

## 1. Introduction

From June 2023 to June 2024, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Tempest Wind Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document*. The AESO required the Market Participant, TransAlta Coaldale Wind LP by its General Partner TransAlta Coaldale Wind Inc. (Market Participant), to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP. The AESO also directed the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case AltaLink Management Ltd., in its capacity as general partner of AltaLink, L.P., 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.

A copy of the Need Overview was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/tempest-wind-power-project-connection-2490/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on June 14, 2023. 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 the TFO project-specific information packages that were 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 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>

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<sup>1</sup> TransAlta 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.

The Market Participant notified a total of approximately 95 Stakeholders, of which 45 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 45 notified Stakeholders and the 5 notified Indigenous groups are listed below:

- Acciona Wind Energy Canada Inc.
- Alberta Environment And Protected Areas Attn: Kristin Cline
- Alberta Transportation Attn: Leah Olsen
- Alberta Treasury Branches
- Alphabow Energy Ltd.
- Altalink Management Ltd.
- Baytex Energy Ltd.
- Blood Tribe Attn: Mike Oka
- Blue Sky Resources Ltd Formerly Zargon Oil & Gas
- Canadian Natural Resources Limited
- Canadian Pacific Railway Company
- Canadian Western Natural Gas Company Ltd C/O Atco Gas And Pipelines Ltd.
- Cenovus Energy Inc.
- Chevron Corp.
- Computershare Trust Company Of Canada
- Conocophillips Canada Operations Ltd.
- County Of Warner
- Deethree Exploration Ltd. C/O Ipc Canada Ltd.
- Deethree Exploration Ltd. C/O West Lake Energy Corp.
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Enbridge Canadian Renewable Gp Inc.
- FortisAlberta Inc.
- Forty Mile Gas Co-Op Ltd.
- Her Majesty The Queen In Right Of Alberta As Represented By The Manager Of The St. Mary And Milk Rivers Development
- Irrigation Canal Power Co-Operative Ltd.
- Lethbridge County
- Long Run Exploration Ltd.
- McCain Foods Limited
- Ministry Of Arts, Culture And Status Of Women
- MLA - Taber Warner (Grant Hunter)
- Monarch Broadcasting C/O Shaw Communications
- Municipal District Of Taber
- Nav Canada
- Ovintiv Canada Ulc
- Pamoil Limited
- Piikani Nation Attn: Ira Provost
- Rogers Communication Inc.
- Ridge Reservoir Water Association
- Siksika Nation Attn: Richard Sparvier

- St. Mary River Irrigation District
- Stirling Wind Project Ltd. C/O Potential Renewables Inc
- Stoney Nakoda Nation Attn: William (Bill) Snow
- Suncor Energy Inc.
- Telus Communications Inc.
- The Oldman River Regional Planning Commission
- Town Of Taber
- Transport Canada
- Triple W Natural Gas Co-Op Limited
- Tsuu'tina First Nation Attn: Violet Meguinis
- Xplornet

Attachment 3 includes the TransAlta's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the TransAlta's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between June 2023 and September 2023. The TransAlta's project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at <https://transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/tempest/> on June 2, 2023.

TransAlta's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact TransAlta or the AESO for additional information.

## 2.2 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP for the proposed AltaLink Development included notification within 800 meters of the new transmission structure, 200 m of the proposed structure replacement and modifications, and 100 m of the underground fibre optic line, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.<sup>2</sup>

The TFO notified a total of approximately 31 Stakeholders, of which 6 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 18 notified Stakeholders and the 7 notified Indigenous groups are listed below:

- Alberta Culture and Tourism Land Use Planning
- Alberta Environment and Parks Fish and Wildlife
- Alberta Environment and Parks Land Management Agriculture Centre
- Alphabow Energy Ltd.
- Bearspaw
- Blood Tribe
- Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.
- Cenovus Energy Inc.
- Chiniki

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<sup>2</sup> AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting; Minor transmission line replacements within the original right-of-way – rural and industrial; and the installation of fibre optic facilities where a direct and adverse effect may occur, the applicant should consult with the landowner on whose land the fibre optic work is proposed and notify those persons directly adjacent if their rights may be directly and adversely affected as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.*

- Conoco Phillips
- County of Warner
- Enbridge Canadian Renewables GP Inc.
- Fortis Alberta Inc. Operations Planning
- Goodstoney Bands
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada SPECTRUM, ISED
- IPC Canada Ltd
- Municipal District of Taber
- NAV Canada AIS Data Collection Unit and Land Use Office
- Piikani Nation
- Siksika Nation
- Stirling Wind Project Ltd. C/O Scott Land & Lease Ltd. 900, 202-6 Ave SW
- Telus Communications
- TransAlta Corporation
- Transport Canada Civil Aviation
- Tsuut'ina Nation

Attachment 4 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between June 26, 2023 and September 14, 2023. The TFO's project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at <https://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/417/tempest-wind-power-connection-project> on June 26, 2023. The TFO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, 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 25 market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, the market participant may be affected following the connection of the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the Need Overview Update, was sent to the notified market participants on May 29, 2024.

