

Appendix E - AESO PIP Summary

AESO Participant Involvement Program Summary

P7075: Vauxhall Area Transmission Development

Date: November 15, 2022

Classification: Public

P7075

1. Introduction

From April to November 2022, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) to assist in preparing its *Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Needs Identification Document* (NID). The AESO 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 need for transmission development.

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1.1, NID 6 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective April 25, 2022.

2. Stakeholder Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Newsletter titled *Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Project Newsletter* with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders of the following items:

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

A copy of the AESO Newsletter was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-area-transmission-development-7075/> on April 5, 2022 and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter¹ on April 5, 2022. Copies of the AESO Newsletter posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The AESO Newsletter was also included with the TFO's project-specific information packages that were distributed to Stakeholders and Indigenous groups, as further described in Sections 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3.

2.1 Stakeholders Notified in the TFO's PIP

The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development included Stakeholders in two areas, one for Stakeholders in the vicinity of the 879L transmission line and one for Stakeholders in the vicinity of the 610L transmission line. Notification for the 610L transmission line PIP occurred from April to August 2022, while

¹ The AESO's twice-weekly Stakeholder Newsletter is offered by subscription to anyone that would like to receive it distributed via e-mail.

the 879L transmission line PIP occurred from June to September 2022. The AESO's Newsletter was included in the TFO's project-specific information package for both areas.

2.2 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in 610L Transmission Line PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its 610L transmission line PIP included notification to Stakeholders within 800 meters (m) of the proposed transmission line right-of-way and within 200 m of the existing right-of-way boundary, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007 and any required Indigenous consultation is in accordance with Appendix A1-B "*Participant involvement program guidelines for Indigenous groups*" in AUC Rule 007. The Stakeholder notification areas were selected for the type of facility application specified in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5:

- 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
- Decommission and Salvage -transmission facilities

Notification was completed through addressed mail and electronic mail. The TFO notified a total of approximately one hundred and seventy five (175) Stakeholders, specifically ten (10) government officials or agencies and eight (8) industry stakeholders, thirteen (13) oil and gas stakeholders, one (1) industrial or government encumbrance holder, six (6) private encumbrance holders, one hundred twenty (120) landowners, one (1) alternative representative, two (2) crown lease holders, four (4) individuals, and one (1) occupant, and four (4) renters. Five (5) Indigenous groups were notified as directed by the Alberta Aboriginal Consultation Office and to fulfill Indigenous consultation requirements for Category A projects as per AUC Rule 007 Appendix A1-B.

The TFO's rationale for the Stakeholders inclusion in the 610L transmission line PIP are listed in Table 1 the Indigenous groups in Table 2.

Table 1: Summary of Agency and Industry Stakeholders Notified by the TFO for 610L Transmission Line

Stakeholder	TFO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
Town of Taber	Municipality in consultation area
MD of Taber	Municipality in consultation area
Alberta Culture and Status of Women	Provincial requirements
Alberta Environment and Parks – Fish and Wildlife South	Provincial requirements
Alberta Environment and Parks – Regional Approvals – South Sask.	Provincial requirements
Alberta Transportation	Provincial requirements
Alberta Transportation – Highway 3 project – Southern Region	Provincial requirements
Alberta Transportation – Highway 3 project – Transportation lead	Provincial requirements

Stakeholder	TFO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
NAV Canada	Federal requirement
Transport Canada	Federal requirement
C&B Alberta Solar Development	Solar Farm Operator in the project notification area
Canadian Pacific Railway	Railway owner in the project notification area
FortisAlberta Inc.	Distribution owner in the project notification area
Equus Rea Ltd.	Distribution owner in the project notification area
Telus Communications	Telecommunication owner in project notification area
Shaw Communications	Telecommunication owner in project notification area
Taber Irrigation District	Irrigation district in project notification area
Rogers Communications	Telecommunication owner in project notification area
ATCO Gas and Pipelines	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Bluestone Resources Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Canadian Western Gas Company	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Inter Pipeline Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Mahalo Energy Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Orphan Well Association	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Ovintiv Canada ULC	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Peregrine Energy Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Rife Resources Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Sanling Energy Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area

Stakeholder	TFO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
Signalta Resources Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Taber Water Disposal Ltd.	Oil and Gas facility owner in the project notification area
Oldman River Regional Planning Commission	Encumbrance stakeholder in the project notification area

Table 2: Summary of Indigenous Groups Notified by the TFO for 610L Transmission Line

Stakeholder/Contact	TFO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
Blood Tribe	ACO directed Level 1 consultation
Piikani Nation	ACO directed Level 1 consultation
Siksika Nation	ACO directed Level 1 consultation
Stoney Nakoda Nations: Bearspaw Band, Chiniki Band, Wesley Band	ACO directed Level 1 consultation
Tsuut'ina Nation	ACO directed Level 1 consultation

Attachment 3 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Newsletter in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between April to August 2022. The TFO's project newsletter and the AESO Newsletter were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at [Vauxhall Area Transmission Development | AltaLink](#) in April 2022.

