notified market participants are:

- Enerfin Energy Company of Canada
- KEC Homestead Solar GP Corp.
- Kiwetinohk Energy Corp.
- Neoen Renewables Canada Inc.

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on December 10, 2024 at <a href="https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/laramide-battery-storage-facility-connection-2520">https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/laramide-battery-storage-facility-connection-2520</a>. A copy has been included as Attachment 5.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The TFO has identified its facility application to be of the type: For substation developments within existing facilities, where there is no change in the substation fence line, and which create minimal visual or noise impact – rural and industrial., as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A project change proposal submitted to the AESO to reduce the DTS from 100 MW to 50 MW. This was approved after the Market Participant Notification letter was made publicly available/sent out to Market Participants.

### 4. Responding to Questions and Concerns

To ensure that Stakeholders and Indigenous groups had the opportunity to provide feedback, the AESO provided Stakeholders and Indigenous groups with AESO contact information, including a dedicated, toll-free telephone line (1-888-866-2959) and a dedicated email address (<a href="mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca">stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca</a>). The AESO Need Overview included this contact information, along with the AESO's mailing address (2500, 330 5th Ave. SW, Calgary) and website address (<a href="mailto:sww.aeso.ca">www.aeso.ca</a>), and a privacy statement that described how the AESO is committed to protecting Stakeholders' privacy.

As directed by the AESO, the TFO and Market Participant were prepared to direct any Stakeholder questions addressed to the AESO, or questions regarding the AESO Need Overview, to the AESO.

#### 5. Questions and Concerns Raised

The Market Participant and the TFO have advised the AESO that none of the Stakeholders and Indigenous groups notified by the Market Participant and the TFO identified any concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

The AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections about the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

#### 6. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 AESO Need Overview (October 2024)
- Attachment 2 AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (October 23, 2024)
- Attachment 3 Market Participant's Project Newsletter Laramide Battery Interconnection (October/November 2024)
- Attachment 4 TFO's Project Newsletter Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection (October 2024)
- Attachment 5 AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (December 10, 2024)



Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (October 2024)

#### **OCTOBER 2024**



# Need for the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection in the Blackie area

2569059 Alberta Inc. (Enfinite) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility (Facility) in the Blackie area. Enfinite's request can be met by the following solution:

#### PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation in a radial configuration.
- Modify the existing Foothills 237S substation, including adding two 240 kV circuit breakers.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- In early 2025, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule), or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

#### **THE AESO**

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

#### **ENFINITE**

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting, routing, and constructing the new 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

#### **ALTALINK**

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Blackie area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation.
- Is responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the Foothills 237S substation modification.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

#### WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

#### **CONTACT US**

#### Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca 1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 0L4 Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | X @theaeso



Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (October 23, 2024)



#### **GRID**

#### **Need Overview | Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection**

2569059 Alberta Inc. (Enfinite) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility in the Blackie area.

<u>Click here</u> to view details of the proposed transmission development and access the Need Overview document, or visit <u>aeso.ca</u>: Grid > Transmission Projects > Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection



Attachment 3 – Market Participant's Project Newsletter – Laramide Battery Interconnection (October/November 2024)

#### **Laramide Transmission Line**



October 2024

Enfinite

1240, 150 – 9 Ave SW

Calgary, AB T2P 3H9

www.enfinite.com/projects/Laramide/

#### **Enfinite - Laramide Transmission Line**

2569059 Alberta Inc. a subsidiary of Enfinite (Enfinite) is proposing the construction and operation of a new 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (the "Project") to connect the proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility (BSF) to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES). An application for the BSF has already been submitted to the AUC, **Proceeding Number #28906.** The Project would run from the proposed Laramide BSF (located in the SE-18-19-27-W4) to the existing Altalink Foothills Substation, 237S (located in the NW-08-19-27-W4).

Enfinite specializes in developing robust energy storage solutions that bring greater reliability, viability, and sustainability to the power grid. Enfinite is working on the final design and layout for the proposed Project. You will find enclosed a Project map that shows proposed routes running from the two potential site locations on the parcel. As part of the process in selecting the final site the Project team is engaging with the community and undertaking environmental evaluations before filing an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in the upcoming weeks.

In this package we have enclosed:

- A newsletter that outlines the Project components, timelines, and safety information
- A Project map outlining the potential routes
- An AUC brochure that outlines the regulatory review process that is required for the Project

As an interested party in the BSF, we would like to hear from you and collect feedback, answer questions, and discuss mitigation measures so that feedback from the community can be considered in decision making.