The 25 notified market participants are as follows:

- Acciona Wind Energy Canada Inc.
- Alberta Solar One, Inc.
- BER Wheatcrest Solar LP
- BHE Canada Rattlesnake L.P.
- Campus Energy 6
- Capital Power (Enchant Solar) LP
- Cardston Spring Coulee Solar Limited Partnership
- Chappice Lake Limited Partnership
- Claresholm Solar Project

- Concord Coaldale Partnership
- Conrad Solar Inc.
- ENMAX Energy Corporation
- Enterprise Solar LP
- Hays Solar LP
- Irrigation Canal Power Co-op Ltd.
- PR Development Limited Partnership
- Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc.
- Signalta Resources Limited
- Solar Krafte Utilities Inc.
- Stirling Renewable Energy Limited Partnership
- Suffield Solar
- Taber Solar 1 Inc.
- Taber Solar 2 Inc.
- TransAlta Corporation 2
- Yellow Lake & Burdett Solar LP

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on May 29, 2024 at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/tempest-wind-power-project-connection-2490/>. A copy has been included as Attachment 5.

## 4. Filing Notification

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to submit the NID to the Commission by way of a posting to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/tempest-wind-power-project-connection-2490/> and publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on June 12, 2024. Copies of the AESO website posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 6 and 7, respectively.

## 5. 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 ([stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)). The AESO Need Overview included this contact information, along with the AESO's mailing address (2500, 330 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Calgary) and website address ([www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca)), and a privacy statement that described how the AESO is committed to protecting Stakeholders' privacy.

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

## 6. 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.

## 7. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (June 2023)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (June 14, 2023)
- Attachment 3 – The Market Participant's Project Newsletter – *Tempest Wind Project Connection* (June 2023)
- Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Tempest Wind Power Connection Project* (June 2023)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (May 29, 2024)
- Attachment 6 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (June, 2024)
- Attachment 7 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of NID Filing Notice (June 12, 2024)

**Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (June 2023)**

# Need for the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area

*TransAlta Coaldale Wind (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Tempest Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Taber area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 172EL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, 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](http://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.

## TRANSALTA

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, and constructing the new 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the transmission line 172EL.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

## ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Taber area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 138 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the transmission line 172EL 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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)  
1-888-866-2959

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

[www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca) |  @theaeso



**Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (June 14, 2023)**

June 14, 2023

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# AESO Stakeholder Newsletter

## GRID

### **Tempest Wind Power Project Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Taber area**

TransAlta Coaldale Wind (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Tempest Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Taber area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 172EL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

The AESO has posted a Need Overview for this project on its website. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca) and follow the path Grid > Transmission Projects > Tempest Wind Power Project Connection (2490).

**Attachment 3 – Market Participant’s Project Newsletter – *Tempest Wind Project Connection* (June 2023)**

# TransAlta

## **Tempest Wind Project Connection**

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### **About The Project** (What is the project?)

TransAlta Coaldale Wind L.P. by its General Partner TransAlta Coaldale Wind Inc. (TransAlta) is proposing to construct approximately 20 km of new 138-kilovolt (kV) transmission (Project) to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES). This Project would connect the approved Tempest Wind Power Project to the provincial power grid. The proposed Project will be situated between the approved Tempest 1082S substation which is located on SE-19-7-17-W4M and connecting to the existing, AltaLink Management Ltd, owned 138 kV line north of the Chin Reservoir. AltaLink will be engaging stakeholders regarding the potential connection portion of the proposed project and any other additional upgrades required and will submit a separate facility application to the AUC.

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### **Wind Farm** (What is the windfarm?)

TransAlta has received approval from the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to develop, build and operate the Tempest Wind Power Project (Tempest). The approved generation site is located approximately 24 km south of Taber and would generate a targeted capacity of 99 Megawatts (MW).

### **What will The Project Consist Of?**

- + Overhead transmission wires
- + Transmission structures
- + Telecommunication wires
- + Permanent easements
- + Temporary workspace
- + Access roads
- + Laydown areas

## Routing Selection & Details (How did we come up with the routes?)

Several factors are considered in an effort to plan a transmission line route with the least overall impact. Some of the factors considered include:

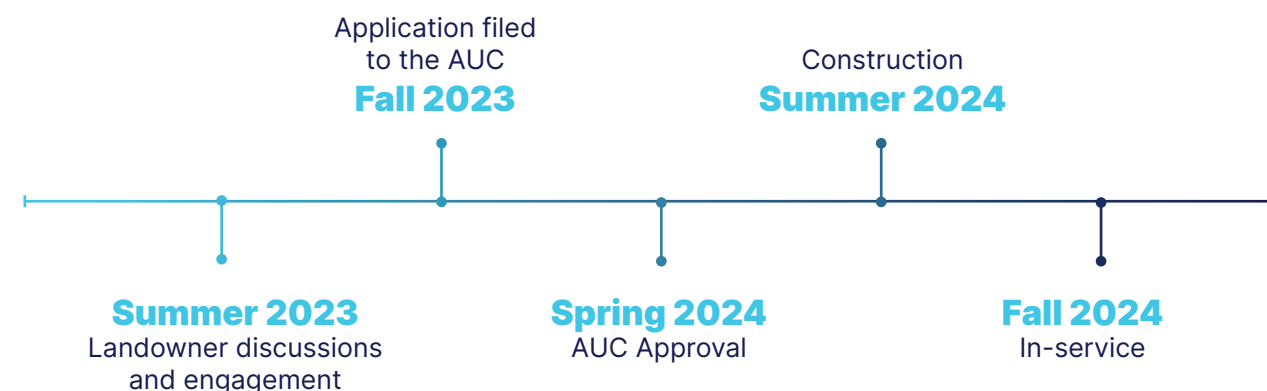
- + existing land use
- + environmental and agriculture impacts
- + existing and proposed infrastructure
- + proximity to residences
- + economic viability and cost
- + engineering constraints

