

July 16, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Mousseau:

Re: **Application of the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for Cancellation of the Needs Identification Document (NID) Approval for the Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant Connection**

Introduction and Background

On June 17, 2014, the Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) approved the AESO's Mustus Biomass Energy Connection NID¹ in Decision 2014-181 and NID Approval U2014-234 (NID Approval).² The NID Approval approved the need to connect the Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant (which was subsequently renamed to "La Crete Biomass Project") and the following transmission development:

- construct 144-kV transmission line 7L180 from Windy Hill 675S substation to the existing Blumenort 832S substation;
- alter the Blumenort 832S substation; and
- other associated equipment as more particularly described in the application.

On March 2, 2020, the Commission rescinded the permit and license for the La Crete Biomass Project and Windy Hill 675S substation.³ As a result, on March 23, 2020 the AESO cancelled the request for system access service from Power Wood Canada Corp. for the La Crete Biomass Project.

Relief Requested

In accordance with the NID Approvals, which 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 for cancellation of the NID Approval pursuant to Section 10 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

Directions to ATCO and Request to Combine

On April 27, 2020, the AESO directed the transmission facility owner, in this case ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO), to apply to the Commission for cancellation of the facilities-related approvals that were granted as a result of this NID Approval. On June 26, 2020 ATCO filed an application with the Commission requesting

¹ Proceeding 3141, Exhibit 0045.00.AESO-3141

² Decision 2014-181, *Alberta Electric System Operator Needs Identification Document Application, ATCO Electric Ltd., Transmission line 7L180 and Blumenort 832S Substation Facility Application*, June 17, 2014

³ Closure Disposition 25180-D01-2020 *AUC letter to La Crete 1 PW Canada Corporation – Application closures*, March 2, 2020

the cancellation of the applicable facilities-related approvals.⁴ The AESO requests that the Commission combine and consider this application with ATCO's cancellation request 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(b) of Appendix A2 of Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments* 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 stakeholder notification has been distributed, the [AESO] must notify stakeholders of this decision in writing.”

The AESO directed ATCO to assist the AESO in providing notification to previously notified stakeholders who were part of the participant involvement program⁵ 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/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-projects/windy-hill-biomass-generation-plant-connection/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on June 16, 2020. Copies of the cancellation notice and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. ATCO has advised the AESO that it has mailed out its project cancellation letter and the AESO's cancellation notice on June 15, 2020. A copy of the ATCO's cancellation letter has been included as Attachment 3.

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.

⁴ Proceeding 25693, *ATCO Electric Ltd.'s Request for Cancellation of the Blumenort Transmission Project*, Application 25693-A001 and 25693-A002, June 26, 2020

⁵ Proceeding 3141, Exhibit 0045.00.AESO-3141 – Appendix C

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

Claudia Moroianu
Regulatory Administrator
need.applications@aeso.ca
403-705-5311

Sincerely,

Electronically submitted by

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

Enclosure:

Attachment 1 – AESO Cancellation Notice (June 2020)
Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Cancellation Notice (June 16, 2020)
Attachment 3 – ATCO Project Cancellation Letter (June 15, 2020)



Project Cancellation for the Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant Connection

The Power Wood Canada Corp. request for transmission system access to connect its Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant (Facility) in the High Level area has been cancelled.

BACKGROUND

The Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) originally approved the AESO's Mustus Biomass Energy Connection Needs Identification Approval Document (NID) on June 17, 2014. The NID approval included the following transmission developments:

- Add one 144 kV transmission line between the market participant's approved Windy Hill 675S substation to the existing Blumenort 832S substation.
- Modify the Blumenort 832 substation.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

The AESO intends to apply to the Commission for cancellation of the NID approval in mid-2020.

Information related to the Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant Connection project is available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-projects

WHO IS THE AESO?

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

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

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

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

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

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

Attachment 2

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



June 16, 2020

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Mustus Biomass Energy Connection – Cancellation Notice

The AESO would like to inform stakeholders that the Power Wood Canada Corp. request for system access service to connect its approved Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant in the High Level area has been cancelled.

As a result, the AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission for cancellation of the NID approval for the following transmission developments:

- Add one 144 kV transmission line between the market participant's approved Windy Hill 675S substation to the existing Blumenort 832S substation.
- Modify the Blumenort 832S substation.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

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 Stakeholder Engagement > Transmission Projects > Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant Connection.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca.