The TFO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Newsletter, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

2.3 Stakeholders Notified in 879L Transmission Line PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its 879L transmission line PIP included notification to Stakeholders within 200 m of the existing right-of-way boundary, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007. The Stakeholder notification areas were selected for the type of facility application specified in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5:

- Minor transmission line replacements within the original right-of-way – rural and industrial

Notification was completed through addressed mail and electronic mail. The TFO notified a total of approximately eighty four (84) stakeholders, specifically eight (8) government officials or agencies and seven (7) industry stakeholders, five (5) oil and gas stakeholders, one (1) private encumbrance holder, fifty-three (53) landowners, three (3) alternative representatives, three (3) crown lease holders, one (1) individual, and three (3) renters. There were no Indigenous groups identified within the project notification area. The project will not impact new Crown lands therefore notification to Indigenous groups was not required as per the Alberta Aboriginal Consultation Office's policies on First Nations and Métis consultation and meets Category B in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1-B.

The TFO's rationale for the Stakeholders inclusion in the 879L transmission line PIP are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Summary of Agency and Industry Stakeholders Notified by the TFO for 879L Transmission Line

Stakeholder	TFO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
County of Forty Mile	Municipality in consultation area
Cypress County	Municipal requirements
Alberta Culture and Status of Women	Provincial requirements
Alberta Environment and Parks – Fish and Wildlife South	Provincial requirements
Alberta Environment and Parks – Regional Approvals – South Sask.	Provincial requirements
Alberta Transportation	Provincial requirements
NAV Canada	Federal requirement
Transport Canada	Federal requirement
St. Mary and Milk Rivers Development Land Manager	Irrigation District in the project notification area
St. Mary River Irrigation District	Irrigation District in the project notification area
Canadian Pacific Railway	Railway owner in the project notification area
FortisAlberta Inc.	Distribution facility owner in project notification area
Equus REA Ltd.	Distribution facility owner in project notification area
Telus Communications	Telecommunication owner within the project notification area
Rogers Communications	Telecommunication owner within the project notification area
AltaGas Utilities Inc c/o Apex Utilities Inc.	Oil and gas facility owner in the project notification area
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	Oil and gas facility owner in the project notification area
City of Medicine Hat	Oil and gas facility owner in the project notification area
Express Pipeline Ltd. c/o Enbridge	Oil and gas facility owner in the project notification area
Spartan Delta Corp.	Oil and gas facility owner in the project notification area

Attachment 4 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Newsletter in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between June and September 2022. The TFO's project newsletter and the AESO Newsletter were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at [Vauxhall Area Transmission Development | AltaLink](#) in June 2022.

The TFO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Newsletter, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

3. Notification of Filing

On November 1, 2022, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need for the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development. A copy of the notification of filing was published to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-area-transmission-development-7075/> and a notice published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 1, 2022. Copies of the Notification of Filing posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 5 and 6, respectively.

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 (stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca). The AESO Newsletter included this contact information, along with the AESO's mailing address (2500, 330 5th Ave. SW, Calgary) and website address (www.aeso.ca), and a privacy statement that described how the AESO is committed to protecting Stakeholders' privacy.

As directed by the AESO, the TFO was prepared to direct any Stakeholder questions addressed to the AESO, or questions regarding the AESO Newsletter, to the AESO.

5. Questions and Concerns Raised

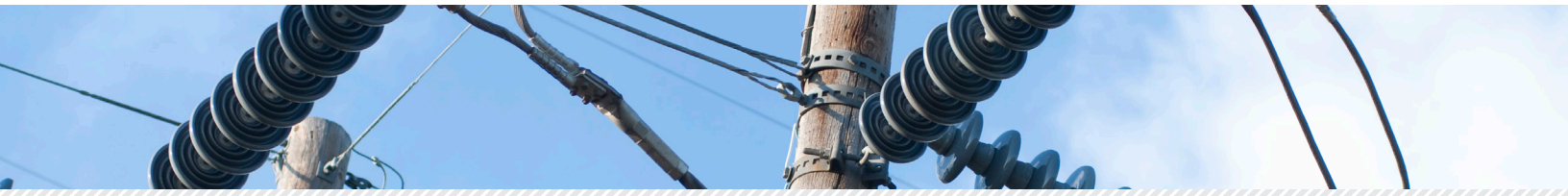
The TFO has advised the AESO that notified stakeholders as part of both the 610L and 879L transmission line project areas have not identified any concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the need for transmission development.