The enclosed maps show preliminary route options. The options are designed based on the factors considered. The proposed transmission line routing alignment primarily follows county road allowances.

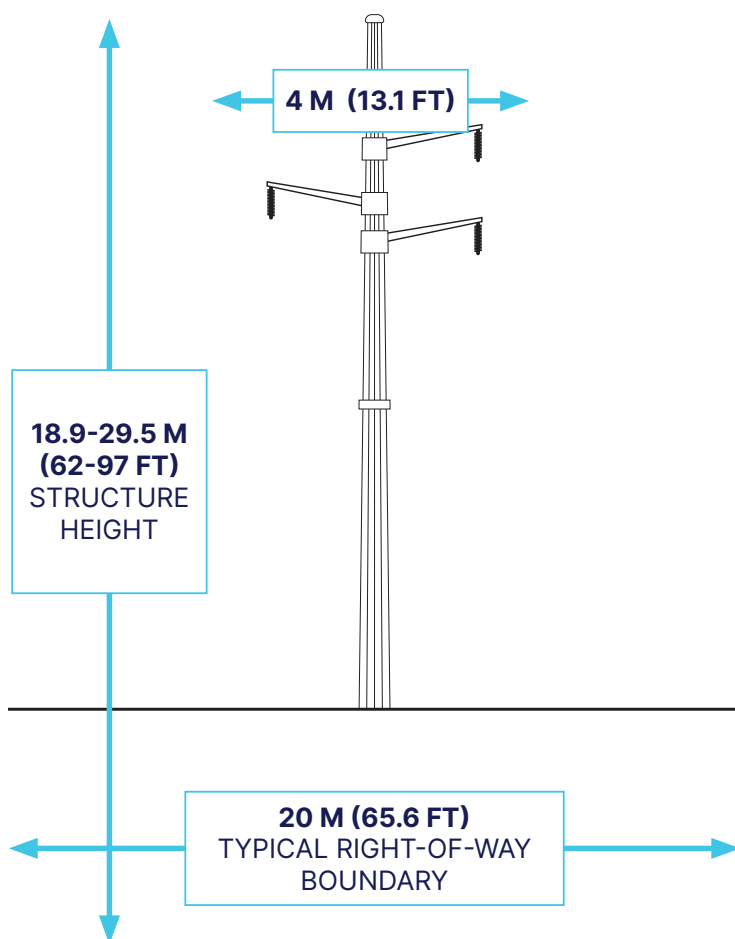
Routes currently shown are for engagement and planning purposes, and TransAlta would like to hear feedback from interested parties in the area.

## Proposed Schedule\* (What is the timeline?)

The overall timeline being proposed for the project is as outlined:



\*Subject to change



## What Will This Project Look Like?

The Project will primarily consist of single pole structures, similar to the diagram. Most of the structures will be spaced approximately 150 m (492 ft) apart. Alternative specialty structures will be required at corners, reservoir crossing, longer spans, and at the connection point. A line switch structure will be required near the connection point to provide an isolation point for emergency purposes and maintenance of the transmission line. Final structure types have not been determined and will be shared with the community once finalized. Structure placement will be based on engineering constraints and conversations with community members.

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

The Alberta Electric System Operator (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](http://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.

- + 1-888-866-2959
- + [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)
- + [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca)

## Who is the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)?

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the province of Alberta. The AUC is responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest. The AUC will make the final decision on this Project. TransAlta will submit preferred and alternate(s) routes to the AUC in a facility application in Fall of 2023.

## Are There Other Groups Involved With The Project?

The Tempest Wind Power Project is eligible to be developed and constructed under the Market Participant Choice (MPC) option; this means the Project will be permitted and constructed by TransAlta. Once the line is in-service, TransAlta will transfer the Project to AltaLink who will assume role of Transmission Facility Owner (TFO) and operator of the transmission line.

## What We Need From You?

TransAlta is seeking feedback from landowners, residents, and interested parties. We are looking for feedback about routing, information about landholdings, and any other local knowledge to help guide our project planning.