We encourage you to reach out to our team by either email *LaramideBSF@enfinite.com* or by phone 1-833-858-5828.

We look forward to working with you as the Project moves forward.

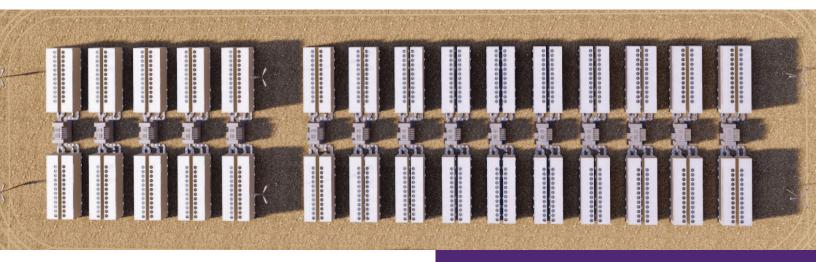
Sincerely,

#### **Taylor Smith**

Vice President - Corporate Strategy



# LARAMIDE TRANSMISSION INTERCONNECTION



# **What is this Project?**

2569059 Alberta Inc., a subsidiary of Enfinite (Enfinite) is seeking feedback for a proposed single-circuit 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line ("Project") to connect the proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility (BSF) to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES). The proposed Project would be approximately 1km in length and will connect either of the sites proposed for the BSF (located in the SE-18-19-27-W4) to the existing AltaLink Foothills Substation (237S) (located at NW-08-19-27-W4) in Foothills County.

The proposed Project is proposed to be constructed and operated only on land that is currently owned by Enfinite and AltaLink. This Project would be the final component of the application for the Laramide BSF (AUC Proceeding: 28906).

Enfinite will be engaging with landowners near the Project and anyone who has expressed interest in the BSF on this Project.

# What is the purpose of the Project?

The new transmission line would connect the proposed Laramide BSF to the AIES, allowing the BSF to charge during off-peak hours and discharge to the AIES during times of need. This Project will improve reliability for the AIES during periods of need.

# What route will this project take?

The proposed Project has two configurations. One is a fully overhead/above ground transmission line and the second is a hybrid configuration that is approximately half overhead and half underground/below ground.

The fully overhead/above ground transmission line will have a variety of structure types that will allow the line to travel above the existing transmission and distribution lines in the area and connect to Foothills 237S Substation. See next page for structure type examples.

The hybrid combination of overhead/above ground and below ground/buried transmission line will cross under the existing transmission and distribution lines in the area. The structure types for the overhead portion would be like those noted on the next page. The below ground/b uried portion is being evaluated to minimize the potential impacts in the area including a less complex crossing of the existing powerlines. Structure size and location will vary based on the final option that is chosen for the Project.

The enclosed map shows the proposed route options from both the proposed preferred and alternate battery sites. For both battery sites there is an overhead/above ground option and a hybrid option.

#### **How were routes** determined?

Route options were determined based on an evaluation of potential effects to environment, public feedback received during the battery storage facility development, the transmission line engineering, existing infrastructure, planning requirements, and the cost estimates. These routes are being presented to the public for further feedback before the submission of the findings to the regulator for their review and approval.

There were initially six (6) routes evaluated and considered, and two (2) were retired based on conversations with landowners. In addition to showing the preferred routes, the retired routes are shown on the enclosed maps.

#### Who approves the Project?

The Project will be submitted for regulatory review to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). Information regarding the AUC review process and how you can participate can be found in their brochure "Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications" included in this package and is also available on the AUC website www.auc.ab.ca.

#### What environmental aspects are considered?

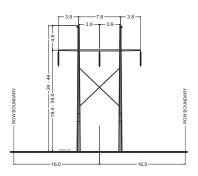
As part of the proposed Laramide BSF application, Enfinite has completed biophysical and desktop environmental surveys, an Environmental Evaluation, and an Environmental Protection Plan. The same approach will be taken with the proposed transmission component and the subsequent AUC filing.

#### **Substation at the BSF**

Along with the transmission line, Enfinite will be applying for the substation that will be located at the proposed Laramide BSF. Equipment in the substation (Laramide 1172S) will include:

- 11725) will include:
  1 240kV transformer
  1 240kV breaker and associated disconnect switches
  1 34.5kV breaker and associated disconnect switches
  Switchgear and control building
  (with associated protection and controls equipment)

#### 240 kV H-Frame Tangent Structure



\*All measurements are in metres

#### 240 kV Single Pole Tangent Structure



\*All measurements are in metres

#### Who is the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)?

The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable, and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this Project is needed, please refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to a TFO representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.





www.aeso.ca







# Who is Enfinite? Let's Power Progress Together

Headquartered in Calgary, Enfinite is a Canadian owned and operated company that is the largest BSF owner and operator in Western Canada. With 180MW of BSF and 72MW of gas-powered generation facilities. Enfinite specializes in developing robust energy storage solutions that bring greater reliability, viability, and sustainability to the power grid and its stakeholders.