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

6. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Newsletter (March 2022)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Project Newsletter Notice (April 5, 2022)
- Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *610L Transmission Line Replacement* (April 2022)
- Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *879L Transmission Line Restoration* (June 2022)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Public Notification of Filing Website Posting (November 2022)
- Attachment 6 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of Filing (November 1, 2022)

Attachment 1 – AESO Newsletter (March 2022)



The electricity system in your area needs improvement

At the **Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)**, we plan Alberta’s electric transmission system. We study the transmission system to determine what future upgrades and expansions will be needed to continue to reliably serve the province’s growing power demands.

- Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Vauxhall area needs to be enhanced to continue to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is proposing to increase the capacity of the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line 610L by adding a new 138 kV transmission line between the Fincastle 336S and Taber 83S substations. Once the new 138 kV transmission line is in service, the existing transmission line 610L is expected to be removed. The AESO is also proposing to increase the line rating of the existing 138 kV transmission line 879L near the Bowmanton 244S substation.



WILL YOU BE AFFECTED?

If you are receiving this information, you live in an area where new facilities could potentially be located.

Please review AltaLink Management Ltd’s information about the proposed location of the required facilities. As the Transmission Facility Owner in the Vauxhall area, identifying specific locations of where facilities may be constructed is AltaLink’s responsibility.

QUESTIONS?

At the AESO, we operate on behalf of you and all Albertans. We value the opportunity to listen to your comments and answer your questions about this required reconfiguration prior to approval.

Please contact AESO Stakeholder Relations at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca or 1-888-866-2959

NEXT STEPS

The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in late 2022. The AESO’s needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO’s website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects at the time of its application to the AUC.



ABOUT THE AESO

The AESO operates the provincial transmission system so that all Albertans can count on safe and reliable electricity to power our homes and businesses each and every day. The AESO also carefully plans upgrades and reinforcements to the system to ensure the transmission system meets the needs of Alberta.

The AESO is committed to protecting your privacy.

The feedback, comments and contact information you choose to submit is being collected by the AESO to respond to your inquiries and/or to provide you with further information. This information is collected in accordance with Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP).

If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact the Manager, FOIP and Records Management, 2500, 330 – 5th Ave. SW, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0L4 or by telephone at 403-539-2528. If you choose to communicate by email, please note that email is not a secure form of communication. Security of your communication while in transit cannot be guaranteed.

Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Project Newsletter Notice (April 5, 2022)



Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Project – Need for Transmission Development in the City of Lethbridge Area

Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Vauxhall area needs to be enhanced to continue to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is proposing to increase the capacity of the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line 610L by adding a new 138 kV transmission line between the Fincastle 336S and Taber 83S substations. Once the new 138 kV transmission line is in service, the existing transmission line 610L is expected to be removed. The AESO is also proposing to increase the line rating of the existing 138 kV transmission line 879L near the Bowmanton 244S substation.

The AESO has posted a project newsletter for this project on its website. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Projects > Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Project.

Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *610L Transmission Line Replacement* (April 2022)



April 2022

NEWSLETTER **TO THE COMMUNITY**

**Vauxhall Area Transmission
Development:
610L Transmission Line Replacement**



**ELECTRIC
SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS
IN YOUR AREA**

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development (VATD) and we want your input.



Vauxhall Area Transmission Development (VATD)

We are starting to develop a new transmission project in your area – the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development (VATD) – and we want your input.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has identified the need for this project to meet the growing demands for electricity in the area. As part of the proposed development, AltaLink’s existing 610L **transmission** line needs to be replaced to increase its capacity and ensure it can deliver safe and reliable electricity for years to come.

To further explain this project, this newsletter includes:

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

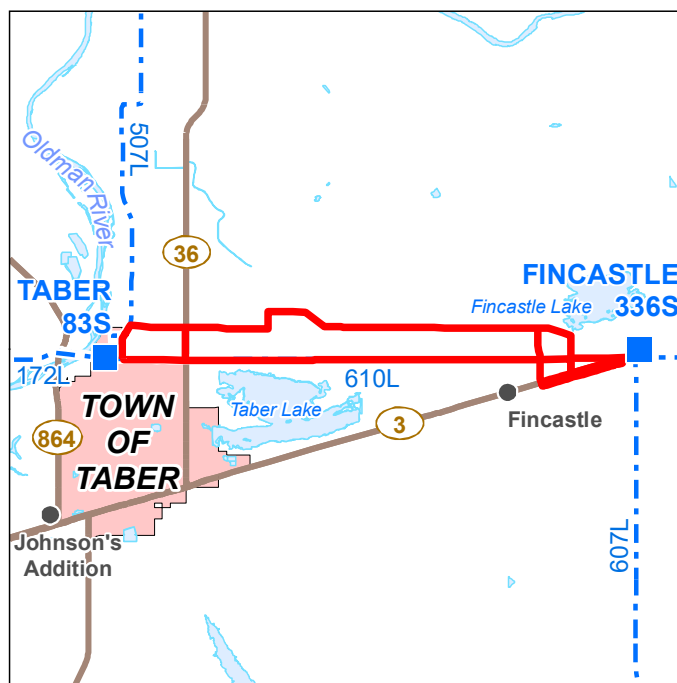
In order to upgrade the transmission line, we need to replace most of it with a new line. Depending on final routing, AltaLink transmission lines and FortisAlberta distribution lines could be located on both sides of Township Road 102. If you have questions for FortisAlberta, please call FortisAlberta at 403-310-WIRE (9479).



DEFINITION

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.



LEGEND

- | | |
|--|---|
| ■ Existing Substation | — Road |
| — Proposed Transmission Line | ■ Urban Area |
| - - - Existing Transmission Line | ■ Water Body |
| ● Hamlet or Locality | |

Please note: The red lines on the map represent the two routes being considered. If the project is approved, only one of the routes will be built. Please refer to the enclosed maps for a more detailed view of where lines may be located in your area.



Project details

The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development includes two projects:

- **610L Transmission Line Replacement:** Building a new transmission line and salvaging a portion of an existing transmission line in the Municipal District of Taber
- **879L Transmission Line Restoration:** Modifying and replacing structures along the existing 879L transmission line in Cypress County

This package includes details about the **610L Transmission Line Replacement**. Information about the 879L Transmission Line Restoration will be available on our website at www.altalink.ca/projects at a later date.

610L TRANSMISSION LINE REPLACEMENT

AltaLink's existing 610L transmission line is a single circuit 138 **kilovolt (kV)** transmission line. The line was originally constructed in 1960 and needs to be upgraded and replaced to meet growing demand and ensure that it continues to deliver safe and reliable electricity for years to come.

This proposed 610L Transmission Line Replacement includes:

- building approximately 14-17 kilometres of new transmission line between AltaLink's Taber **Substation** (located in SE-18-10-16-W4) and the Fincastle Substation (located in SW-15-10-15-W4) to replace the existing 610L transmission line
- building approximately 620 metres of temporary transmission line to minimize impacts and maintain service during construction

DEFINITIONS

Kilovolt (kV)

A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts and is commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines. AltaLink's transmission lines range from 69 kV (69,000 volts) to 500 kV (500,000 volts). Light bulbs typically range from 120 to 300 volts.

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.

Presently, the AESO is planning to remove the existing 610L transmission line between the Fincastle and Taber Substations once the new transmission line is constructed and in service. However, if the existing 610L transmission line is identified by the AESO as an efficient connection option for future new generation, the AESO may consider keeping the existing 610L transmission line in service.

If the AESO decides not to keep the existing transmission line in service, we will salvage the majority of the existing line that cannot be reused for the replacement line.

Where the existing transmission line connects to each substation, we are proposing to use the existing alignment and some of the existing structures, where possible, in these specific areas. To accommodate this work and minimize the potential for outages during construction, a temporary transmission line will need to be built outside of the Taber Substation.



PROPOSED TRANSMISSION LINE ROUTES

AltaLink takes several factors into consideration in an effort to find a route with low overall environmental, social and economic effects. In addition to stakeholder input we also consider agricultural, residential, environmental, visual and other potential impacts as well as cost.

There are two routes being considered for the replacement transmission line. If the project is approved, only one of the routes will be built. Please refer to the detailed photo map (DP1), detail base map (DB1), and strip maps (SM) included in this package to see the proposed routes.

PROPOSED STRUCTURES

The existing 610L transmission structures are primarily single circuit wooden monopole structures that are approximately 14-25 metres tall and spaced approximately 120 to 150 metres apart.