### Please reach out to our team:

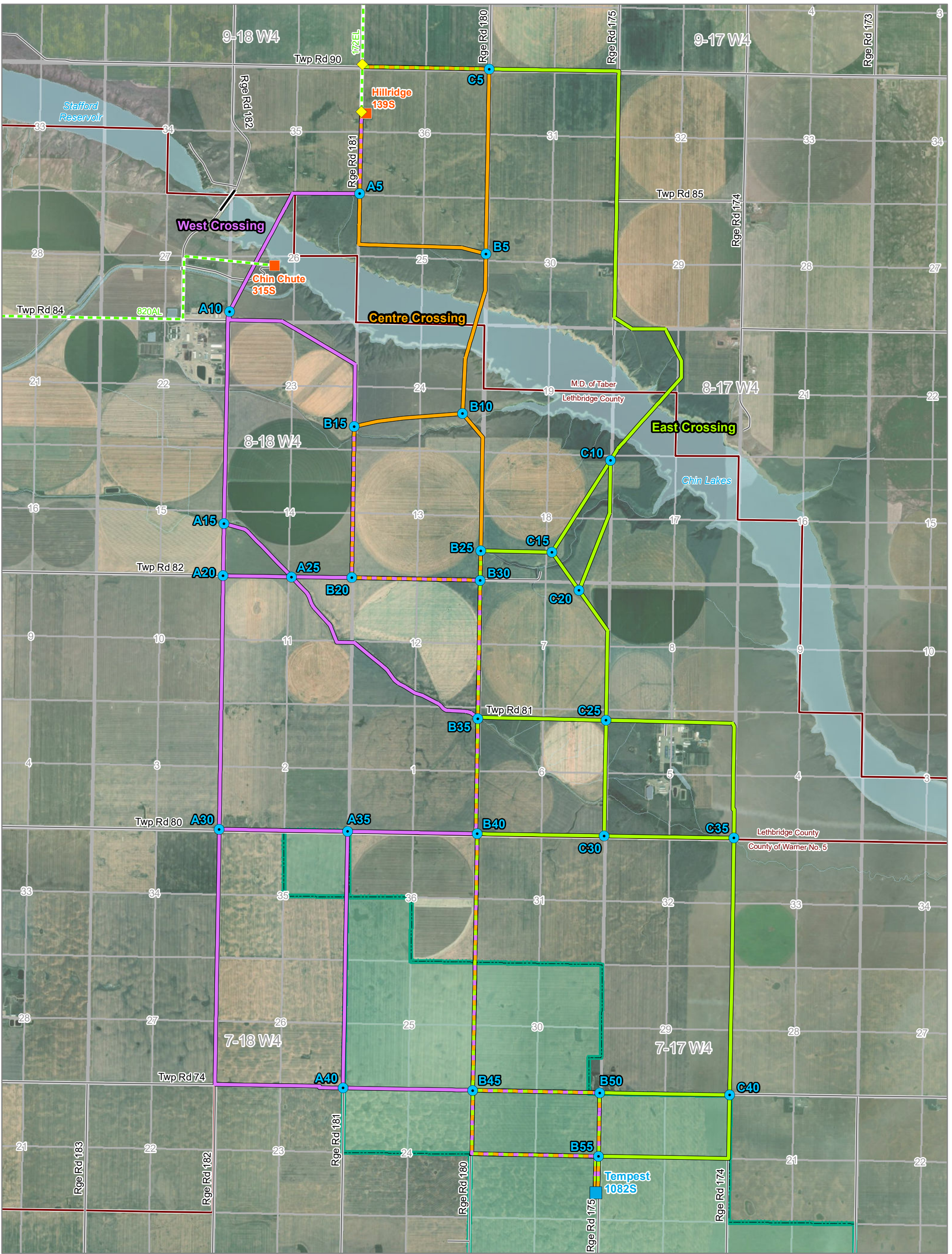
**Email:** [transaltatempest@maskwaenv.com](mailto:transaltatempest@maskwaenv.com)

**Phone:** 1-888-474-1702

**Website:** [www.transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/tempest](http://www.transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/tempest)





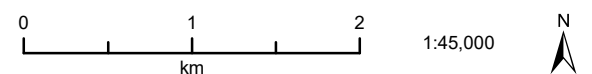


**TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta)**  
 through its wholly owned subsidiary  
**TransAlta Coaldale Wind L.P.**

TransAlta Tempest  
 MPC Wind Project Connection

### Potential Route Segments

- Approved Tempest Substation
- Existing Substation
- ◆ Potential Transmission Line Point of Interconnection
- ◆ Existing 138 kV Transmission Line
- Reference Point
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Potential Route Segment
- Centre Reservoir Crossing
- West Reservoir Crossing
- East Reservoir Crossing
- Watercourse
- MD or County Boundary
- Water Body
- Wind Project Boundary



Produced For: TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) | Map Creator: S. Galant  
 Map Date: May 16, 2023 | Map #: TAC23059-002 Rev.0

This document is created solely for the use of TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) through its wholly owned subsidiary TransAlta Coaldale Wind L.P. Maskwa Environmental Consulting Ltd. assumes no liability to any other third party for any representations contained in this drawing. Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to create this map product, users of this data are advised that errors may be present. Scale of the map is 1:45,000, when printed at 11" by 17". Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N Path: S:\Client\TransAlta\Tempest\003\_Mapping\20230508\_NewsletterMap\



# Need for the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area

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- In late 2023, 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](http://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.