Enfinite is committed to the long-term success of our projects, and the continued stability and affordability of power within the communities we impact through our involvement as both a project owner and operator.

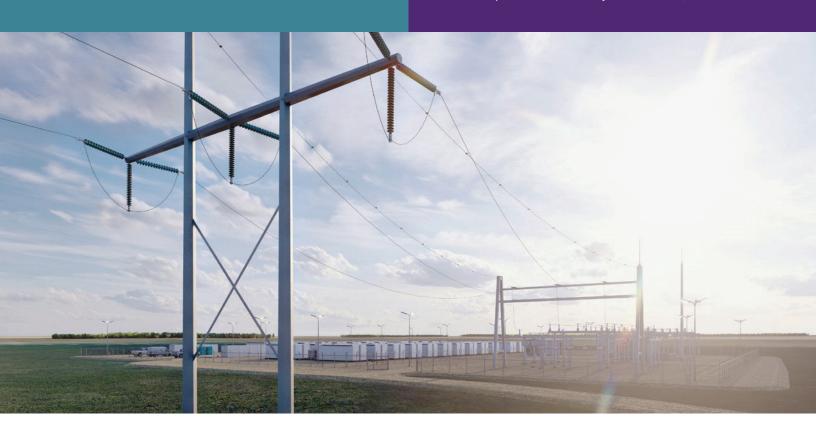
For more information on Enfinite, visit our website at www.enfinite.com

# What does Enfinite want from you?

In addition to hosting a public meeting concerning the Proposed Laramide BSF, Enfinite has engaged in discussions with landowners and residents. Information gathered from these interactions is being considered and will inform the progress of this Project.

Enfinite continues to seek feedback from the community that will help our team understand and minimize potential impacts to people and the environment. Any information or feedback you can provide will be considered in the Project's decision-making processes. Sharing your knowledge of the area and your property will help Enfinite make informed decisions as the Project moves forward.

Please provide feedback by November 5, 2024.



# Questions or comments about the Project? Contact us!



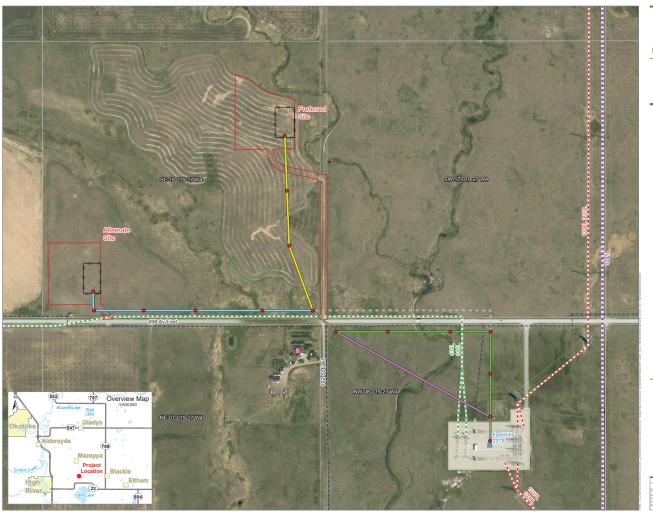
LaramideBSF@enfinite.com



1-833-858-5828









Laramide Transmission Interconnection

#### Proposed **Connection Routes**

- Potential Structure Location
- Proposed Alternate Site Connector
- Proposed Preferred Site Connector
- Proposed Overhead Route
- Proposed Underground Route
- = = Retired Overhead Route
- → Proposed Laramide Substation 1172S Fence Line
- Proposed Battery Storage Facility
- Existing Substation
- Residence Location
- --- Exisiting Distribution Line
- --- Existing 138 kV Transmission Line
- --- Existing 240 kV Transmission Line
- ■■■ Existing 500 kV Transmission Line







### Participating in the **AUC's independent** review process to consider facility applications

www.auc.ab.ca

#### The AUC regulatory review process to consider facility applications for utility projects

The AUC uses an established process to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval of a project is in the public interest.