The proposed structures for the new line will be either wood or steel monopole structures and will:

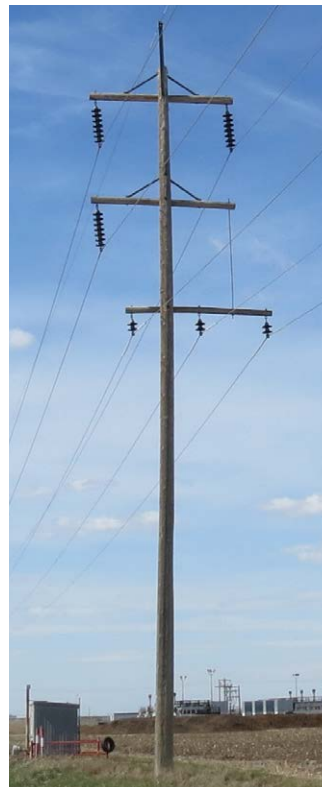
- be approximately 14-25 meters tall
- be spaced approximately 125 to 200 metres apart
- require a **right-of-way** of 20 metres when located on private property or 10 metres when located in road allowance

Guy wires may be required to support angle or corner structures along the transmission line. An area of approximately 20x35 metres at 90 degree turns or 12x35 metres at smaller deflections will be needed to accommodate the guy wire boxes. See the strip maps included in your package for the location of guy wire boxes.

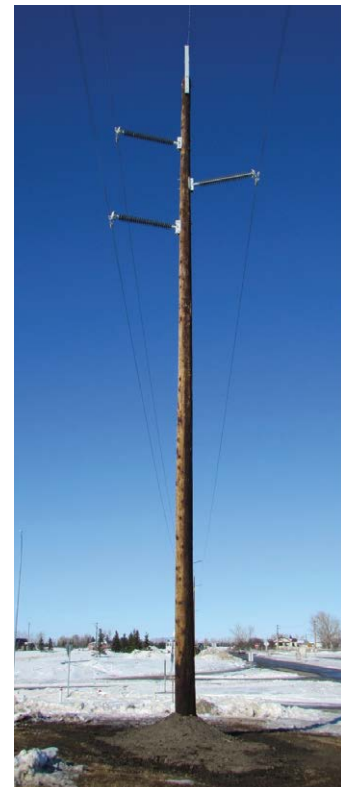
DEFINITIONS

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.



Existing structures



Proposed structures



RIGHT-OF-WAY, ACCESS TRAILS AND CONSTRUCTION WORKSPACE

To build the replacement transmission line, access trails, access gates and construction workspace will be required. Where possible, we've tried to use existing trails that avoid steep ground, wet areas and other potential impacts. If you are aware of features that we have not identified, please let us know.

Construction workspace, in addition to the transmission line right-of-way, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. The requirements for this construction workspace vary depending on the location:

- Where the transmission line is proposed on property, AltaLink may require 10 metres of construction workspace on either side of the right-of-way.
- Where the transmission line is proposed in road allowance, AltaLink may require an additional 10 metres of construction workspace beyond the right-of-way, on the property side.
- At some angles, additional workspace of approximately 45x120 metres may be required to string the new transmission line.

The proposed access trails and additional workspace can be seen on the maps included in the package.

AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace and access trails. AltaLink offers fair market value for land easements at the time of acquisition which will be discussed on an individual basis with the landowner.

In order to ensure the safety and reliability of the transmission line, AltaLink will manage vegetation along the proposed transmission line right-of-way prior to construction. This will include removal of non-compatible vegetation along the right-of-way.

Environmental Surveys

AltaLink will be conducting seasonal environmental surveys along the proposed transmission line routes. Ground based surveys on private land will only occur after landowner permission is received. When conducting all surveys we work to minimize disruption to residences, area users and wildlife.





How to provide your input

Stakeholder input is important to identifying a low overall impact route for this project. You can provide your input in the following ways.

PARTICIPATE IN A ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATION

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.

AltaLink is committed to sharing information about its projects and working with the public to gather and respond to stakeholder input and concerns.

A summary of stakeholder comments will be incorporated into the application we submit to the **Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)**. We will notify stakeholders when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project.

CONTACT US DIRECTLY

You can contact us by telephone, email, mail or through our website. Our contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

DEFINITION

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC, and the AUC reviews them in a public process.

PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. AltaLink will collect, use, and disclose personal information in accordance with AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the *Personal Information Protection Act (Alberta)*. 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 or contact us directly via email at privacy@altalink.ca or phone at **1-877-267-6760**.



Next steps

The AESO determined this transmission system development is needed and will file a **Needs Identification Document** with the AUC. After our consultation process is complete, we will file a **Facilities Application** with the AUC and it will be reviewed through a process in which stakeholders can participate. 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*.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

AltaLink recognizes that people may have concerns about exposure to EMF and we take those concerns seriously.

Everyone in our society is exposed to power frequency 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 (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research on exposure to EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these agencies have not recommended that the general public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines, including individuals that are located on the edge of a power line right-of-way.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us:

visit: www.altalink.ca/emf

email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

phone: 1-866-451-7817 (toll-free)

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notify and consult with stakeholders

April to June 2022

File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

September 2022

Start construction if project is approved

September 2023

Construction completed

July 2024

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.