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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

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

## 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



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 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



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](http://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](mailto:info@auc.ab.ca)  
[www.auc.ab.ca](http://www.auc.ab.ca)

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

**Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Tempest Wind Power Connection Project* (June 2023)**

# Electric system improvements near you

## Tempest Wind Power Connection Project

AltaLink's transmission system efficiently delivers electricity to 85 per cent of Albertans. Dedicated to meeting the growing need for electricity, AltaLink connects Albertans to renewable, reliable and low-cost power. With a commitment to community and environment, AltaLink is ensuring the transmission system will support Albertans' quality of life for years to come. Learn more at [www.altalink.ca](http://www.altalink.ca).

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Tempest Wind Power Connection Project and we want your input.

To connect TransAlta's Tempest Wind Power Connection Project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's project is required to connect TransAlta's project, it is a separate project. TransAlta will consult separately on their proposed wind project. For more information about TransAlta's project, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- maps of the proposed project
- Information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

#### DEFINITIONS:

#### **Transmission**

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, solar, natural gas and more.

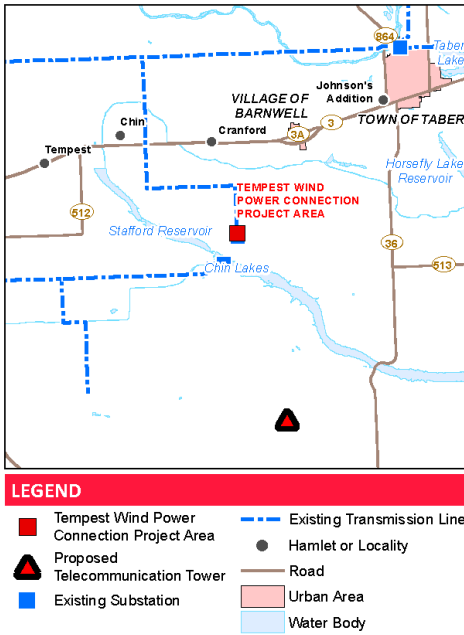
#### **CONTACT US**

1-877-267-1453

[stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)

[www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)





## Project details

To connect its project to the grid, TransAlta is constructing a new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, located approximately 20 kilometres south of the Town of Taber. To accommodate the connection, AltaLink's proposed project includes:

- modifying the existing 172EL transmission line at one of two potential locations
- installing a new underground **fibre optic cable** between one of two potential connection points and an existing **substation** in the area (called Suncor Hillridge), located in NW-36-8-18-W4M
- installing a new **telecommunications tower** at TransAlta's Tempest Substation, located in SE-19-7-17-W4M

## Potential connection points

TransAlta is considering two connection points along AltaLink's existing 172EL transmission line. To accommodate this connection, AltaLink is proposing the following modifications to its transmission line at both potential connection points. If approved, only one of these modifications will be constructed, based on the final connection point determined by TransAlta.

The length of the proposed fibre optic cable will depend on the final connection point. The cable will primarily be located in road allowance. Where the cable is located on private property, approximately six metres of **right-of-way** is required.



The new structures will look similar to the photo above.



The telecommunications tower will look similar to the photo above.

Location	Work required if selected
North connection point (SW-1-9-18-W4M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding one new single pole structure</li> <li>• Replacing two existing single pole structures with new single pole structures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The existing structures are approximately 18 metres (m) tall and the new structures will be approximately 18-25 m tall</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Installing approximately 760 m of fibre optic cable</li> </ul>
South connection point (NW-36-8-18-W4M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacing one existing single pole structure with a new single pole structure with guy wires <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The existing structure is approximately 18 metres (m) tall and the new structure will be approximately 18-25 m tall</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Installing approximately 70 m of fibre optic cable</li> </ul>

## Telecommunications tower

The proposed telecommunications tower will:

- be a self-supported steel structure
- be approximately 25-40 m tall (including the antenna and lightning rod) and have a triangular base
- comply with Transport Canada's requirements regarding painting and lighting
- not be accessible to the public, as the structure will be inside the fenced area of an operating substation and only support AltaLink equipment at this time

The locations of the proposed connection point options, fibre optic cable, and telecommunications tower are shown on the Detail Photo Maps (DP1 and DP2) included in this package.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**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.



In certain locations along the proposed fibre optic cable, a small underground conduit box, similar to the one in the image on the right, may be required to facilitate construction and maintenance of the cable. These locations will be determined following detailed engineering and discussions with landowners.

**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.

**Telecommunications tower**

Telecommunications towers support equipment that transmits data to our system control centre. This allows us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure we provide safe and reliable power to our customers.

**Right-of-way**

The right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction and safe operation of a transmission line. A right-of-way refers to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line. The majority of the right-of-way can still be used by the landowner. Buildings cannot be placed on the right-of-way, but can be built up to the edge of the right-of-way.

**Providing your input**

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans. We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: [www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback](http://www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback).

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 to consider facility applications*.