The AUC considers applications requesting approval of the need for transmission development and facilities applications seeking approval to construct, operate, alter and decommission electric and natural gas facilities. Applications, as specified in AUC Rule 007, are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades
- The route and location of transmission facilities.
- The siting of power plants.
- The construction of a battery storage system.
- The designation of an industrial system
- The need for and siting of natural gas utility pipelines.

Sometimes the Alberta Electric System Operator's needs identification document application is considered together with a facility application in a single proceeding; sometimes separate proceedings are held to consider each

#### **Application review** process



Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC

Step 2: Application filed to the AUC

Step 3: Public notice

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation

Step 6: The public hearing process

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

#### **Application review process**

#### Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC

An applicant seeking approval of a proposed utility development project is required to engage in a participant involvement program prior to filing an application with the AUC. The public involvement program involves consultation with persons whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by the proposed project so that concerns may be raised, addressed and, if possible, resolved.

The application guidelines and requirements for facility applications can be found in AUC Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the public consultation, also called a participant involvement program. Early, active and ongoing discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

#### Step 2: Application filed to the AUC

When the applicant has concluded its consultation with potentially affected parties and the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application through the AUC online public filing system, called the eFiling System.

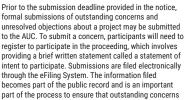
AUC staff members review each application submitted to verify that all of the application requirements in Rule 007 have been met before an application is deemed complete. If all of the required information is not provided, the application may be closed or missing information will be requested of the applicant. Rule 007 specifies, among other requirements, that applicants must submit the results of a public involvement program in its application that includes information about how applicants consulted and notified stakeholders and Indigenous groups and identifies any unresolved objections and concerns about the project.

#### Step 3: Public notice

When the AUC receives an application it is assigned a proceeding number and the AUC generally mails a notice of application directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be directly and adversely affected if the AUC approves the application. The notice initiates the opportunity for formal intervention in the proceeding  $\label{eq:continuous} % \[ \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}} = \mathcal{L$ to consider an application or applications. The notice of application will also set out important dates and information about where to find the application and other items being considered. The five-digit eFiling System proceeding number in the notice is the most efficient way to find information about a proposed project through the AUC website.

#### Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

are heard, understood and considered.



The AUC uses the information gathered through statement of intent to participate submissions to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The AUC must hold a hearing if a concerned person can demonstrate that they have rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the AUC's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the AUC. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to ask the applicant questions on the public record and present their position on the application either in writing or in person. Hearings may





be held in writing, in person or virtually through web-conference software.

#### **AUC eFiling System**

The eFiling System is the online tool that the AUC uses to manage applications and submissions in its proceeding-based review. The eFiling System gives access to all public documents associated with an application. The system is also used to submit your concerns and provide input to the AUC and can be used to monitor related proceeding filings. Those who do not have access to the internet can send submissions, evidence and other material by mail and the AUC will upload the submission on their behalf.

## Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)

The AUC supports efforts to reach a mutually agreeable outcome among the applicant and affected parties. The AUC encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement of intent to participate to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, those matters will typically be addressed in an AUC hearing.

#### Step 6: The public hearing process

www.auc.ab.ca

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if a person with standing continues to have legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location, or specify if the hearing will be held in writing or virtually. When the AUC holds a public hearing, registered parties are given the opportunity to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members. Any member of the public can listen to an in-person or virtual oral hearing. An oral public hearing operates similar to a court proceeding.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by a lawyer. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

#### Cost assistance

A person determined by the AUC to have standing or a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs. Those who hire a lawyer or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance is available under AUC Rule 009: Rules on Local Intervener Costs, recovery of costs is subject to the AUC's assessment of the value of the contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts in assisting the AUC to understand the specifics of the case. It is also subject to the AUC's published scale of costs.

People with similar interests and positions are expected and encouraged to work together to ensure that expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

#### Step 7: The decision

The AUC's goal is to issue its written decision no more than 90 days after the close of record. The AUC can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. AUC decisions are publicly available through the AUC website at www.auc.ab.ca.

#### Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

An applicant or participant in a proceeding may formally ask the Court of Appeal of Alberta for permission to appeal an AUC decision. An application for permission to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

An applicant or participant in a proceeding can also ask the AUC to review its decision. An application to review a decision must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued and satisfy the limited grounds described in AUC Rule 016: Review of Commission Decisions

### Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the AUC is expected to follow through on any commitments it has made to parties and must adhere to any conditions that were set out in that approval. If concerns about compliance with approval conditions and post-construction operations cannot be resolved with the applicant, they can be brought to the AUC's attention for consideration. The AUC has significant compliance and enforcement powers for all approved applications. Additional information is available on the AUC website.

