

## **APPENDIX C AESO PIP**

## 1. Introduction

From August 2018 to February 2021, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) regarding the *Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document* (NID). The AESO directed the legal owners of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) and AltaLink Management Ltd., in its capacity as general partner of AltaLink, L.P. (AltaLink), to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP.

The AESO's PIP is designed to notify the parties notified in the TFO's PIP and any other parties that the AESO determines may have an interest in the needs identification document, including, but not limited to:

- i. occupants, landowners, or residents;
- ii. local authorities, agencies and government which have everyday jobs related to electric transmission line development;
- iii. First Nations and Métis; and
- iv. market participants

(collectively, Stakeholders).

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.2.2, NID27 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective August 1, 2019, as well as AUC Bulletin 2020-13, effective April 7, 2020.

## 2. Stakeholder Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Need Overview document 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 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, including the AESO's intention to apply to the Commission for approval of the need.

A copy of the Need Overview was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/garden-plain-wind-power-project-connection/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on September 4, 2018. 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 TFO's project-specific information package that was distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

After the September 2018 Need Overview was distributed, the AESO developed an updated one page AESO Need Overview Update document that notified Stakeholders of a need for development in the Holden area and a revision to the date that the AESO intends to apply to the Commission for approval of the need. The AESO Need Overview Update was posted on the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/garden-plain-wind-power-project-connection/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 3, 2020. Copies of the Need Overview Update posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 3 and 4, respectively. The Need Overview Update was also included with ATCO's updated project-specific information package and AltaLink's project-specific information package that were distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

## 2.1 Stakeholders Notified in ATCO's PIP

ATCO has advised the AESO that its PIP included notification within 800 metres of the transmission line as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 of AUC Rule 007.<sup>1</sup>

ATCO notified a total of approximately 28 Stakeholders, of which 10 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 18 notified Stakeholders and ATCO's rationale for their inclusion in the PIP are listed in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1: Summary of Agency and Industry Stakeholders Notified by ATCO**

Stakeholder	ATCO's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
Alberta Culture & Tourism	Provincial Requirement
Alberta Environment & Parks – Fish and Wildlife	Provincial Requirement
Apache Canada Ltd.	Land rights
Arc Resources Ltd.	Land rights
Battle River Energy Ltd.	Land rights
Bowview Petroleum Inc.	Land rights
BP Exploration Canada Ltd.	Land rights
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.	Land rights
County of Paintearth	Municipal Requirements
Karve Energy Inc	Land rights
MLA for Drumheller-Stettler Constituency	Requested by AESO
Novus Energy Inc.	Land rights
Omers Resources Ltd.	Land rights
Paintearth Gas Co-op Ltd.	Land rights
Repsol Oil & Gas Cana Inc.	Land rights
Special Areas No.2	Municipal Requirements
TransAlta Corporation	Land rights
Telus Communications Inc.	Land rights

<sup>1</sup> ATCO 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.

Attachment 5 includes ATCO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in ATCO's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between August 31, 2018 and November 22, 2018. ATCO'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 ATCO or the AESO for additional information.

Attachment 6 includes ATCO's project update newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview Update in ATCO's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between October 29, 2020 and March 23, 2021. ATCO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview Update, and an invitation to contact ATCO or the AESO for additional information.

## 2.2 Stakeholders Notified in AltaLink's PIP

AltaLink has advised the AESO that its PIP included notification within 100 metres of underground fibre optic line as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 of AUC Rule 007.<sup>2</sup>

AltaLink notified a total of approximately 28 Stakeholders, of which 17 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 11 notified Stakeholders and AltaLink's rationale for their inclusion in the PIP are listed in Table 2.2.

**Table 2.2: Summary of Agency and Industry Stakeholders Notified by AltaLink**

Stakeholder	AltaLink's Rationale for Inclusion in the PIP
Alberta Environment and Parks – Fish and Wildlife	Provincial requirements
Alberta Transportation	Provincial requirements
ATCO Electric	Transmission and Distribution Facility Owner in project notification area
Beaver County	Municipal requirements
Fortis Alberta Inc.	Distribution Facility Owner in project notification area
Lamco Gas Co-op Ltd.	Pipeline Owner in project notification area
Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women	Provincial requirements
Sequoia Resources Corp.	Pipeline Owner in project notification area
Spur Petroleum Ltd.	Pipeline Owner in project notification area
Telus Communications Inc.	Communication Facility Owner in project notification area
Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd.	Pipeline Owner in project notification area

Attachment 7 includes AltaLink's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview Update in AltaLink's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between September 24, 2020 and September 28, 2020. AltaLink's project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview Update were also posted on AltaLink's project-specific webpage at <http://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/351/garden-plain-north-holden-fibre-optic-build> on September 24,

<sup>2</sup> AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: For 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.

2020. AltaLink's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview Update, and an invitation to contact AltaLink or the AESO for additional information.

### 3. Stakeholders Notified by the AESO

The AESO also notified 7 market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the NID. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, these market participants may be affected following the connection of the *Garden Plain Wind Power Project*. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the AESO Need Overview Update, was sent to the notified market participants on January 20, 2021.

The 7 notified market participants are as follows:

- Alberta Power (2000) Ltd.
- Balancing Pool
- Bull Creek Wind Power Limited Partnership
- Ghost Pine Windfarm, LP
- Halkirk I Wind Project LP
- Oldman 2 Wind Farm Ltd
- Wheatland Wind Project LP

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on January 20, 2021 at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/garden-plain-wind-power-project-connection/>. A copy has been included as Attachment 8.

### 4. Filing Notification

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to submit the NID to the Commission by posting a Notification of NID Filing to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/garden-plain-wind-power-project-connection/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on February 23, 2020. Copies of the Notification of NID Filing posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 5 and 6, respectively.

### 5. Responding to Questions and Concerns

To ensure that Stakeholders had the opportunity to provide feedback, the AESO provided Stakeholders 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 and Need Overview Update 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, ATCO and AltaLink were prepared to direct any Stakeholder questions addressed to the AESO, or questions regarding the AESO Need Overview and/or the AESO Need Overview Update, to the AESO.

## 6. Concerns and Objections Raised

ATCO has advised that Stakeholders have not identified any further concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development. AltaLink has also advised that Stakeholders have not identified any concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development. Further, the AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections from any party 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 (September 2018)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (September 4, 2018)
- Attachment 3 – AESO Need Overview Update (October 2020)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (November 3, 2020)
- Attachment 5 – ATCO's Project Newsletter – *Garden Plain Transmission Project* (August 2018)
- Attachment 6 – ATCO's Project Newsletter – *Garden Plain Transmission Project Transmission Project – Update* (October 2020)
- Attachment 7 – AltaLink's Project Newsletter – *Garden Plain North Holden Fibre Optic Build* (September 2020)
- Attachment 8 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (January 20, 2021)
- Attachment 9 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (February 2021)
- Attachment 10 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice (February 23, 2021)

**Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (September 2018)**

# Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection in the Castor area

*TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add the Garden Plain 1045S substation, including three 240 kilovolt (kV) circuit breakers.
- Add two 240 kV transmission lines to connect the Garden Plain 1045S substation to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59.
- 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) for approval of the need in early 2019.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at [www.aeso.ca/grid/projects](http://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 ELECTRIC LTD.

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Castor 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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aes0.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) | [@theaes0](https://twitter.com/theaes0)

**Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (September 4, 2018)**



September 4, 2018

---

# AESO Stakeholder Newsletter

## GRID

### **Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Castor area**

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

- Add the Garden Plain 1045S substation, including three 240 kilovolt (kV) circuit breakers
- Add two 240 kV transmission lines to connect the Garden Plain 1045S substation to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59
- 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 > Project > Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection.