DEFINITION

Needs Identification Document

The AESO submits Need Identification Documents (NIDs) to the AUC for review and approval. A NID describes why a transmission project is required. The AUC must approve a NID before construction can begin.

Facilities Application

AltaLink submits Facilities Applications to the AUC for review. A Facilities Application describes how AltaLink proposes to meet the requirements for a transmission project. It includes routing details, results of the participant involvement program and technical details. Facilities Applications must be approved by the AUC before construction can begin.

CONTACT US

To learn more about the proposed project, please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

Email: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

For more information visit us at: www.altalink.ca/projects.

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

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

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

Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC and the AUC reviews them in a public process.

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

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

Email: stakeholder.relations@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 Information for Stakeholders 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.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure:
Participating in the AUC's independent review process

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

1. Visit altalink.ca/projects
2. Search for the project title
3. Click **Subscribe to updates**

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Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *879L Transmission Line Restoration* (June 2022)



June 2022

Electric system improvements near you

879L Transmission Line Restoration

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.

We are starting to develop a new project in your area – the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development (VATD) project – and we want your input.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has identified the need for this development to meet the growing demand for electricity in the area. As part of the proposed development, modifications are required on a portion of AltaLink's existing 879L **transmission** line. To further explain this proposed project, this newsletter includes:

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

DEFINITION:

Transmission

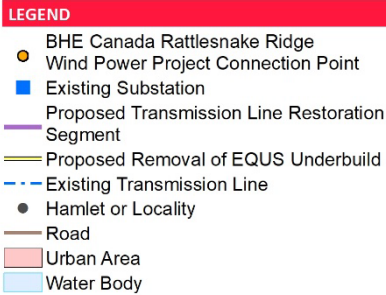
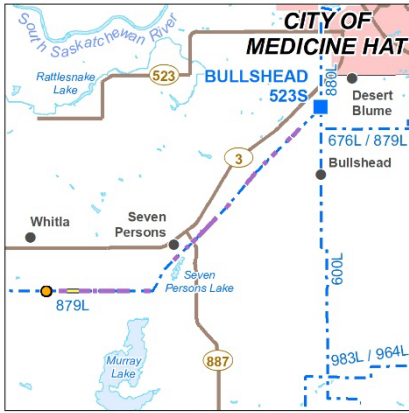
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to your community, where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances from power plants across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of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

Other work on the 879L transmission line

You may have received information about or have been involved in a separate project called the 879L Transmission Line Fire Risk Mitigation Rebuild. That was a separate project that AltaLink was working on as part of our regular maintenance program. We will be continuing with maintenance activities to mitigate fire risk on the line, including replacing components on the existing structures. This work will be completed at the same time as the 879L Transmission Line Restoration project.

CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453
stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca
www.altalink.ca/projects



Project details

The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development includes two separate projects:

- **879L Transmission Line Restoration:** Modifying and replacing select structures along the existing 879L transmission line in Cypress County
- **610L Transmission Line Replacement:** Building a new transmission line and salvaging a portion of an existing transmission line in the Municipal District of Taber

This package includes details about the **879L Transmission Line Restoration**. If you would like to learn more about the 610L Transmission Line Replacement, visit our website at www.altalink.ca/projects.

879L Transmission Line Restoration

AltaLink's existing 879L transmission line is a single circuit 138 kilovolt (kV) line, located southwest of the City of Medicine Hat. The line was originally constructed in 1960 and requires select structure modifications and replacements to restore the line to its designed capacity, as directed by the AESO.

The proposed structure modifications and replacements are on the portion of the 879L transmission line between AltaLink's Bullshead **Substation** (located in NE-4-12-6-W4) and the BHE Canada Rattlesnake Ridge Wind Power Project (located in SW-28-10-8-W4).

To meet the AESO's capacity requirements, we need to ensure that the existing line has sufficient clearance from the ground or other objects so it can operate safely and reliably. After assessing the project requirements and taking into consideration the remaining lifespan of the 879L line, we have determined that a more cost-effective solution to meet this need is to replace or modify select structures along the existing alignment.