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the government of Alberta that ensures the delivery of Alberta's utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

We are committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a utility development project are informed of the application and have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered.



#### Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC 1-833-511-4282 (outside Alberta) info@auc.ab.ca www.auc.ab.ca

Eau Claire Tower 1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

Updated March 2024

#### **OCTOBER 2024**



# Need for the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection in the Blackie area

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- Modify the existing Foothills 237S substation, including adding two 240 kV circuit breakers.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

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We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

#### **CONTACT US**

#### Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca 1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 0L4 Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | X @theaeso



Attachment 4 – TFO's Project Newsletter - Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection (October 2024)

#### Electric system improvements near you





# You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection, and we want your input.

To connect Enfinite's Laramide battery storage facility to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its transmission system. The project is located approximately 11 kilometres northeast of the Town of High River in Foothills County.

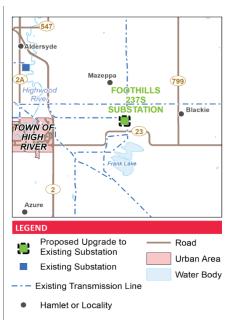
AltaLink's and Enfinite's projects are seperate. For more information about Enfinite, see their contact information included in this newsletter.

#### **Project details**

Enfinite is proposing to construct a new 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will connect its Laramide battery storage facility to AltaLink's Foothills **Substation**.

To accommodate the connection, AltaLink's proposed project includes adding two new 240 kV circuit breakers and associated equipment at the Foothills Substation.

Enfinite is proposing an overhead and underground option for their transmission line. If the underground option is selected, approximately 75 metres of **fibre optic cable** would be installed on AltaLink owned lands.



#### **ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE**

OCTOBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025
Notify and consult with
stakeholders

FEBRUARY 2025
File application with
Alberta Utilities
Commission (AUC)

SEPTEMBER 2025
Start construction if project is approved



DECEMBER 2025
Construction
completed

Although we attempt to follow the anticipated project schedule it is subject to change. We will continue to provide you with updated schedule information if required as the project progresses.

#### **Underground fibre optic cable**

Approximately 75 metres of underground fibre optic cable may be required to connect Enfinite's proposed transmission line to the Foothills Substation. The cable will primarily be located within the Foothills Substation.

The locations of Enfinite's proposed transmission line, the Foothills Substation, and the proposed fibre optic cable are shown on the Detail Photo Map (DP1) included in this package.





The Foothills Substation is in the picture on the left. The new circuit breaker will look similar to the picture on the right.

**INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:** 

- Project map
- AUC brochure: Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications
- · AESO need overview
- Electric and Magnetic Fields Information

#### **Providing your input**

We will contact landowners, residents, and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns.

After our consultation and notification process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and will review the application through a process in which stakeholders can participate.

We will notify stakeholders when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project. To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled Participating in the AUC's independent review process.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

**Substation** | Substations are the connection points between power lines of varying voltages and contain equipment that controls and protects the flow of power. Substations include transformers that step down and step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines or distributed to your community through distribution lines.

**Circuit breakers** | Circuit breakers are electrical switches inside a substation that protect substation equipment. Circuit breakers help ensure the safety and reliability of the electric system.

Fibre optic cable | Fibre optic cable allows us to communicate effectively between a customer connection point or substation and our control centre and provides valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta's electric system.

Let's talk transmission

www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission





www.twitter.com/altalink

#### Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

#### ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free) E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

#### To subscribe to this project:

visit www.altalink.ca/projects, search for the project title, and click 'subscribe to updates'

For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information: visit our website at www.altalink.ca/privacy or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

To learn more about Enfinite's Laramide battery storage facility, please contact:

Email: LaramideBSF@enfinite.com

Phone: 1-833-858-5828

Website: www.enfinite.com/projects/

Laramide

To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:

Alberta Electric System Operator 1-888-866-2959 (toll-free) Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable, and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this project is needed, please refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to a transmission facility owner representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

#### **OCTOBER 2024**



# Need for the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection in the Blackie area

2569059 Alberta Inc. (Enfinite) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection (Facility) in the Blackie area. Enfinite's request can be met by the following solution:

#### PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation in a radial configuration.
- Modify the existing Foothills 237S substation, including adding two 240 kV circuit breakers.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

- In early 2025, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule), or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

#### **THE AESO**

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

#### **ENFINITE**

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting, routing, and constructing the new 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

#### **ALTALINK**

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Blackie area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Foothills 237S substation.
- Is responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the Foothills 237S substation modification.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

#### WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

#### **CONTACT US**

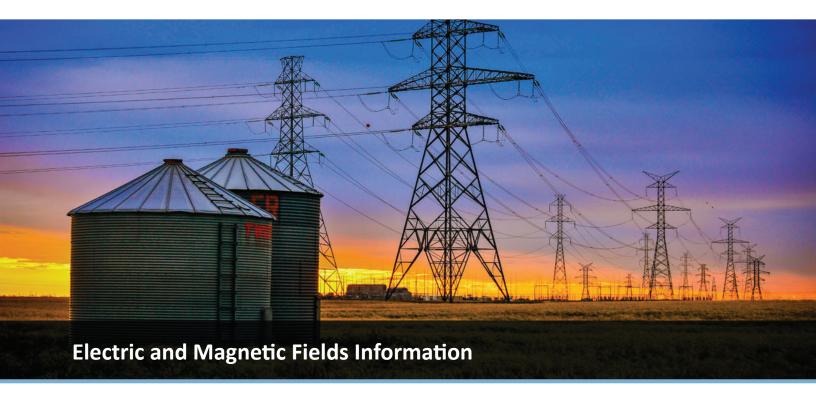
#### Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca 1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 0L4 Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | X @theaeso





#### **Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)**

AltaLink recognizes that people have concerns about exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) and we take those concerns very seriously. Everyone in our society is exposed to EMF from many sources, including:

- power lines and other electrical facilities
- electrical appliances in your home
- building wiring

National and international organizations such as Health Canada and the World Health Organization have been conducting and reviewing research about EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these organizations have not recommended the general public take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us.

Website: www.altalink.ca/emf

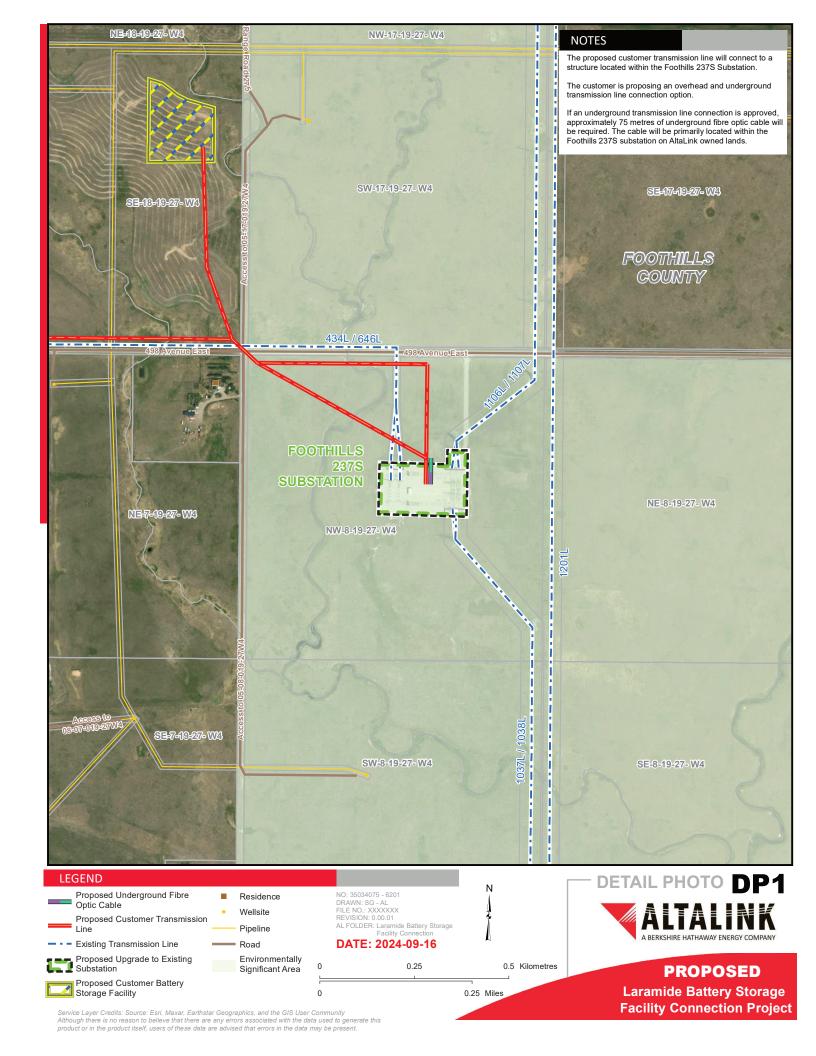
Email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

Toll-free phone number: 1-866-451-7817













# Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications

www.auc.ab.ca

# The AUC regulatory review process to consider facility applications for utility projects

The AUC uses an established process to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval of a project is in the public interest.