**Attachment 3 – AESO Need Overview Update (October 2020)**

# Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection in the Castor and Holden areas

*TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in September 2018. The AESO has since revised its proposed solution and schedule, and identified the need for development in the Holden area, as described below. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## REVISED PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59 in a T-tap configuration. Originally, the Facility was proposed to connect using an in-and-out configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## REVISED NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in early 2021.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at [www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-projects](http://www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-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 & ALTALINK

- Are the transmission facility owners (TFO) in their respective service areas:
  - ATCO is the TFO in the Castor area.
  - AltaLink is the TFO in the Holden area.
- Are responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities within their respective service areas.
- Will coordinate the proposed transmission development described above.
- Are regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of their 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@aesocanada.com](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com)  
1-888-866-2959

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

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

**Attachment 4 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (November 3, 2020)**



November 3, 2020

---

# AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



## Information Update for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Castor and Holden areas

TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in Sept. 2018. The AESO has since revised its proposed solution and schedule and identified the need for development in the Holden area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59 in a T-tap configuration. Originally, the Facility was proposed to connect using an in-and-out configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

The AESO has posted a Need Overview Update 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 > Projects > Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection.

---

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca).

**Our mailing address is:**

Alberta Electric System Operator 2500, 330 - 5th Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 0L4 Canada

---

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#) | [view email in browser](#)

**Attachment 5 – ATCO’s Project Newsletter – *Garden Plain Transmission Project* (August 2018)**

# ATCO

## SHAPE the conversation



August 2018

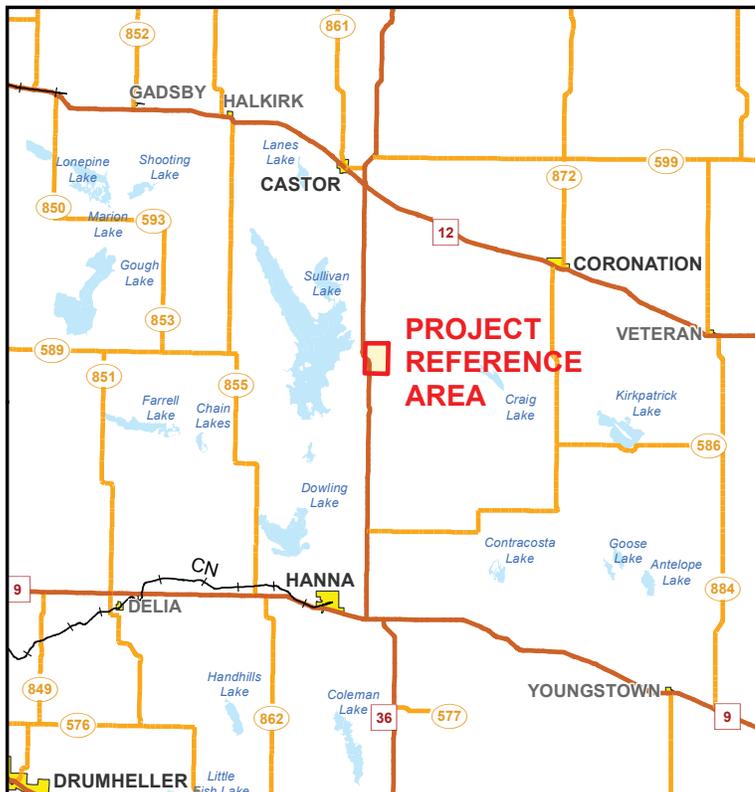
## GARDEN PLAIN TRANSMISSION PROJECT

This newsletter provides you with information about electric transmission facilities being planned in your area. This package provides important project information and outlines our public consultation process. We invite any comments, questions or concerns you may have.

The proposed ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) Garden Plain Transmission Project (the Project) will be located approximately 27 kilometres (km) south of Castor, AB, on SW 5 and SE 6-35-13 W4M and is planned to connect a new customer wind generation facility to the electrical grid.

If approved, the Project will include the construction of ATCO's portion of a new substation (to be called Garden Plain 10455) and approximately 100 metres (m) of 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The Project will also include approximately 2 km of new underground telecommunication line. Please refer to the technical details, planned site layout diagram, and planned route mosaic map for further details.

ATCO is seeking your input on how this project may affect you. If you are in the direct vicinity of the planned facilities, ATCO will contact you in the coming weeks.



CREDIT NOTES Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Alberta, IHS Markt

### Project Need

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 electric 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 [aeso.ca](http://aeso.ca).

If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project, you may contact the AESO directly. You can also make your concerns known to an ATCO 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 package:

- Technical details of project
- Planned site layout diagram
- Planned route mosaic map
- AUC brochure: *Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development*
- AESO Need Overview
- Reply form and postage-paid envelope

# LOCAL BENEFITS

Upgrading the transmission system in your area will:

- Improve access to safe, secure and reliable power
- Allow future businesses to connect to Alberta's electric system
- Encourage investment in our province

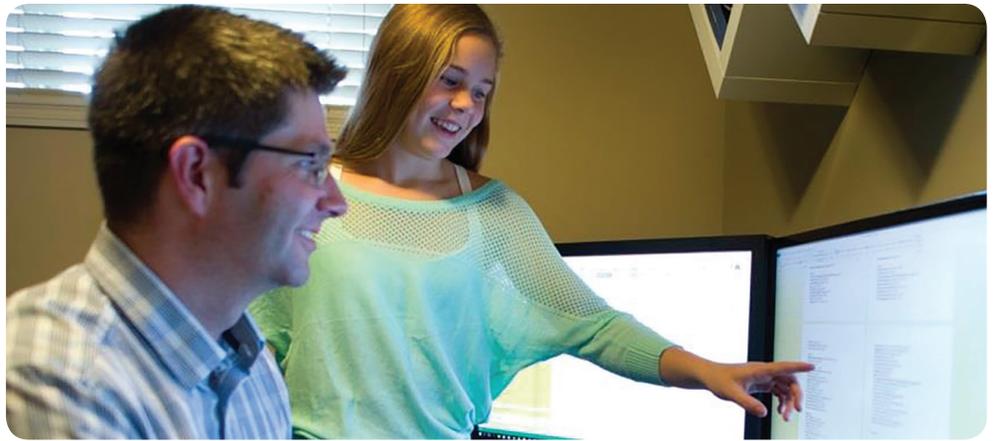
If you are a local business, and would like to be considered for the ATCO approved vendors list, please contact us toll free at **1 800 668 2248**.

## The Process

Our research indicates that you are in the vicinity of the proposed facilities for the Garden Plain Transmission Project. In the coming weeks, ATCO may be contacting you to discuss the project in more detail.

Consultation with landholders routinely leads to improvements on our projects. Previously, we have adjusted routes, developed new route options, and rejected other routes because of conversations with landholders. Your feedback and input will help determine the best possible routes.

We would like to meet with you to gather information about the area and answer any questions you may have.



In addition to the in-person and telephone consultations, we invite anyone who is interested in this project to:

- provide feedback and share other information using the enclosed reply form and postage-paid envelope, and
- be a part of the conversation.

If you have any questions, concerns or other information regarding this project, we want to hear from you.

If you have an interest in lands located on or beside the planned routes or substation site, you will be contacted by an ATCO representative to further discuss the project and address any questions or concerns you may have.

When consultations have been completed, ATCO will submit a facility application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to obtain approval for the construction and operation of the planned facilities.

## Transmission Facilities

Prior to consultation with landholders, ATCO develops early route concepts. In identifying early route concepts, ATCO considers numerous constraints and barriers including:

- Proximity to residences
- Environmentally sensitive areas
- Wetlands
- Existing infrastructure (i.e. other transmission lines, roads, highways, pipelines, telecommunication towers)
- Planned developments
- Agriculture operations
- Visual factors
- Construction and land acquisition costs
- Quarter and section lines
- Other special considerations (i.e. access roads)

# THE SCHEDULE

We begin sharing information about the project to determine the best options.

We gather your input. Based on this input and other factors, route option(s) are selected.

ATCO submits an application to the AUC to build the proposed facility.

The AUC reviews the application by way of a public process.

If approved, construction of the new facility begins.

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

is a continuous process that occurs throughout the life of the project.

## Access Trails and Temporary Workspace

Access trails may be required in areas where terrain conditions or the presence of wetlands make driving along the right-of-way impractical.

