

September 24, 2021

Wayne MacKenzie
Executive Director - Facilities
Alberta Utilities Commission
Eau Claire Tower
1400, 600 Third Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0G5

Dear Mr. MacKenzie:

Re: **Application of the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) to Amend the Needs Identification Document (NID) Approvals for the Vincent 2019S Substation and the Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant Connection**

Introduction and Background

On April 26, 2016, the Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) approved the AESO's *Vincent 2019S Substation NID*¹ in Decision 21166-D01-2016 and NID Approval No. 21166-D02-2016 (Vincent NID Approval).² The Vincent NID Approval approved the need to reliably serve a new industrial load in the Vegreville area. The Vincent NID Approval included the following transmission developments which have not been constructed:

- The Vincent 2019S substation, including one 144/6.9 kV transformer and one 144 kV circuit breaker; and
- One 144 kV transmission line to connect the Vincent 2019S substation to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L65 using a T-tap configuration.

The Vincent 2019S substation NID approval also included the addition of one capacitor bank and one 144 kV circuit breaker at the Irish Creek 706S substation. These facilities were energized in 2018 and will remain in service.

Subsequently on October 4, 2016 the Commission approved the AESO's *Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant Connection NID*³ in Decision 21643-D01-2016 and NID Approval No. 21643-D02-2016⁴ (Grizzly Bear NID Approval) which approved the need to connect the Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Project to the transmission system in the Vermilion area. The Grizzly Bear NID Approval included the following transmission developments related to the Vincent 2019S substation, and which have also not been constructed:

- One 144-kV circuit transmission line between the Vincent 2019S substation and the 144-kV transmission line 7L65, to convert the Vincent 2019S substation connection from a T-tap to an in-and-out configuration; and

¹ Proceeding 21166, Exhibit 21166-X0001- X0009.

² Appendix 1 to Decision 21166-D01-2016, Alberta Electric System Operator, *Vincent 2019S Substation Needs Identification Document* (April 26, 2016).

³ Proceeding 21643, Exhibits 21643-X0002 – X0007.

⁴ Appendix 1 to Decision 21643-D01-2016, Alberta Electric System Operator, *Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant Connection Needs Identification Document* (October 4, 2016).

- Modify the Vincent 2019S substation, including adding two 144-kV circuit breakers.

On May 20, 2021, the AESO received a request from ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO), included as Attachment 1, requesting that the AESO cancel the request for system access service to serve a new industrial load in the Vegreville area. Subsequently, on June 2, 2021, the AESO cancelled the ATCO request for system access service.

Relief Requested

In accordance with the NID Approvals, which both state that, “the Commission may review this approval, in whole or in part, upon its own motion or upon application by an interested party, in accordance with Section 10 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*,” the AESO is applying to the Commission to amend the Vincent NID approval and the Grizzly Bear NID approval described below, pursuant to Section 10 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

Existing NID Approvals

The Vincent NID Approval included the following transmission developments:

- The addition of the new 144/6.9-kV Vincent 2019S substation with one 144/6.9-kV transformer rated at approximately 33 megavolt-amperes and one 144-kV circuit breaker.
- The addition of one new 144-kV transmission line to connect the Vincent 2019S substation to the existing transmission line 7L65 using a T-tap configuration, with provisions for a possible future conversion to an in-and-out connection configuration.
- The addition of one new 144-kV capacitor bank rated at 25-megavolt-ampere reactive and one new 144-kV circuit breaker at the Irish Creek 706S substation.
- Other associated equipment as more particularly described in the application.

The Grizzly Bear NID Approval included the following transmission developments:

- Add a new switching station, to be designated Steele 2016S Substation, with a 144 kilovolt (kV) circuit breaker and connect the Steele 2016S Substation to the E.ON Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant.
- Connect the Steele 2016S substation to the existing 144-kV Transmission Line 7L65 through a 144-kV circuit using a T-tap configuration.
- Convert the Vincent 2019S substation connection from a T-tap to an in-and-out configuration to the existing 144-kV transmission line 7L65 by adding a new 144-kV circuit and two 144-kV circuit breakers.
- Modify, alter, add or remove equipment, including switchgear, and any operational, protection, control and telecommunication devices required to undertake the work as planned, and ensure proper integration with the transmission system.

Requested NID Approval Amendments

The AESO requests to:

- Amend the Vincent NID Approval by deleting items a) & b); and
- Amend the Grizzly Bear NID Approval by deleting item c).

The AESO informed the Commission on December 1, 2020⁵ that it was assessing the technical solution associated with the Grizzly Bear NID Approval. Subsequently, the AESO informed stakeholders in June 2021 that it has revised its proposed solution to connect the Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant and intends to file an application to further amend the Grizzly Bear NID Approval in late 2021 (Attachment 2).