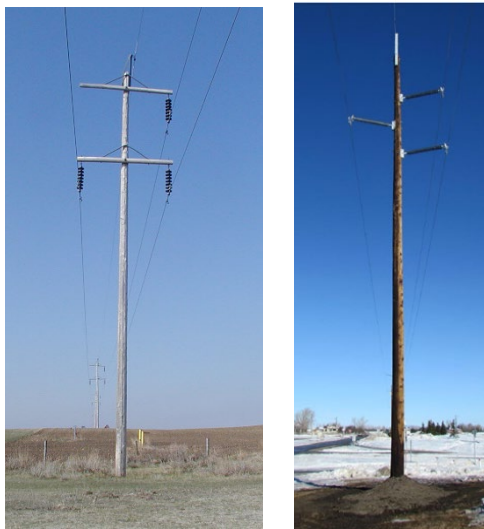
As part of this restoration, modifications to a number of existing EQUS distribution lines may also be required. If you have questions for EQUS, please contact them at 1-888-565-5445.

Please see the attached maps for details and location information.

Proposed structures

The existing 879L transmission structures are primarily wooden monopole structures that are approximately 16 to 23 metres tall and spaced approximately 150 metres apart. The new structures will be:

- wood or steel monopole single circuit structures
- approximately 18-26 metres tall
- installed adjacent to the existing structures



The current structures are shown on the left, the new structures will look similar to the photo on the right.

DEFINITION:

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.

Access trails and construction workspace

As part of the project, access trails, access gates and construction workspace will be required. The proposed access trails can be seen on the maps included in the package. Where possible, we have tried to use existing trails that avoid steep ground, wet areas and other potential impacts. If you are aware of features that we have not identified, please let us know.

Construction workspace, in addition to the existing transmission line right-of-way, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. We are proposing 15 metres of construction workspace on either side of the transmission line where structures are being replaced or modified. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace and access trails.

AltaLink offers compensation based on fair market value for construction workspace and access trails at the time of acquisition which will be discussed on an individual basis with the landowner.

Environmental surveys

AltaLink will be conducting seasonal environmental surveys near the proposed structure modifications. Ground-based surveys on private land will only occur after landowner permission is received. When conducting all surveys, we work to minimize disruption to residences, area users and wildlife.

How to provide 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.

AltaLink is committed to sharing information about its projects and working with the public to gather and respond to stakeholder input and concerns. A summary of stakeholder comments will be incorporated into the application we submit to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). We will notify stakeholders when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project.

Next steps

The AESO determined this transmission system development is needed and will file a Needs Identification Document with the AUC. After our consultation process is complete, we will file a Facilities Application with the AUC and it will be reviewed through a process in which stakeholders can participate. 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*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June to August 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	September 2022
Start construction if project is approved	November 2023
Construction completed	April 2024

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.



Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

AltaLink recognizes that people may have concerns about exposure to EMF and we take those concerns seriously. Everyone in our society is exposed to power frequency 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 (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research about exposure to EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these agencies have not recommended that the general public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines, including individuals that are located on the edge of a power line right-of-way.

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

Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

For more information visit us at www.altalink.ca/projects

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

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC and the AUC reviews them in a public process.

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

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

1-888-866-2959 (TOLL-FREE)

E-mail: stakeholder.relations@aesoc.ca

The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization acting in the public interest of all Albertans. They plan Alberta's transmission system, which is made up of the transmission lines, substations and other related equipment that allow electricity to flow from where it is generated to where it is used.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process.*

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

1. Visit altalink.ca/projects
2. Search for the project title
3. Click Subscribe to updates

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PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and Alberta's 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 or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

Attachment 5 – AESO Public Notification of Filing Website Posting (November 2022)

Notification of the AESO Needs Identification Document (NID) filing for the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development (P7075)