Temporary workspace may also be required along the edge of the right-of-way and in other selected locations. The exact locations of access trails and temporary workspaces has yet to be determined.

Arrangements for access trails and temporary workspace will be discussed and negotiated with landowners individually.



## The Right-of-Way

The term right-of-way refers to the area a transmission or telecommunication fibre line uses including areas on either side of the line. Rights-of-way must have a minimum width to ensure safety and ongoing access for maintenance.

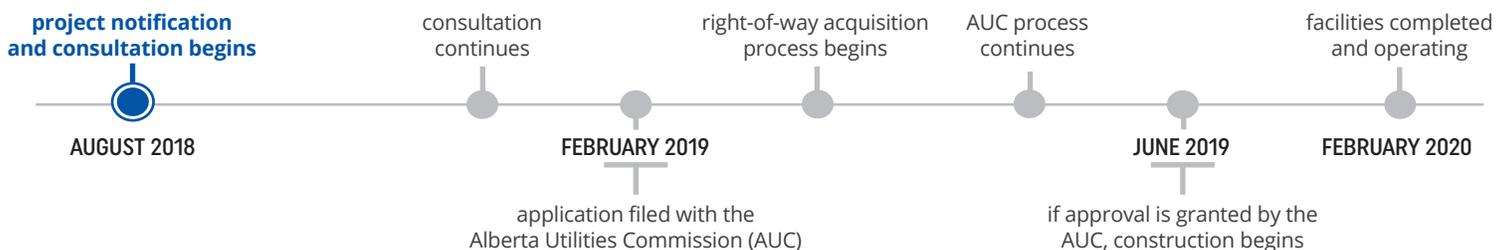
For safety reasons, some general restrictions on the use of the land in the direct vicinity of the line may apply. These include setbacks for development.

Details including width and position of the right-of-way will depend on the type and size of the required structure footprint or underground installation, existing land use, surrounding features and other factors.

The total width of right-of-way for the new transmission lines will be 68 m. The right-of-way for the telecommunication fibre will be 10 m, and will be located entirely within other existing transmission line rights-of-way.

Once a proposed route has been submitted to the AUC, ATCO begins obtaining agreements with landholders to acquire the right-of-way. Once the transmission line is constructed, landholders may continue to use the right-of-way, subject to the terms of agreements made between the landholder and ATCO.

## THE SCHEDULE



# CONTACT INFORMATION



Your comments and concerns are important to us. Please contact us if you would like to learn more about this project, or if you would like to share information with us.

- Call us toll free at 1 855 420 5775 or
- Use the enclosed reply form and postage-paid envelope to share feedback or
- Contact the project planner directly:

## Nathan Jones

Right-of-Way Planning  
ATCO  
10035 - 105 Street  
Edmonton, AB T5J 2V6  
Phone: 780 686 0771

Email: [consultation@ATCOelectric.com](mailto:consultation@ATCOelectric.com)  
Website: [www.ATCOelectric.com](http://www.ATCOelectric.com)  
Fax: 780 420 5030

## Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)

Phone: 1 888 866 2959  
Email: [stakeholder.relations@aes0.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aes0.ca)

## Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

Phone: 780 427 4903  
(for toll-free, dial 310 0000 first)  
Email: [consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)

# ATCO

## Approval Process

Alberta's electrical system is regulated by the AUC, an independent agency of the province that ensures the fair and responsible delivery of utility services. Before ATCO can begin construction on a project, the AUC must approve the facilities application, which includes details such as location of electric transmission facilities and routes and proposed alterations. For more information about how you can participate in the AUC approval process, please refer to the enclosed AUC brochure, *Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development*.

If you are affected by the location of facilities in our application, information you shared with us will be summarized in our facility application to the AUC. The AUC will consider this input in its review of the application.

## Next Steps

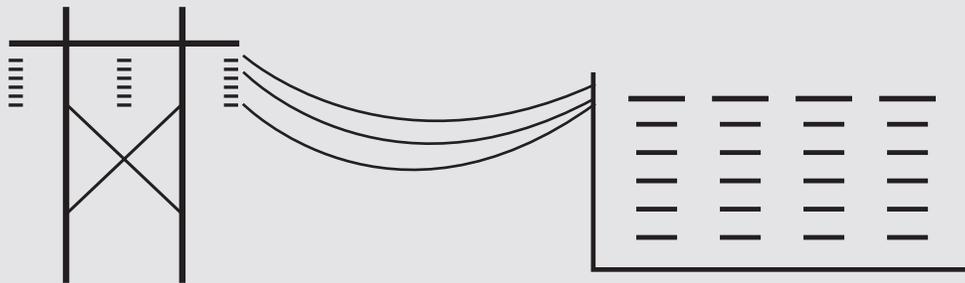
The consultation process for this project is ongoing. In the weeks ahead, ATCO will be contacting landholders on or beside the planned facilities and consultation will be conducted in an effort to reduce potential impacts.

Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this project. You can provide feedback and share other information using the enclosed reply form and postage-paid envelope, by contacting us (toll free) at **1 855 420 5775**, or by emailing us at **[consultation@atcoelectric.com](mailto:consultation@atcoelectric.com)**.

August 2018

## GARDEN PLAIN TRANSMISSION PROJECT

The technical details of facilities associated with the Garden Plain Transmission Project are described in this fact sheet. Designs may vary as plans are finalized.



### Modifications to the existing 240 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line 9L59

The project will require alterations to the existing single-circuit 240 kV transmission line 9L59.

### New Garden Plain 1045S Substation

The project will require a new substation, located approximately 27 km south of Castor, AB in SW 5-35-13 W4M.

### THE DETAILS

If approved, the modification will include the construction of two short segments of new transmission line between the existing transmission line 9L59 and the planned Garden Plain substation.

Additionally, the transmission line between the existing Tinchebray 972S substation and the planned Garden Plain substation will be redesignated as 9L135, and the transmission line between the planned Garden Plain substation and the existing Anderson 801S substation will remain as 9L59.

Following construction, a short segment of 9L59 will no longer be required, so it will be decommissioned and removed.

### THE DETAILS

If approved, the work will include the installation of the following new equipment (please refer to the back of this fact sheet for definitions):

- Three 240 kV circuit breakers
- Associated switches, equipment, and buildings

TransAlta's wind power collector substation and the planned ATCO substation will share a common fence along the east edge of the new ATCO Garden Plain substation.

## What It Will Look Like

### Fibre Optic Cable

If approved, the work will include the installation of buried fibre optic cable. The cable will extend west from the planned Garden Plain substation to the 13L50 transmission line (EATL) right-of-way, then south along that right-of-way for approximately 2 km to a connection box located on an existing tower structure in NW 30-34-13 W4M. The approximate route of the cable is shown on the enclosed mosaic map.

The purpose of the fibre optic cable is to create a communication link between the Garden Plain Substation and the existing communication network that controls the electrical transmission grid.



## Definitions

**Circuit:** A circuit is a group of wires electricity flows through. ATCO's transmission lines can be single or double circuit. A single-circuit line has three wires and a double-circuit line has six. A transmission line may also have one or two shield wires on the top of the structures to protect the line from lightning.

**Circuit breaker:** A circuit breaker is an automatic switch that is designed to protect an electrical circuit from overloading by shutting off the flow of electricity.