**Anticipated project schedule**

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June - August 2023
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	September 2023
Start construction if project is approved	January 2025
Construction completed	April 2025

*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.*



## Contact us

*To learn more about the proposed project please contact:*

### **ALTALINK**

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: [stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)

Website: [www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)

*To learn more about the TransAlta project, please contact:*

### **TRANSALTA**

Dmitriy Teterkin, Project Manager – Transmission

Email: [Dmitriy\\_Teterkin@transalta.com](mailto:Dmitriy_Teterkin@transalta.com)

Phone: 1-587-763-5011

Cell: 1-587-830-2179

*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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

Website: [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca)

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](http://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.

*To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:*

### **ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)**

780-427-4903 (toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number.)

E-mail: [consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)

### **OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY**

If the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) approves this project, you may see or hear construction crews in the area. We have set strict standards by which we operate, including restricting work hours to reduce the impacts to local residents and businesses, ensuring safe construction practices and following environmental protection measures and appropriate environmental legislation. AltaLink believes that the environmental effects of this project will be negligible. This project is not located on federal lands, therefore Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 does not apply. AltaLink's safety standards and practices are developed to meet or exceed government guidelines and codes to ensure that our facilities meet the requirements for public, employee and neighbouring facility safety.

### **PRIVACY COMMITMENT**

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the Personal Information Protection Act. As part of the regulatory process for new transmission projects, AltaLink may provide your personal information to Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information, visit our website at [www.altalink.ca/privacy](http://www.altalink.ca/privacy) or contact us directly via e-mail [privacy@altalink.ca](mailto:privacy@altalink.ca) or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

## INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- Electric and Magnetic Fields and Radio Frequency Information
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

## SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

- 1) Visit: [altalink.ca/projects](http://altalink.ca/projects)
- 2) Search for the project title
- 3) Click **Subscribe to Updates**

## LET'S TALK TRANSMISSION

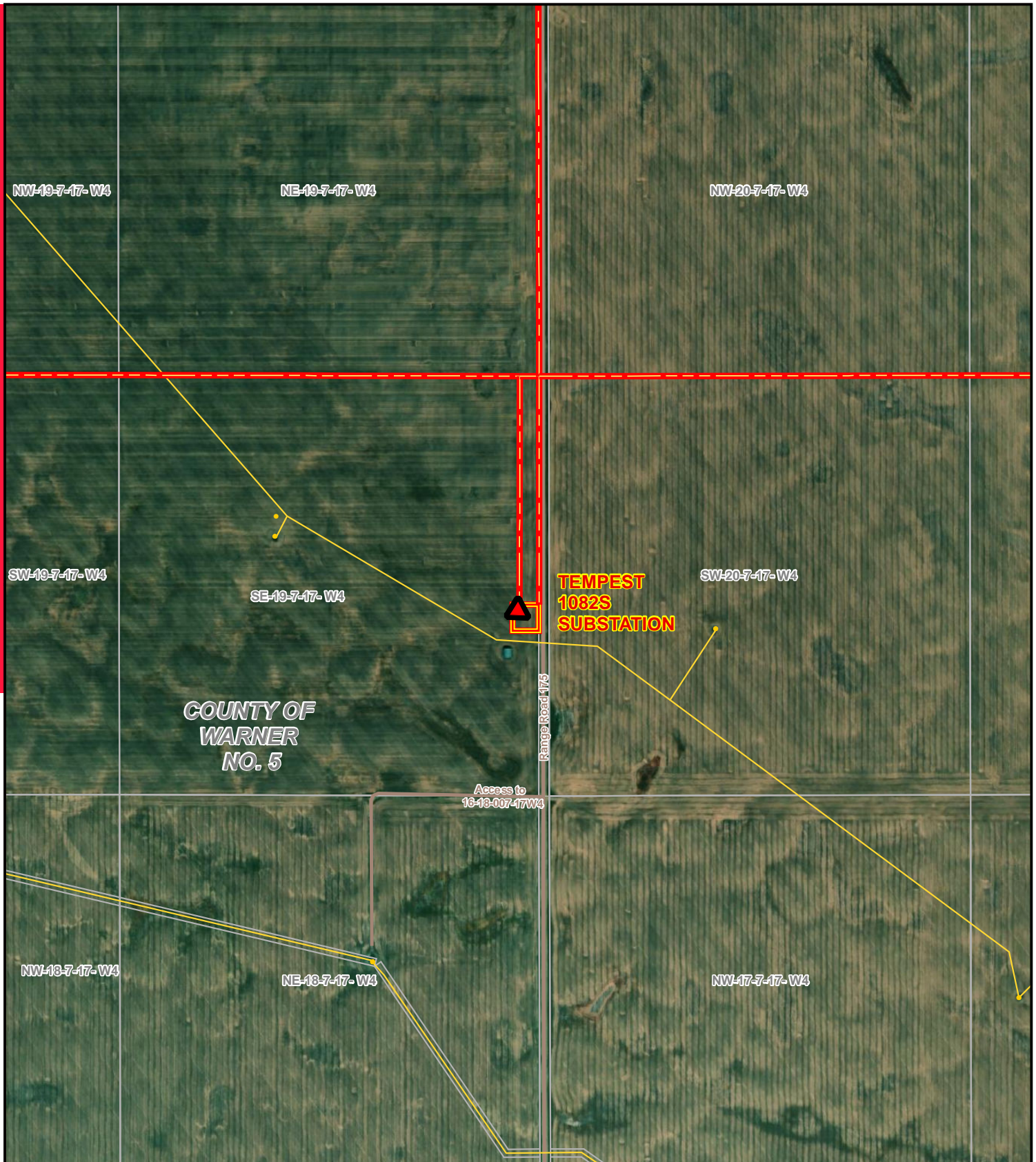


[www.twitter.com/altalink](http://www.twitter.com/altalink)