Directions to ATCO and Request to Combine

On June 29, 2021, the AESO directed the transmission facility owner, in this case ATCO, to apply to the Commission for cancellation of the facilities-related approvals that were granted as a result of the Vincent NID Approval and Grizzly Bear NID Approval, and which pertain to the unconstructed components described above, no later than 30 business days after having received the NID Approval amendment application number from the AESO. The AESO and ATCO have agreed to coordinate submission of this application with ATCO's application for cancellation of the applicable facilities-related approvals, and the AESO requests that the Commission combine and consider the applications in a single proceeding as contemplated by Section 15.4 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*.

Stakeholder Notification

With respect to stakeholder notification, Section 4 of Appendix A2 of Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines* states that "[i]n the event that the [AESO] decides not to proceed with a needs identification document application or an abbreviated needs identification document application for which a notification has been distributed, the [AESO] must notify stakeholders and Indigenous groups of this decision."

The AESO directed ATCO to assist the AESO in providing notification to previously notified stakeholders who were part of the participant involvement programs⁶ conducted by the AESO. The AESO developed a one-page cancellation notice for ATCO to distribute to previously notified stakeholders as the AESO's notification. A copy of the cancellation notice was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/vincent-2019s-substation/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on September 7, 2021. Copies of the cancellation notice and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 3 and 4, respectively. ATCO distributed its cancellation letter and the AESO's cancellation notice to previously notified stakeholders on August 25, 2021. A copy of ATCO's cancellation letter has been included as Attachment 5.

ATCO has advised that stakeholders have not identified any concerns or objections regarding the cancellation. Similarly, the AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections about the cancellation.

⁵ Proceeding 21643, post-disposition document, Alberta Electric System Operator *Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant Connection Needs Identification Document Update Letter*, (December 1, 2020)

⁶ Proceeding 21166, Exhibit 21166-X0005 – Appendix D and Proceeding 21643, Exhibit 21643-X0005 – Appendix C

Closure

We trust the foregoing to be satisfactory. Please contact the following individual with any questions or concerns:

Brenda J. Hill
Regulatory Administrator
need.applications@aeso.ca
403-539-2850

Sincerely,

Electronically submitted by

Robert Davidson, P.Eng.
Director, Customer Grid Access

Enclosure:

Attachment 1 – ATCO Cancellation Request (May 20, 2021)
Attachment 2 – AESO Need Overview Update: *Need for the Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant connection in the Vermillion area* (June 2021)
Attachment 3 – AESO Cancellation Notice (August 2021)
Attachment 4 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Cancellation Notice (September 7, 2021)
Attachment 5 – ATCO Project Cancellation Letter (August 25, 2021)

Attachment 1 - ATCO Cancellation Request

Tana Lailan

From: Chang, Agnes <Agnes.Chang@atco.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 3:04 PM
To: Tana Lailan
Cc: Bryan Krawchyshyn; McDonnell, Travis
Subject: Cancellation Request for AESO 1410 Heartland Pumpstation

EXTERNAL Email. Please be cautious and evaluate before you click on links, open attachments, or provide credentials

Hi Tana,

ATCO received direction from our customer TC Energy they no longer wish to proceed with the Heartland Pumpstation project. With that, ATCO is withdrawing the SASR application for AESO project 1410 Heartland Pumpstation.

ATCO would like to thank the AESO for supporting the project. Let me know if you need further information to proceed with the cancellation.

Thanks,
Agnes

Agnes Chang
Key Account Manager
Electricity

C. 403 826 0518
A. ATCO Center I, 4th Floor, 909-11th Avenue SW Calgary AB T2R 1L8

[ATCO.com](https://www.atco.com) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#)



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Need for the Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant Connection in the Vermillion area

Enel Alberta Wind Inc. (Enel), has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its approved Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Plant (Facility) in the Vermillion area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in December 2015. The AESO filed a Needs Identification Document (NID) application in May 2016 and was approved in October 2016. As a result of a revised proposed solution and schedule, the AESO determined that an amendment to the approved NID application will be required. The AESO intends to submit the amended NID as described below.

Enel's request can be met by the following solution:

REVISED PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L65 in a T-tap configuration. Originally, the preferred solution included adding the Steele 2016S substation.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) of this amendment in late 2021.
- 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.

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.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

ATCO

- Is the transmission facility owner in Vermillion area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- 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@aes0.ca
1-888-866-2959

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

www.aeso.ca | [@theaes0](https://twitter.com/theaes0)



Cancellation of the Vincent 2019S Substation in the Vegreville area

The ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) request for transmission system access to reliably serve a new industrial facility in the Vegreville area has been cancelled.