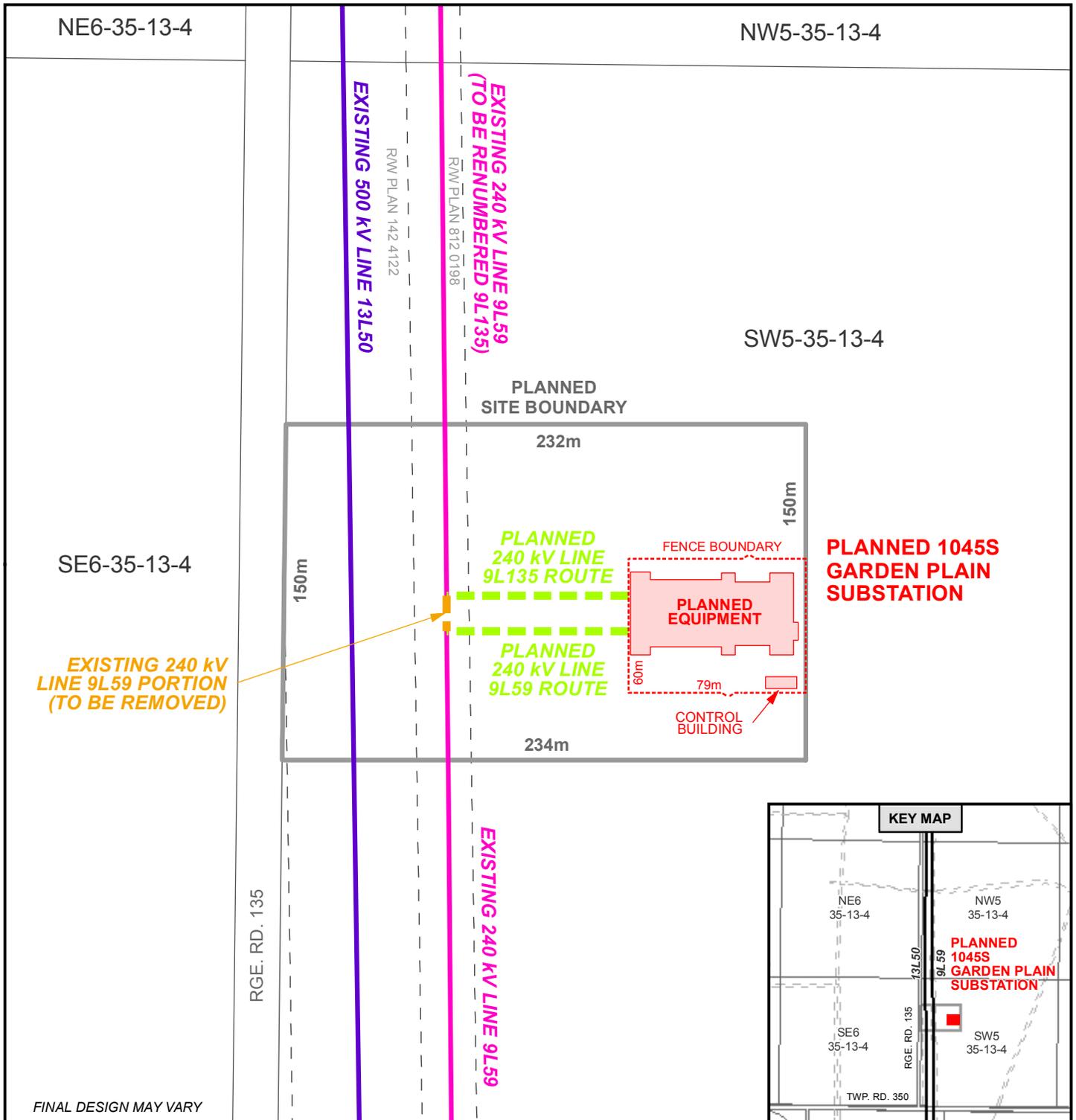
**Consultation:** A consultation is a meeting where advice, information and views are exchanged.

**Kilovolt (kV):** A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts. This unit of measurement is most commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines.

Distribution and transmission lines in Alberta carry between 4-kV (4,000 volts) and 500-kV (500,000 volts).

**Right-of-way:** A right-of-way is the use of a strip of land acquired for the construction and operation of a transmission line. The term right-of-way is also used to refer to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line.

**Termination:** A termination is the point where a power line ends and connects to a substation.

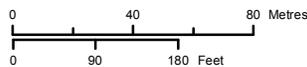


EXISTING 240 kV LINE 9L59 PORTION (TO BE REMOVED)

PLANNED 1045S GARDEN PLAIN SUBSTATION

FINAL DESIGN MAY VARY

- - - - - Planned Fence
- Planned Equipment / Control Building
- Planned 240 kV Line 9L135 and 9L59 Route
- 240 kV 9L59 Transmission Line Portion To Be Removed
- Existing 240 kV Transmission Line
- Existing 500 kV Transmission Line



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



Garden Plain  
Transmission Project

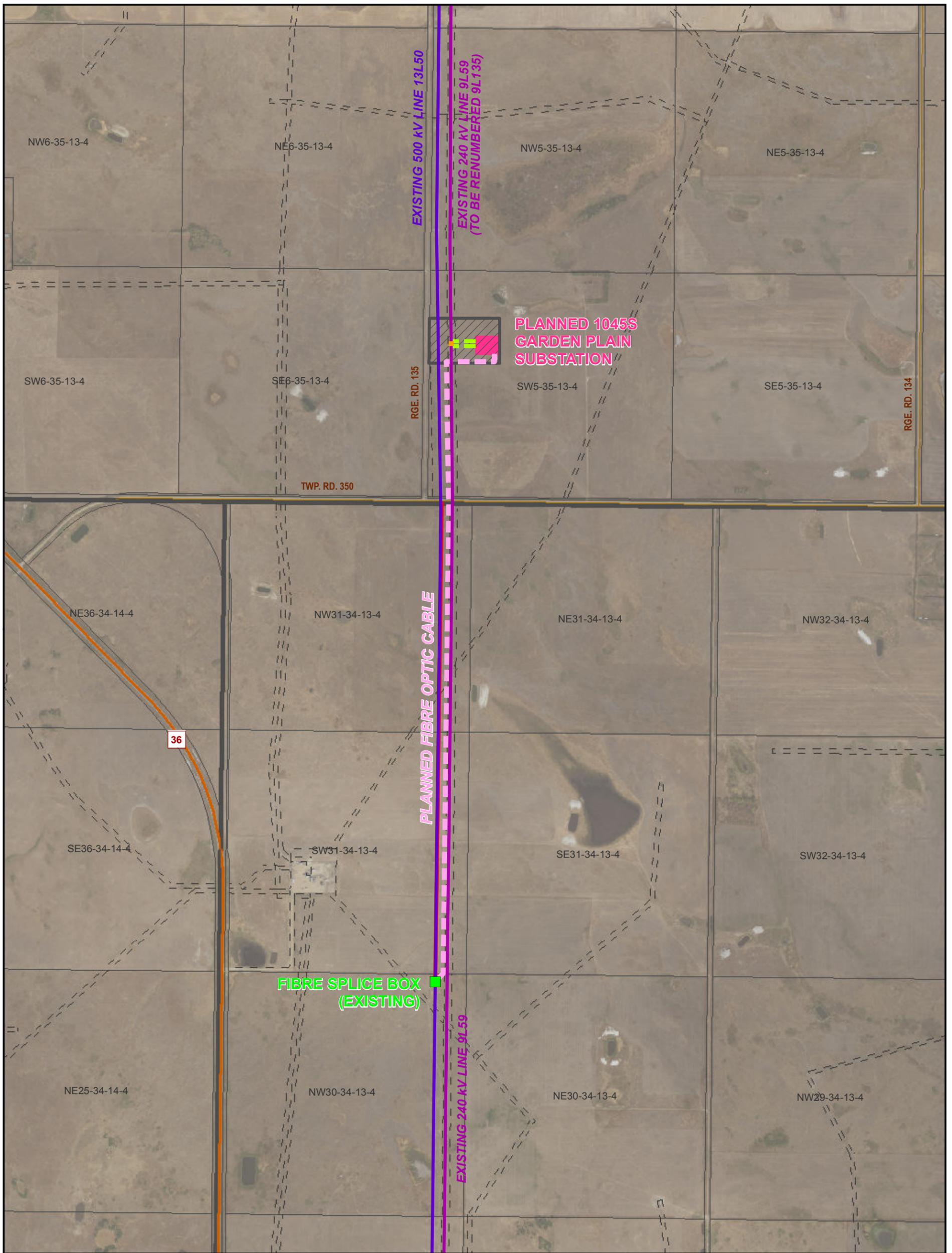
1045S GARDEN PLAIN  
SUBSTATION  
PLANNED SITE LAYOUT

August 2018

RS-1045S - N1 - 02

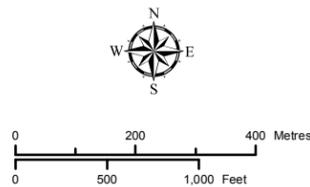
CREDIT NOTES  
Alberta Data Partnerships

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 lines!