[www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission](http://www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission)



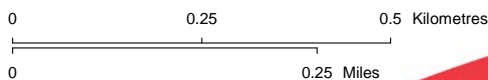


**LEGEND**

-  Potential Telecommunication Tower
-  Potential Customer Transmission Line
-  Potential Customer Substation
-  Wellsite
-  Pipeline
-  Road

NO: 35033598-6201  
 DRAWN: SG - AL  
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX  
 REVISION: 0.00.01  
 AL FOLDER: Tempest Wind Power Connection Project

**DATE: 2023-06-07**



DETAIL PHOTO DP2

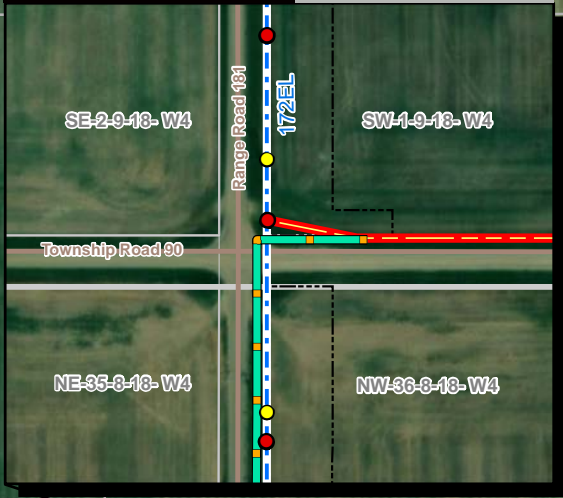


**POTENTIAL  
 Tempest Wind Power  
 Connection Project**

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community  
 Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to generate this product or in the product itself, users of these data are advised that errors in the data may be present.