BACKGROUND

The Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) originally approved the AESO's *Vincent 2019S Substation Needs Identification Document* (NID) on April 26, 2016. The Vincent 2019S substation NID approval included the following transmission developments which have not been constructed:

- The Vincent 2019S substation, including one 144/6.9 kV transformer and one 144 kV circuit breaker.
- One 144 kV transmission line to connect the approved Vincent 2019S substation to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L65 using a T-tap configuration.

The Vincent 2019S substation NID approval also included the addition of one capacitor bank and one 144 kV circuit breaker at the Irish Creek 706S substation. These facilities were energized in 2018 and will remain in service.

Subsequently, the Commission approved the AESO's *Grizzly Bear Wind Power Plant Connection NID* on October 4, 2016. The Grizzly Bear Wind Power Plant Connection NID approval included the following transmission developments which relate to the Vincent 2019S substation, and which have also not been constructed:

- One 144-kV circuit transmission line between the Vincent 2019S substation and the 144-kV transmission line 7L65 to convert the Vincent 2019S substation connection from a T-tap to an in-and-out configuration.
- Modify the Vincent 2019S substation, including adding two 144-kV circuit breakers.

NEXT STEPS

The AESO intends to apply to the Commission in late 2021 to amend its NID approvals to cancel the unconstructed components of the approved developments, as described above.

Information related to the Vincent 2019S Substation project is available on the AESO's website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/>

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September 7, 2021

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Vincent 2019S Substation – Cancellation Notice

The AESO would like to inform stakeholders that ATCO Electric Ltd. request for system access service to reliably serve a new industrial facility in the Vegreville area has been cancelled.

As a result, the AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) to amend its Need Identification Application approvals for the following transmission developments which have not been constructed:

- The Vincent 2019S substation, including one 144/6.9 kV transformer and one 144 kV circuit breaker.
- One 144 kV transmission line to connect the approved Vincent 2019S substation to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L65 using a T-tap configuration.
- One 144-kV circuit transmission line between the Vincent 2019S substation and the 144-kV transmission line 7L65 to convert the Vincent 2019S substation connection from a T-tap to an in-and-out configuration.
- Modify the Vincent 2019S substation, including adding two 144-kV circuit breakers.

The AESO has posted a Cancellation Notice 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 > Vincent 2019S Substation.



August 25, 2021

RE: Cancellation of Vincent 2019S Substation

This letter provides you with updates on the Vincent 2019S Substation. In October 2015, ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) sent you information regarding the substation construction.

At this time ATCO would like to inform you that the project is not proceeding. Therefore, ATCO will be requesting that the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) cancel the Permit and Licence approval associated with this substation.

For your reference a Route Mosaic Map, providing details of the previously approved substation and the segments of transmission lines that will be cancelled, is enclosed.

In addition, the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has cancelled the Vincent 2019S substation request for system access service. See the enclosed AESO Stakeholder Update – Project Cancellation for more information. If you have questions about the cancellation of the need for the project, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.ca.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the cancellation of this project, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