- Planned Substation
- Planned Substation Site Boundary
- Fibre Splice Box (Existing)
- Planned Fibre Optic Cable
- Planned 240 kV Line 9L135 and 9L59 Route
- 240 kV 9L59 Transmission Line Portion To Be Removed
- Existing 240 kV Transmission Line
- Existing 500 kV Transmission Line
- Primary Highway
- Road
- Existing Easement R/W

**CREDIT NOTES**  
 Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Alberta, Government of Canada, IHS Markit  
 Valtus Imagery Services 2017



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

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



Garden Plain  
 Transmission Project

**PLANNED ROUTE MOSAIC**

August 2018

RS-1045S - N1 - 01

**Attachment 6 – ATCO's Project Newsletter – *Garden Plain Transmission Project Transmission Project – Update (October 2020)***

October 29, 2020

**RE: Garden Plain Transmission Project - Update**

---

In August 2018, ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) sent you information about the Garden Plain Transmission Project (the Project) and met with landholders in the vicinity of the Project. At this time, we want to provide you with a project update to describe planned changes to the Project.

The Project is planned to be located approximately 27 kilometres (km) south of Castor, AB and its purpose remains to connect a new customer wind generation facility to the electrical grid.

**Project Update**

There have been some engineering updates to the project and some portions of the project are no longer required. The changes include:

- ATCO's planned Garden Plain substation and the associated electrical equipment is no longer required for the Project;
- One 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line called 9LA59, approximately 160 metres (m) long will be required to connect the client's electrical substations to the existing transmission line 9L59. The single transmission line will replace the two previously planned transmission lines. ATCO will require a 34 m wide right of way (ROW) for the new transmission line;
- The Project will still require a new buried telecommunication fibre line that will be approximately 2 km in length. ATCO plans to bury this fibre line within the east side of the existing 13L50 transmission line right of way (ROW). ATCO will require a 4 m wide ROW with an additional 3 m width of temporary workspace on either side of the 4 m ROW to construct the fibre line; and
- Temporary workspace areas are also required for construction where the proposed 9LA59 transmission line route connects to the existing 9L59 transmission line ROW. Please see the Potential Route Site Layout and Potential Route Mosaic Map for further details.

**Project Schedule**

ATCO plans to submit a facility application for this Project to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in early 2021. If approval is granted by the AUC, construction activities may commence as early as May 2021, where possible. Please note that project timing and details may be adjusted as plans are finalized.

**Alberta Electric System Operator**

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 Update 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 an ATCO 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. The AESO can be contacted at:

Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)  
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca  
1-888-866-2959  
[www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca)

### **Next Steps**

In the weeks ahead, ATCO will be contacting landholders on or beside the planned facilities and consultation will be conducted in an effort to reduce potential impacts.

Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this project. You can provide feedback and share other information using the enclosed reply form and postage-paid envelope, by contacting us (toll free) at 1-855-420-5775, or by emailing us at [consultation@atcoelectric.com](mailto:consultation@atcoelectric.com).

It is important to note that AUC approval is required before ATCO can begin to construct this Project. Once the facility application is filed, you may receive a Notice of Application from the AUC providing you with information on their review and approval process. For more information about how you can participate in the AUC process, please refer to the enclosed brochure entitled *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*.

Thank you for your participation in the project so far. We appreciate you taking the time to provide us with valuable feedback. Please contact us at your earliest convenience should you have any questions or comments regarding the project.

Sincerely,



**Jeff Sansom**

Project Planner  
ATCO Electric Ltd.  
Toll Free: 1-855-420-5775  
E-mail: [consultation@atcoelectric.com](mailto:consultation@atcoelectric.com)

**Enclosures**

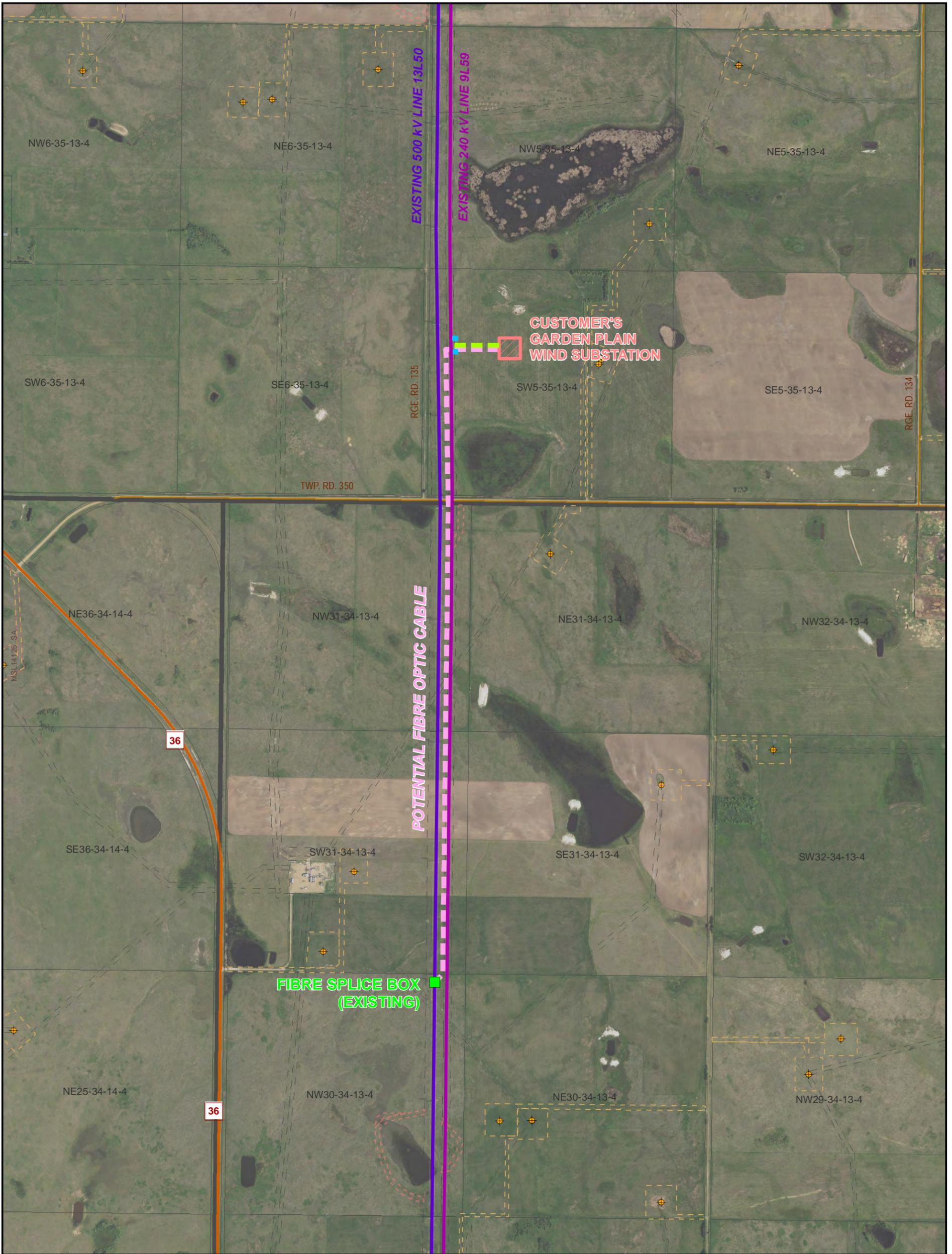
Potential Route Mosaic Map (RS-1045S-N2-01)