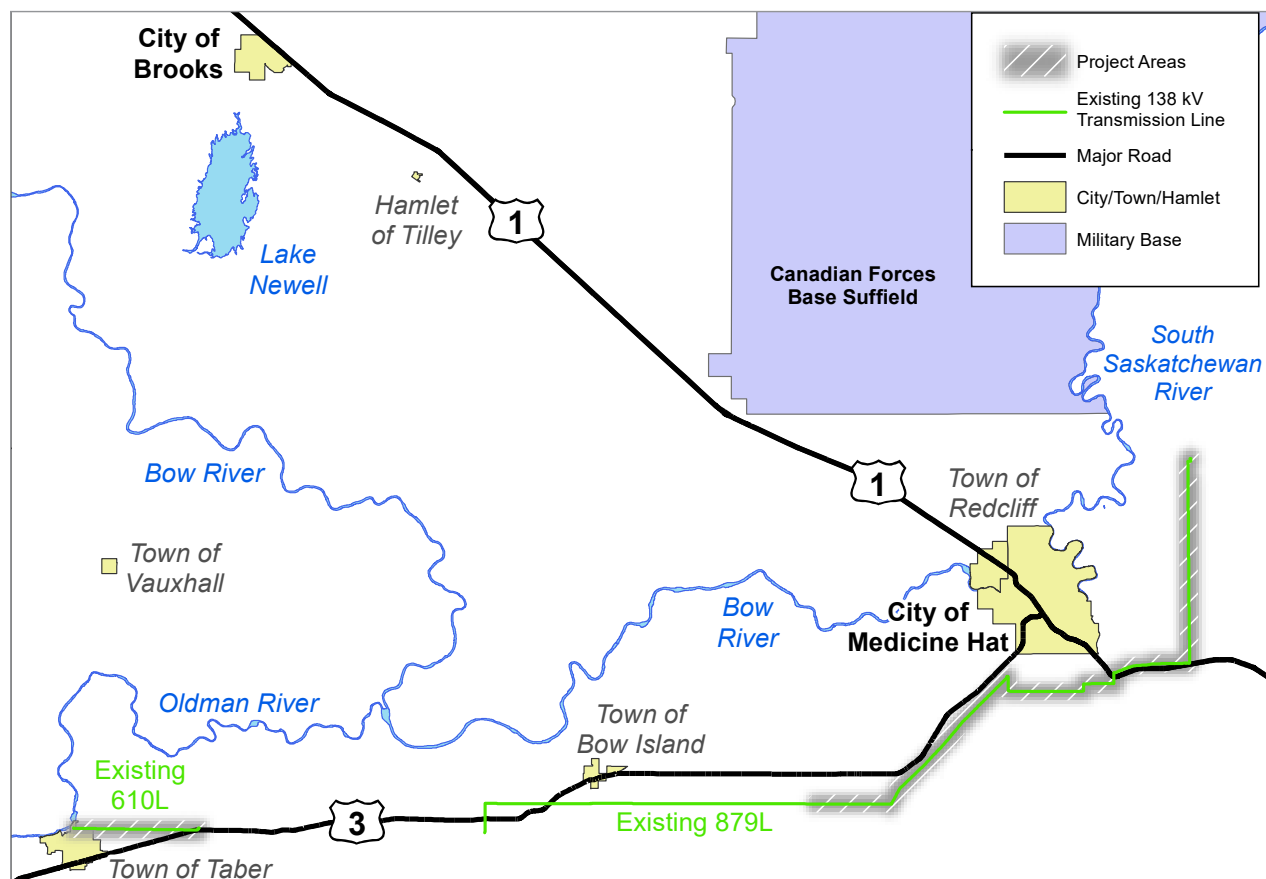
The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) advises you that it intends to file a NID for the approval of transmission enhancement in the Vauxhall Area with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after November 15, 2022.

Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Vauxhall area needs to be enhanced to continue to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is proposing to increase the capacity of the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line 610L by adding a new 138 kV transmission line between the Fincastle 336S and Taber 83S substations. Once the new 138 kV transmission line is in service, the existing transmission line 610L is expected to be removed. The AESO is also proposing to increase the line rating of the existing 138 kV transmission line 879L near the Bowmanton 244S substation.

AltaLink Management Ltd. is the transmission facility owner (TFO) in the Vauxhall area. In April 2022, the AESO and the TFO began notifying stakeholders, including residents, occupants, Indigenous groups and landowners of this need for the Project.

The AESO intends to file the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after November 15, 2022.

Once filed, the NID will be posted on the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-area-transmission-development-7075/>



The shaded area on the map indicates the approximate location of the proposed transmission developments including the 138 kV transmission line. The specific transmission facilities may extend beyond the grey shaded area shown.

Your feedback, comments and/or contact information collected by the AESO will be used to respond to your inquiries and/or to provide you with further information about the project. This information is collected in accordance with Section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, please contact the Manager, FOIP and Records Management, 2500, 330 – 5th Ave SW, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0L4 or by telephone at 403-539-2890. If you choose to communicate by email, please note that email is not a secure form of communication. Security of your communication while in transit cannot be guaranteed.

Please visit www.aeso.ca for more information or contact the AESO at **1-888-866-2959** or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca.



Attachment 6 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of Filing (November 1, 2022)

Vauxhall Area Transmission Development | Notice of NID Filing

Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Vauxhall area needs to be enhanced to continue to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is proposing to increase the capacity of the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line 610L by adding a new 138 kV transmission line between the Fincastle 336S and Taber 83S substations. Once the new 138 kV transmission line is in service, the existing transmission line 610L is expected to be removed. The AESO is also proposing to increase the line rating of the existing 138 kV transmission line 879L near the Bowmanton 244S substation.

The AESO intends to file the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after Nov. 15, 2022.

Please [click here](#) to view the project page or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Transmission Projects > Vauxhall Area Transmission Development to see all the relevant documents, including the NID application once it is filed with the AUC.