<originally signed by>

Rajat Goutam

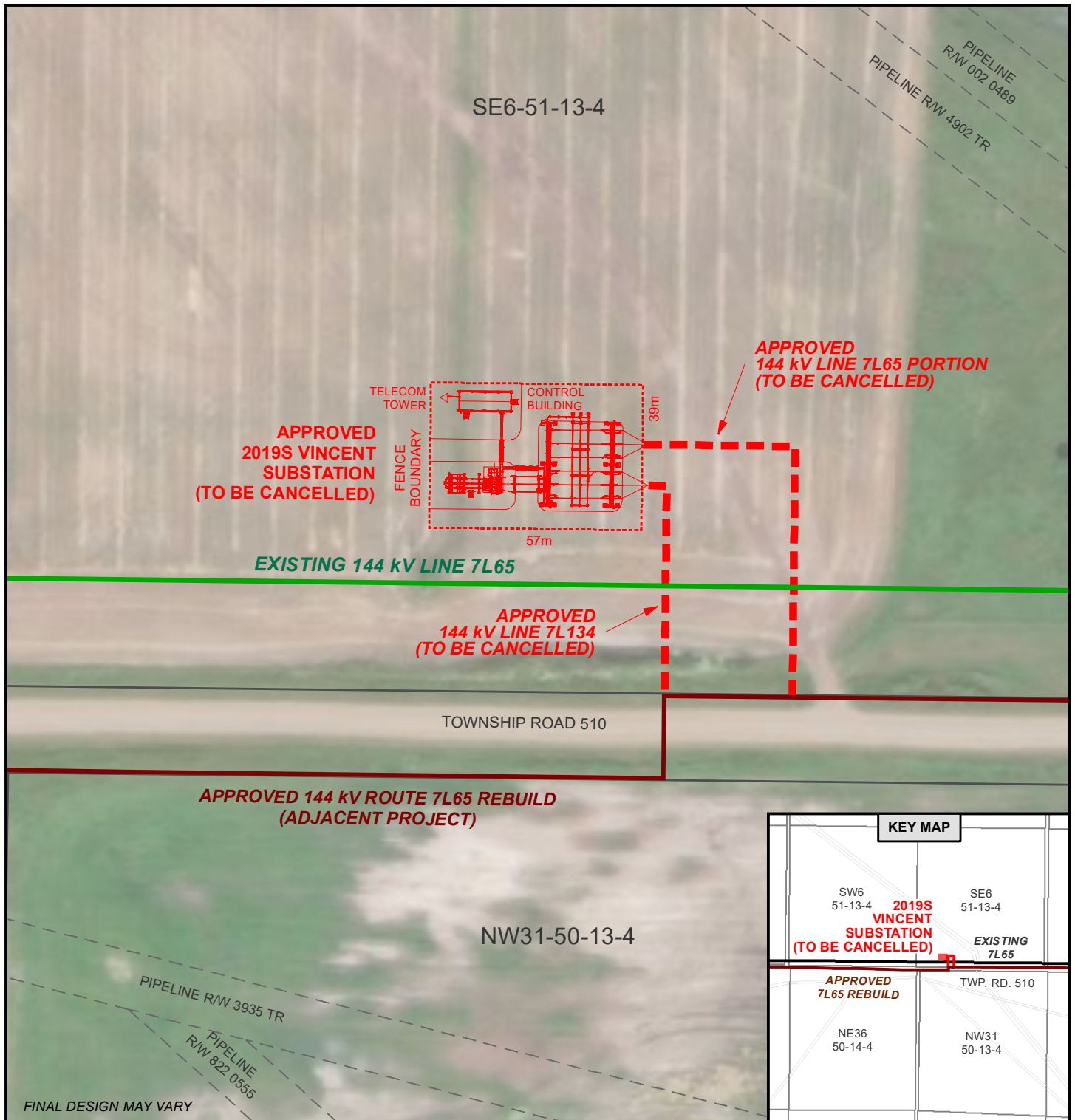
Project Planner, ATCO

Toll Free: 1-855-420-5775

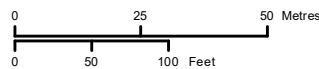
E-mail: consultation@atcoelectric.com

Enclosed:

- Approved Route Mosaic Map (Cancellation Project), Drawing: RS-2019S-N1-01
- AESO Stakeholder Update: Project Cancellation August 2021
- Reply form and postage paid envelope



- Approved 144 kV Route (To Be Cancelled)
- Fence Boundary
- Substation Equipment / Building
- Existing 144 kV Transmission Line
- Approved 144 kV Route 7L65 Rebuild



NOTES:
- Only facilities in the vicinity of the project are shown.

ATCO

Vincent Substation Project

**APPROVED ROUTES
MOSAIC MAP
(CANCELLATION PROJECT)**

August 2021

RS-2019S - N1 - 01

CREDIT NOTES

Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Alberta, IHS Markit
Imagery: ESRI Maxar 2020

This map is the property of ATCO. This map is not
intended to be used in place of Alberta One Call.
Always practice extreme caution when near power



Cancellation of the Vincent 2019S Substation in the Vegreville area

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NEXT STEPS

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Information related to the Vincent 2019S Substation project is available on the AESO's website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/>

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SHAPE THE CONVERSATION

CANCELLATION OF VINCENT SUBSTATION

REPLY FORM

10035–105 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2V6

CONTACT INFORMATION

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Company/Organization Name (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please help us identify new contacts

You were contacted about this project because ATCO identified you or your company/organization as having a land interest in the vicinity of the project. Is there anyone else associated with your property, such as other owners, renters or occupants, who we should also contact? If so, please provide the name(s), contact information and their land interest.

☐ I would like to receive all future correspondence about this project by Email (If this is your preference, please check the box)

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT PRIVACY: *The information on this form is being collected to identify concerns with proposed changes to and/or the siting of power transmission facilities, and to comply with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) rules regarding the submission of transmission facilities applications. This information may be provided to electric facility owners, Alberta's Surface Rights Board, and the Alberta Electric System Operator. Your comments and personal information may also be publicly accessible through the AUC website, should it be submitted to the AUC as part of a transmission facility application – subject to Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. **If you wish to keep your information confidential, you must make a request to the AUC (403-592-4376).** If you have questions or concerns about your information or how it may be used or disclosed as part of this process, please contact us (see contact information below).*

Please let us know by checking a box below if either statement applies to you:

☐ I do not have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

☐ I have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

Please share any comments or concerns that you have about the Project:

HOW TO SUBMIT: Please use the enclosed envelope to return by mail or fax to 780-420-5030. If you would like more information about the project, please contact us toll free 1-855-420-5775 or by Email: consultation@atcoelectric.com.