Potential Route Site Layout (RS-1045S-N2-02)

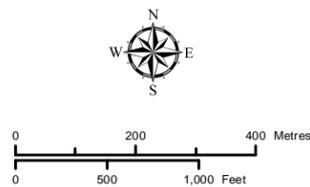
AESO Needs Overview Update

AUC Brochure: Participating in the AUC's independent review process

Reply form and postage paid envelope



- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Customer's Substation Fence Boundary     | Existing Easement R/W |
| Fibre Splice Box (Existing)              | Primary Highway       |
| Potential Fibre Optic Cable              | Road                  |
| Potential 240 kV Transmission Line Route | Surface Well Site     |
| Potential Temporary Workspace            |                       |
| Existing 240 kV Transmission Line        |                       |
| Existing 500 kV Transmission Line        |                       |
| Current Disposition                      |                       |
| Private Wells and Access                 |                       |
| ATCO Existing Access                     |                       |



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

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



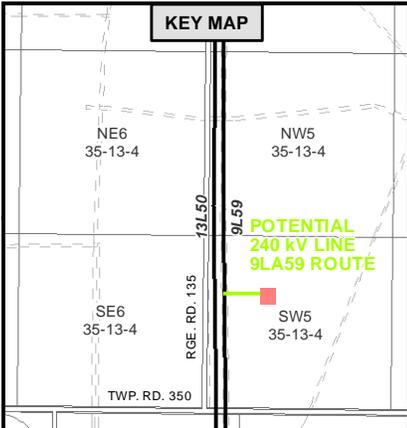
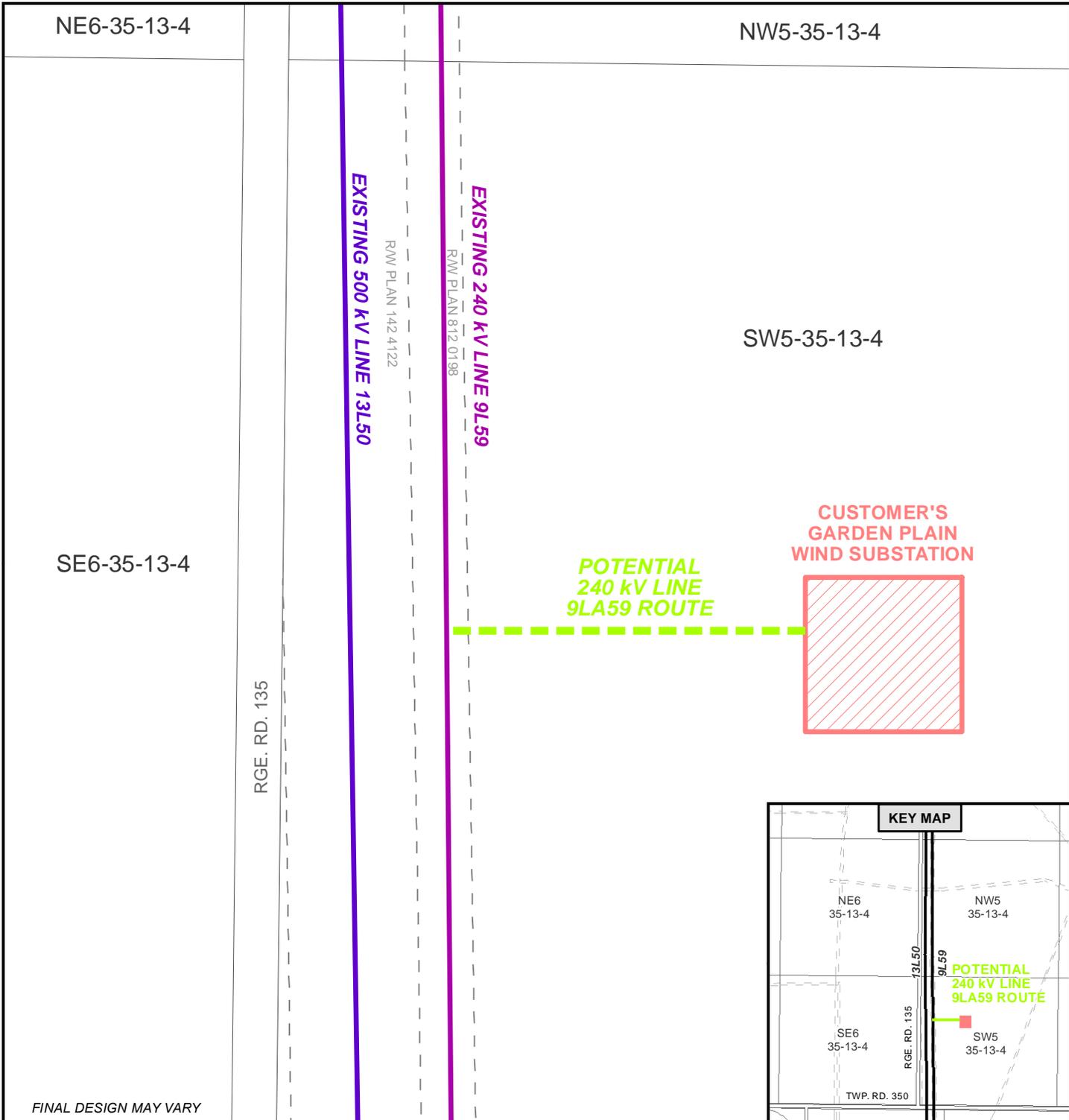
Garden Plain  
Transmission Project

POTENTIAL  
ROUTE MOSAIC MAP

October 2020

RS-9LA59 - N2 - 01

CREDIT NOTES  
Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Canada, IHS Markit  
Valtus Imagery Services 2018



FINAL DESIGN MAY VARY

-  Potential 240 kV Transmission Line Route
-  Existing 240 kV Transmission Line
-  Existing 500 kV Transmission Line
-  Customer's Substation Fence Boundary
-  Existing Easement R/W



NOTES:

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



Garden Plain  
Transmission Project

POTENTIAL ROUTE  
SITE LAYOUT

October 2020

RS-9LA59 - N2 - 02

CREDIT NOTES  
Alberta Data Partnerships

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 lines!

# Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection in the Castor and Holden areas

*TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in September 2018. The AESO has since revised its proposed solution and schedule, and identified the need for development in the Holden area, as described below. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:*

## REVISED PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59 in a T-tap configuration. Originally, the Facility was proposed to connect using an in-and-out configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

## REVISED NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in early 2021.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at [www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-projects](http://www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-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 & ALTALINK

- Are the transmission facility owners (TFO) in their respective service areas:
  - ATCO is the TFO in the Castor area.
  - AltaLink is the TFO in the Holden area.
- Are responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities within their respective service areas.
- Will coordinate the proposed transmission development described above.
- Are regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of their 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@aesocanada.com](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com)  
1-888-866-2959

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

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

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

The Commission supports ongoing efforts to reach an agreeable outcome for the applicant and all affected parties. The Commission encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement 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 at an AUC hearing.

## Step 6: The public hearing process\*

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if there continues to be legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location in addition to a process schedule. The AUC conducts public hearings in its Edmonton and Calgary hearing rooms and, where suitable venues exist, in communities closer to the proposed project area.

The public hearing process allows persons with standing that have unresolved concerns about the application, to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members.

An AUC hearing is a formal, evidence-based, court-like proceeding. The public can attend the hearing in person or listen to hearings online through the AUC's website.

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 Commission to be 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: *Local Intervener Funding*, recovery of costs is subject to the Commission assessing the value of the

contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts. People with similar interests and positions are expected 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 application decision no more than 90 days after the hearing is complete. The Commission can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. All AUC decision reports are available to any member of the public on the AUC's website or by obtaining a printed copy from the AUC.

## Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

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

An applicant or dissatisfied participant can also ask the Commission to review its decision. An application to review a Commission 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 and Variance of Commission Decisions*.

## Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the Commission 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 under "Compliance and enforcement."

## \*Opportunity for public involvement

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.

## Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC (310-4282 in Alberta)  
1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-511-4282 outside Alberta)  
Email: [info@auc.ab.ca](mailto:info@auc.ab.ca)

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

106 Street Building  
10th Floor, 10055 106 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2

The Alberta Utilities Commission is 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.



Participating  
in the AUC's  
independent  
review process

# Application review process

**Step 1: Public consultation prior to application by proponent**

**Step 2: Application filed with the AUC**

**Step 3: Public notice issued by the AUC**

**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**

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

## The AUC's regulatory role in needs and facility applications and its independent review and hearing process:

The AUC uses an established process, outlined in this brochure, to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval is in the public interest. Approvals from the AUC are required for the construction, operation, alteration and decommissioning of transmission lines and electric substations.

Approvals are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades.
- The route and location of transmission facilities.
- The siting of power plants, including renewables such as wind and solar more than five megawatts.

Sometimes a needs application is considered together with a facility application in a single hearing; sometimes separate hearings may be held to consider each application.

### Step 1: Public consultation prior to application\*

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development, the applicant must engage in a public consultation program in the area of 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 and Hydro Developments*, and AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial public consultation, as early involvement in discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

The Alberta Electric System Operator, as the system planner, will notify potentially affected stakeholders of applications on the need for transmission development.

### Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

When the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application with the AUC through a public filing system, called the eFiling System, on the AUC website.

The application is then reviewed to ensure the information required by the Commission is included. If the required information is not provided, the AUC may close the application or request more

information from the applicant. In the application, any issues that were raised during the public consultation and any related amendments to the proposal should be identified. All unresolved objections or concerns identified during the public consultation must be described in the application.

### Step 3: Public notice

The AUC generally issues a notice by mail directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be affected by the Commission's decision on the proposed project. The notice for larger facility projects with potentially greater impacts may also be published in local newspapers.

The notice will specify a submission deadline. The information required by this deadline is general in nature as outlined in Step 4. Additional opportunities to provide evidence and additional information will arise after this deadline.

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

The AUC review process is referred to as a proceeding. Anyone with unresolved objections or concerns about the application can file a brief written statement with the AUC on the proceeding. The easiest way to file a statement is to fill out the form through the eFiling System found on the AUC website. The statement must include your contact information, where you reside or own property in relation to the proposed facility, your concern or interest in the application, an explanation of your position and what you feel the AUC should decide.

The AUC uses the information it gathers through the forms to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The Commission must hold a hearing if a person can demonstrate that he or she has rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the Commission's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the Commission. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to understand the application and present their position on the application either in writing or in person.

Subject to some limited exceptions, all information and materials provided as part of an AUC proceeding will become part of the public record and will be available through the eFiling System. The AUC's treatment of some types of information as confidential is rare and only available under limited circumstances to ensure that the AUC's process is open and transparent.

### AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the 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 and is how to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the 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.

**\*Opportunity for public involvement**



# SHAPE THE CONVERSATION

## GARDEN PLAIN TRANSMISSION PROJECT

### REPLY FORM

10035-105 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1C8

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization Name (if applicable):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **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)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**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](mailto:consultation@atcoelectric.com).

**Attachment 7 – AltaLink’s Project Newsletter – Garden Plain *North Holden Fibre Optic Build*  
(September 2020)**

# Electric system improvements near you

## Garden Plain - North Holden Fibre Optic Build

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Garden Plain - North Holden Fibre Optic Build and we want your input.

You may have previously received information about the Pattern Lanfine-North Holden Fibre Optic Build. The details of this proposed project are the same, but please note that if both projects are approved, only one fibre optic cable will be built.

Garden Plain Wind Energy I Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta), is proposing to develop a wind power project called Garden Plain, located north of Hanna. To support this project, AltaLink is proposing communications equipment upgrades that are required to ensure the safe and reliable operation of the **transmission** system. These upgrades include the addition of underground **fibre optic cable**, which will provide the appropriate telecommunication links for the project.

Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of TransAlta's project, it is a separate project. TransAlta will consult separately on their proposed wind power facility. For more information about the TransAlta project, please find their contact information on the back page of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- a map of the proposed project
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

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).

#### 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.**

#### **Fibre optic cable**

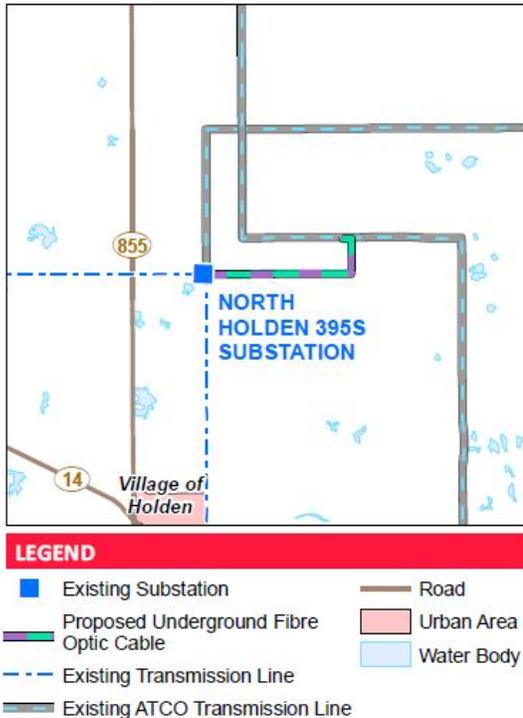
**AltaLink's fibre optic cables transmit data signals between substations and are part of a larger telecommunications system in Alberta. This telecommunications system allows AltaLink control centres to actively monitor the electric system, ensuring it runs safely and reliably.**

#### **CONTACT US**

1-877-269-5903

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

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



## Project details

AltaLink's proposed project is located in Beaver County, approximately five kilometres north of the Village of Holden. TransAlta's project is located approximately 143 kilometres south of AltaLink's proposed project.

AltaLink is proposing to install approximately four km of underground fibre optic cable from a structure on an existing ATCO Electric transmission line to AltaLink's North Holden Substation.

The fibre optic cable will be located within ATCO Electric's transmission line **right-of-way** and public road allowance. When located in the right-of-way, the fibre optic cable will require an additional right-of-way of approximately five metres. When located in public road allowance, the fibre optic cable will be located approximately one metre within the road allowance boundary.

The fibre optic cable will be buried at least one metre underground when located on private property and when in road allowance. It will not be visible after construction is complete.

During construction, you may notice work crews, heavy equipment, and materials at and around the construction sites. Crews will only operate during regular work hours, and there may be some temporary traffic delays during construction. To minimize disruption, we will be notifying nearby residents and landowners a few weeks before construction activities begin in your area.

Temporary construction access and workspace will be located on private property, along road allowance, and on land owned by AltaLink. Up to 10 metres of construction workspace may be required adjacent to the right-of-way and road allowance.

Where construction activities are required to take place on private property, we will contact you in advance to discuss the specific dates and times that we will require access to your property.

AltaLink offers fair market value for the land at the time of acquisition and this will be discussed on an individual basis with the landowner.

### DEFINITION:

#### **Right-of-way**

**A right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction, maintenance and safe operation of a transmission line. A ROW refers to the physical space in which a transmission line is located and includes areas on either side of the transmission line structures and the conductors, which are the wires that carry the electricity.**



*Above: Fibre optic cable being buried. You may see similar construction activities in your area.*



*Above: The North Holden Substation*

## Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

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

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

National and international organizations such as Health Canada and the World Health Organization (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research about 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 the right-of-way. If you have any questions about EMF, please contact us.

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

Email: [emfdialogue@altalink.ca](mailto:emfdialogue@altalink.ca)

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

## Keeping the lights on during COVID-19

AltaLink is closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public while ensuring that we can continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans.

## How to provide your input

At this time we are limiting in-person meetings and will be conducting the majority of meetings via telephone or electronic methods. If you'd like to provide input, you can also do so through our online feedback portal, found here: [www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback](http://www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback). As the situation regarding COVID-19 changes we will re-assess this approach and update you as the situation evolves. Our focus is ensuring the lights stay on, and that you have the electricity you need.