**INSET MAP**

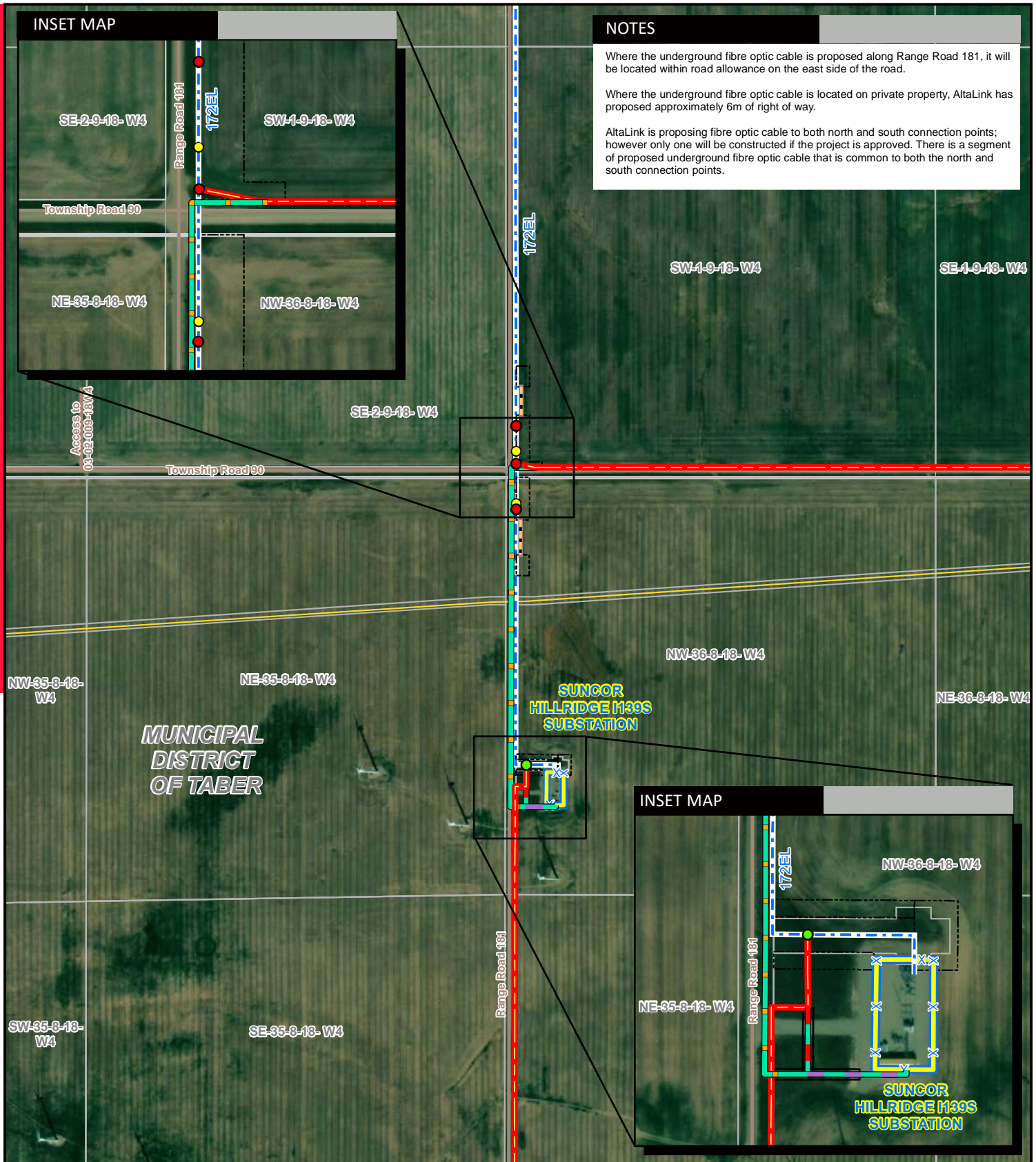


**NOTES**

Where the underground fibre optic cable is proposed along Range Road 181, it will be located within road allowance on the east side of the road.

Where the underground fibre optic cable is located on private property, AltaLink has proposed approximately 6m of right of way.

AltaLink is proposing fibre optic cable to both north and south connection points; however only one will be constructed if the project is approved. There is a segment of proposed underground fibre optic cable that is common to both the north and south connection points.



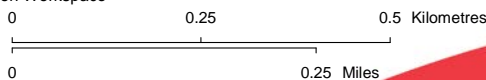
**INSET MAP**



**LEGEND**

- Potential New Structure
- Potential Structure Modification
- Potential Salvage of Existing Structure
- Potential Underground Fibre Optic Cable Common to North and South Connection Point
- Potential Underground Fibre Optic Cable to North Connection Point
- Potential Underground Fibre Optic Cable to South Connection Point
- Potential Customer Transmission Line
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- 6m Right-of-Way Boundary
- Access Trail
- Existing 3rd Party Substation Fenceline
- Construction Workspace
- Pipeline
- Road

NO: 35033598-6201  
 DRAWN: SG - AL  
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 AL FOLDER: Tempest Wind Power Connection Project  
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DETAIL PHOTO DP1



**POTENTIAL  
 Tempest Wind Power  
 Connection Project**

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# Need for the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area

*TransAlta Coaldale Wind (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Tempest Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Taber area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 172EL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, 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](http://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.

## TRANSALTA

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, and constructing the new 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the transmission line 172EL.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

## ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Taber area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 138 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the transmission line 172EL 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@aesoc.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesoc.ca)  
1-888-866-2959

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

[www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca) |  @theaesoc





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

## 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



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 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



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](http://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.



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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](mailto:info@auc.ab.ca)  
[www.auc.ab.ca](http://www.auc.ab.ca)

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

**Attachment 5 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (May 2024)**

May 29, 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 Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that TransAlta Coaldale Wind LP (TransAlta) has applied for transmission system access to connect its approved Tempest Wind Power Project (approved 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 approved 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 approved Facility.<sup>1</sup> The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations following the connection of the approved Facility, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A). Category A thermal criteria violations were observed pre-Project on the 138 kV transmission lines 770L, 172L, 607L, 610L, 763L, 180L, 507L, and the 69 kV transmission line 225L, and most are exacerbated with the addition of the approved Facility. In addition, new category A thermal criteria violations were observed following the connection of the approved Facility on two sections of the 69 kV transmission line 225L. 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 and planned remedial action schemes (RAS) will be used.

The AESO may also make use of real-time operational measures to mitigate these potential system performance issues, in accordance with [Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, Real Time Transmission Constraint Management](#) (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.

---

<sup>1</sup> The studies were performed assuming the Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 99 MW.

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 approved Facility to the AIES.

The engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO’s 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: <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/>. 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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

**Attachments:**

AESO Need Overview: *Need for the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area*



# Need for the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection in the Taber area

*TransAlta Coaldale Wind (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Tempest Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Taber area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 172EL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, 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](http://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.

## TRANSALTA

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, and constructing the new 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the transmission line 172EL.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

## ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Taber area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 138 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the transmission line 172EL 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

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**Attachment 6 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (June 2024)**

# Tempest Wind Power Project Connection (2490)

## Notice of Filing

The AESO intends to file the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after June 27, 2024.

**Attachment 7 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice (June 12, 2024)**



## GRID

### Notice of Filing | Tempest Wind Power Project Connection

TransAlta Coaldale Wind LP (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Tempest Wind Power Project (facility) in the Taber area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 172EL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

The AESO intends to file the Tempest Wind Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after **June 27, 2024**.

More information is available on the AESO website. To see all the relevant documents, including the NID application once it is filed with the AUC, [click here](#) to view the project page or visit [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca) and follow the path: Grid >Transmission-Projects > Tempest Wind Power Project Connection (2490).