The AUC considers applications requesting approval of the need for transmission development and facilities applications seeking approval to construct, operate, alter and decommission electric and natural gas facilities. Applications, as specified in AUC Rule 007, are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades.
- The route and location of transmission facilities
- The siting of power plants.
- The construction of a battery storage system.
- The designation of an industrial system
- · The need for and siting of natural gas utility pipelines.

Sometimes the Alberta Electric System Operator's needs identification document application is considered together with a facility application in a single proceeding; sometimes separate proceedings are held to consider each application.

# Application review process



Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC

Step 2: Application filed to the AUC

Step 3: Public notice

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation

Step 6: The public hearing process

Step 7: The decision

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

#### Application review process

# Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC

An applicant seeking approval of a proposed utility development project is required to engage in a participant involvement program prior to filing an application with the AUC. The public involvement program involves consultation with persons whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by the proposed project so that concerns may be raised, addressed and, if possible, resolved.

The application guidelines and requirements for facility applications can be found in AUC Rule 007: Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the public consultation, also called a participant involvement program. Early, active and ongoing discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

#### Step 2: Application filed to the AUC

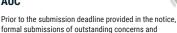


AUC staff members review each application submitted to verify that all of the application requirements in Rule 007 have been met before an application is deemed complete. If all of the required information is not provided, the application may be closed or missing information will be requested of the applicant. Rule 007 specifies, among other requirements, that applicants must submit the results of a public involvement program in its applicants consulted and notified stakeholders and Indigenous groups and identifies any unresolved objections and concerns about the project.

#### Step 3: Public notice

When the AUC receives an application it is assigned a proceeding number and the AUC generally mails a notice of application directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be directly and adversely affected if the AUC approves the application. The notice initiates the opportunity for formal intervention in the proceeding to consider an application or applications. The notice of application will also set out important dates and information about where to find the application and other items being considered. The five-digit eFiling System proceeding number in the notice is the most efficient way to find information about a proposed project through the AUC website.

### Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC



Prior to the submission deadline provided in the notice, formal submissions of outstanding concerns and unresolved objections about a project may be submitted to the AUC. To submit a concern, participants will need to register to participate in the proceeding, which involves providing a brief written statement called a statement of intent to participate. Submissions are filed electronically through the eFiling System. The information filed becomes part of the public record and is an important part of the process to ensure that outstanding concerns are heard, understood and considered.

The AUC uses the information gathered through statement of intent to participate submissions to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The AUC must hold a hearing if a concerned person can demonstrate that they have rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the AUC's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the AUC. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to ask the applicant questions on the public record and present their position on the application either in writing or in person. Hearings may



be held in writing, in person or virtually through web-conference software.

#### **AUC eFiling System**

The eFiling System is the online tool that the AUC uses to manage applications and submissions in its proceeding-based review. The eFiling System gives access to all public documents associated with an application. The system is also used to submit your concerns and provide input to the AUC and can be used to monitor related proceeding filings. Those who do not have access to the internet can send submissions, evidence and other material by mail and the AUC will upload the submission on their behalf.

## Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)

The AUC supports efforts to reach a mutually agreeable outcome among the applicant and affected parties. The AUC encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement of intent to participate to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, those matters will typically be addressed in an AUC hearing.

#### Step 6: The public hearing process

www.auc.ab.ca

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if a person with standing continues to have legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location, or specify if the hearing will be held in writing or virtually. When the AUC holds a public hearing, registered parties are given the opportunity to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members. Any member of the public can listen to an in-person or virtual oral hearing. An oral public hearing operates similar to a court proceeding.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by a lawyer. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

#### Cost assistance

A person determined by the AUC to have standing or a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs. Those who hire a lawyer or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance is available under AUC Rule 009: Rules on Local Intervener Costs, recovery of costs is subject to the AUC's assessment of the value of the contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts in assisting the AUC to understand the specifics of the case. It is also subject to the AUC's published scale of costs.

People with similar interests and positions are expected and encouraged to work together to ensure that expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

#### Step 7: The decision

The AUC's goal is to issue its written decision no more than 90 days after the close of record. The AUC can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. AUC decisions are publicly available through the AUC website at www.auc.ab.ca.

#### Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

An applicant or participant in a proceeding may formally ask the Court of Appeal of Alberta for permission to appeal an AUC decision. An application for permission to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

An applicant or participant in a proceeding can also ask the AUC to review its decision. An application to review a decision must be filed within 60 days from the date the decision is issued and satisfy the limited grounds described in AUC Rule 016: Review of Commission Decisions

## Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the AUC is expected to follow through on any commitments it has made to parties and must adhere to any conditions that were set out in that approval. If concerns about compliance with approval conditions and post-construction operations cannot be resolved with the applicant, they can be brought to the AUC's attention for consideration. The AUC has significant compliance and enforcement powers for all approved applications. Additional information is available on the AUC website.

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the government of Alberta that ensures the delivery of Alberta's utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

We are committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a utility development project are informed of the application and have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered



#### Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC 1-833-511-4282 (outside Alberta) info@auc.ab.ca www.auc.ab.ca

Eau Claire Tower 1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

Updated March 2022



Attachment 5 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (December 10, 2024)



December 10, 2024

#### **Notified Market Participant Corporate Legal Name**

Address Line 1
Address Line 2
City, Province, Postal Code.

#### Dear Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:

Re: Need for the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that 2569059 Alberta Inc. (Enfinite) has applied for transmission system access to connect its proposed Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection (proposed Facility) to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO South Planning Region.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has identified that, under credible worse case forecast conditions, the **[Effective Generation Facility Name]** (**[Effective Generation Facility Asset ID]**) may be curtailed following the connection of the proposed Facility.

#### **Connection Assessment Findings**

An engineering connection assessment was carried out by the AESO to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the proposed Facility. <sup>1</sup> The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations following the connection of the proposed Facility, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A).

Category A thermal criteria violations on the 138 kV transmission lines 691L, 765L, 733L, and 240 kV transmission lines 924L, 927L, 1080L, 1106L, 1107L, and 1109L were exacerbated following the connection of the proposed Facility. The AESO is developing system plans to address thermal criteria violations on the 240 kV transmission system in the Southwest area<sup>2</sup>. Should the AESO determine that mitigation is required to address potential thermal criteria violations under Category A conditions, the AESO may develop operational procedures or other mitigation measures.

In addition, thermal and voltage criteria violations were also identified when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the Facility. To mitigate the potential Category B system performance issues, existing remedial action schemes (RASs) 175, 178, 174, modified planned RAS 193, and the planned RAS for 1037L/1038L will be used. The total megawatts tied to existing RAS 175, modified planned RAS 193, and the planned RAS for 1037L/1038L exceeds the Most Severe Single Contingency (MSSC) limit. Therefore, pre-contingency curtailments of projects assigned to these RASs may be required under the Category A condition, to prevent generation loss above the MSSC limit during Category B conditions. Precontingency generation curtailment under normal conditions may be required using real-time operational practices to prevent generation curtailment by RAS action above the MSSC limit. The probability of precurtailment being required would be dependent on generation profiles and operating conditions.

Page 1 Public

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The studies were performed assuming the Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 100 MW and a Rate DTS, *Demand Transmission Service*, contact capacity of 50 MW.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> More information about this plan was provided at the Grid Reliability Update Stakeholder Session held on November 20, 2024; session materials are available on the AESO website.



The AESO will make use of real-time operational measures to mitigate these potential system performance issues, in accordance with <u>Section 302.1 of the ISO rules</u>, <u>Real Time Transmission Constraint Management</u> (TCM Rule), which is in effect today. When applied, the TCM Rule could result in the AESO issuing directives for curtailment to source assets that are effective in managing a constraint.

The connection assessment identified source assets, including the **[Effective Generation Facility Asset ID]**, which are effective in mitigating the potential transmission constraints.

The AESO will continue to monitor the pace of generation development and will notify market participants if it determines that it is necessary to obtain approval for an "exception" under Section 15(2) of the Transmission Regulation. The AESO will notify market participants if and when the AESO determines it is necessary to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of such an exception.

#### For Further Information

The AESO Need Overview document is attached for your information. The AESO Need Overview describes the AESO's proposed transmission development to connect the proposed Facility to the AIES.

The engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO's Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection needs identification document (NID) application. Following submission of the NID application to the Alberta Utilities Commission, the NID application will be posted on the AESO website at: <a href="https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/">https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/</a>. Stakeholders will be notified when this occurs via the AESO stakeholder newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Attachments:

AESO Need Overview: Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection

Page 2 Public

#### **OCTOBER 2024**



# Need for the Laramide Battery Storage Facility Connection in the Blackie area

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#### PROPOSED SOLUTION

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- Modify the existing Foothills 237S substation, including adding two 240 kV circuit breakers.
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#### Alberta Electric System Operator

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