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. 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*.

If you previously consulted with AltaLink on the Pattern Lanfine North Holden Fibre Optic Build project and consented to sharing your information and comments we will not be contacting you about this project because the details of the projects are the same.

## 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.

## Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	September - November 2020
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	November 2020
Start construction if project is approved	August 2021
Construction completed	October 2021

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

1-877-269-5903 (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 TransAlta's wind project, please contact:*

### TRANSALTA CORPORATION

1-877-547-3365 ext. 1

E-mail: [projects@transalta.com](mailto:projects@transalta.com)

Website: [www.transalta.com](http://www.transalta.com)

*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)

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 you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to an AltaLink 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)

*For general information relating to telecommunications systems, please contact:*

### INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CANADA

Canada Place Building

9700 Jasper Avenue NW, Room 725

Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4C3

1-800-267-9401 (toll free in Canada)

Website: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/towers>

### 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 map
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*
- COVID-19 update

## 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](https://www.twitter.com/altalink)



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

**Attachment 8 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (January 20, 2021)**

January 20, 2021

**Notified Market Participant Corporate Legal Name**  
**Address Line 1.**  
**Address Line 2.**  
**City, Province, Postal Code.**

**Dear Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:**

**Re: Approved Generating Facility Connection in the AESO's Central Planning Region**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that TransAlta Corporation has applied for transmission system access to connect their approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (approved Facility) to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO's Central Planning Region.

A copy of the applicable AESO Need Overview document is attached for your information. The AESO Need Overview document describes the AESO's proposed transmission development to connect the approved Facility to the AIES and the AESO's next steps, which includes submitting a needs identification document (NID) application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has identified that, under credible worse case forecast conditions, the operation of the **[Effective Generation Facility Name] ([Effective Generation Facility Asset ID])** may be affected following the connection of the above noted approved Facility.<sup>1</sup>

### ***Connection Assessment Findings***

Engineering connection assessments were carried out by the AESO to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the approved Facility. The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations following the connection of the Garden Plain Wind Power Project, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A). In addition, thermal criteria violations were also identified when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the approved Facility.

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 until the approved Provost to Edgerton and Nilrem to Vermilion Transmission System Reinforcement project is in place. In addition, to address potential thermal criteria violations under Category B conditions, the AESO may implement new remedial action schemes (RASs) or other mitigations, as required.

The AESO may also make use of real-time operational procedures to mitigate these potential thermal criteria violations, in accordance with [Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, Real Time Transmission Constraint](#)

---

<sup>1</sup> The studies were performed assuming a Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 130 MW.

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.

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

If the AESO determines that congestion will arise under Category A conditions, the AESO will make an application to the AUC 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 AUC for approval of such an exception.

***For Further Information***

The engineering connection assessment will be included in the AESO’s Garden Plain Power Project Connection NID application. Following submission of the NID application to the AUC, the NID application will be posted on the AESO website at: <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/>

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)

Attachment:

AESO Need Overview Update: *Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection in the Castor and Holden areas*

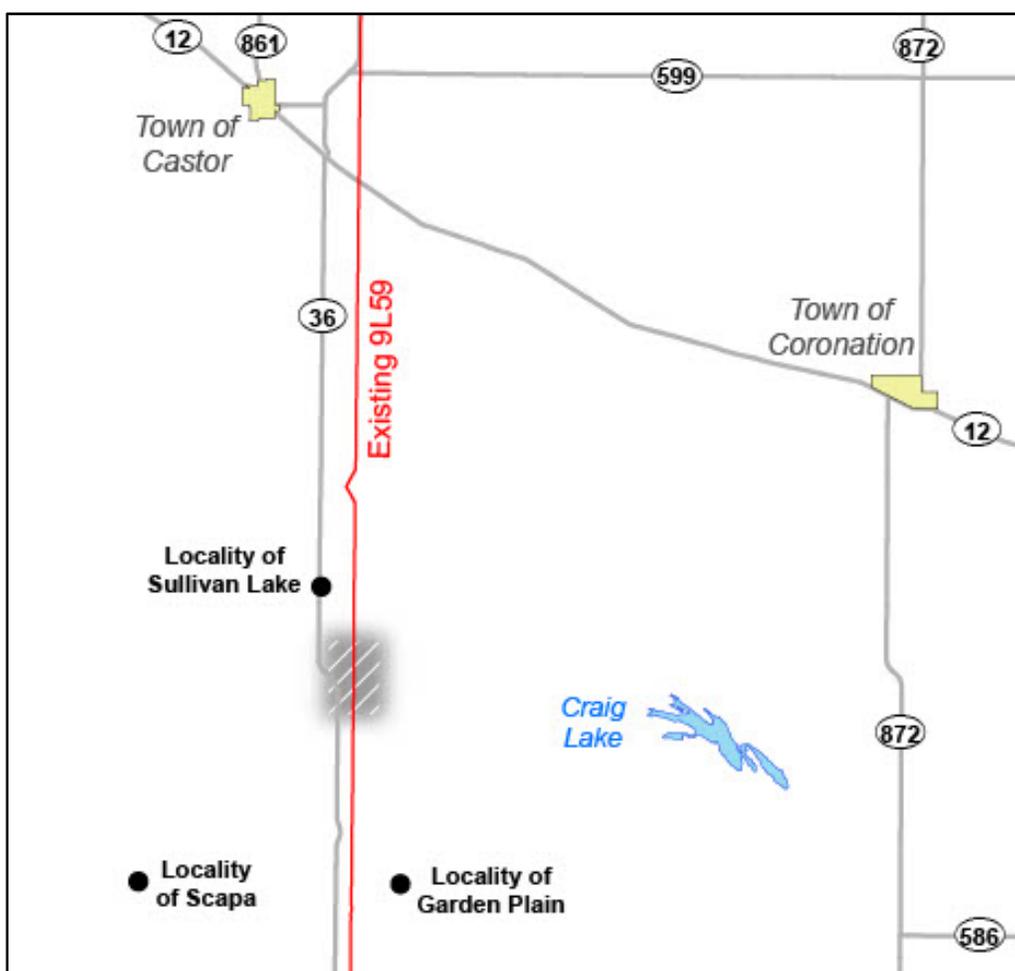
**Attachment 9 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (February 2021)**

## Notification of Needs Identification Document Filing Addressing the Need for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project in the Castor and Holden areas

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) advises you that it intends to file a Needs Identification Document (NID) for the Garden Plain Wind Power Project with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after March 24, 2021.

TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59 in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.



The grey shaded area on the map indicates the approximate location of the proposed transmission developments, including the 9L59 240 kV transmission line. The specific transmission facilities may extend beyond the grey shaded area shown.

ATCO Electric Ltd. is the transmission facility owner (TFO) in the Castor area. AltaLink Management Ltd. is the TFO in the Holden area (collectively TFOs). In August 2018, the AESO and ATCO began presenting this need to stakeholders, including residents, occupants and landowners. In September and October 2020, the AESO and the TFOs presented updated information regarding the need and revised transmission development. The AESO will apply to the AUC for approval of the need for this transmission development. Once filed with the AUC, the NID will be posted on the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/garden-plain-wind-power-project-connection/>

In separate applications, called Facility Applications, the TFOs will each provide details of their respective proposed transmission facilities and request AUC approval to construct and operate these facilities.

For more information, please visit our website, [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca) or contact us at 1-888-866-2959 or [stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com).

**Attachment 10 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice (February 23, 2021)**

February 23, 2021

---

# AESO Stakeholder Newsletter

## GRID

### **Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection – Notice of NID Filing**

TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Garden Plain Wind Power Project (Facility) in the Castor area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 9L59 in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission

The AESO intends to file the Garden Plain Wind Power Project Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after March 24, 2021, requesting that the AUC approve this NID.

The AESO has posted the Notification of NID filing 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 > Projects > Garden Plain Wind Power Project Connection to see all the relevant documents, including the NID application once it is filed with the AUC.