Our mailing address is:

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

June 15, 2020

Re: Cancellation of Blumenort Transmission Project

This letter provides you with updates on the Blumenort Transmission Project. ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) last sent you information regarding this project in March 2014.

At this time, ATCO would like to inform you that the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has cancelled the Power Wood Canada Corp. request for system access service. Therefore, this transmission project is no longer required and will not be proceeding any further. For your reference a Route Mosaic Map is enclosed.

The AESO Project Cancellation notice is enclosed for your information. If you have questions about cancellation of the need for the project, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the transmission project details, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

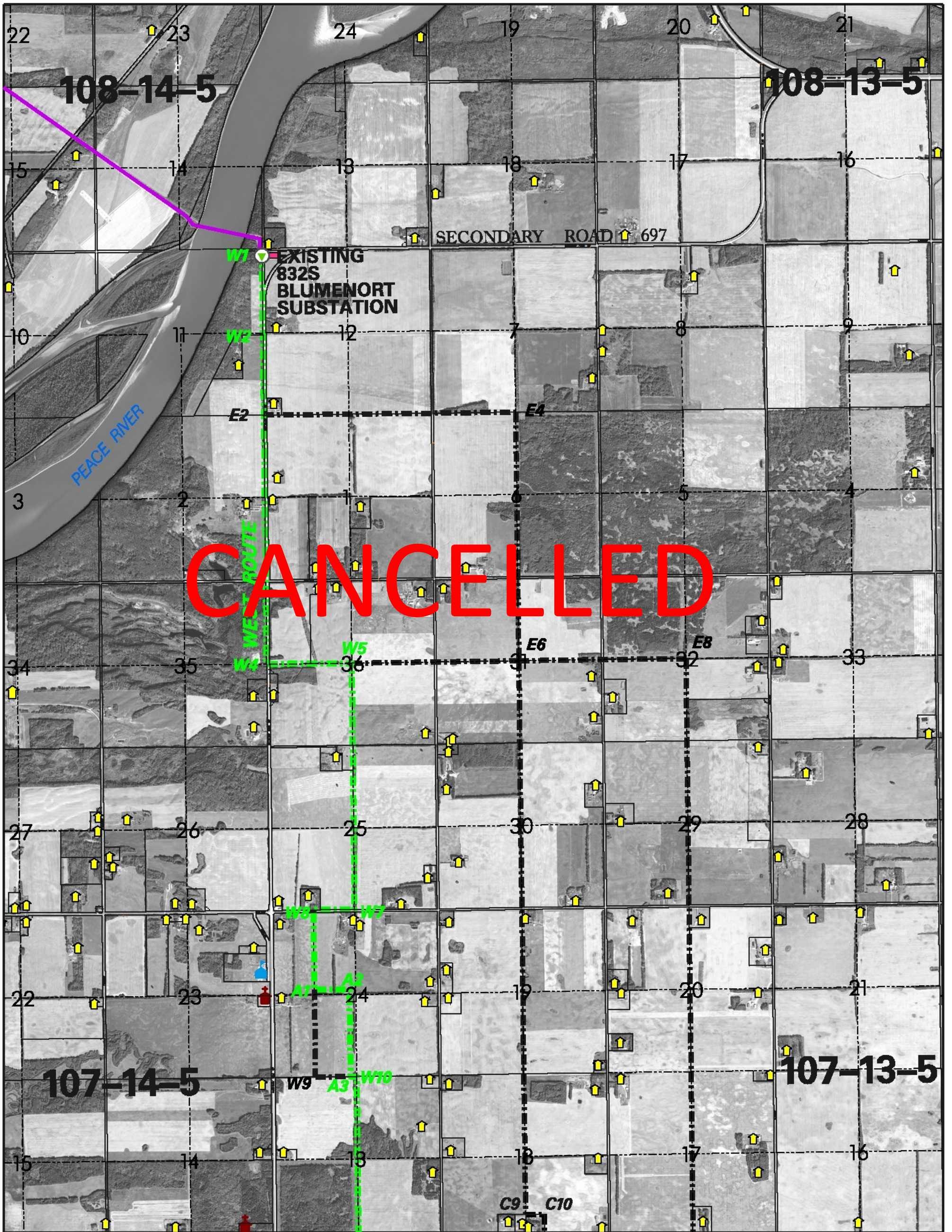
Sincerely,



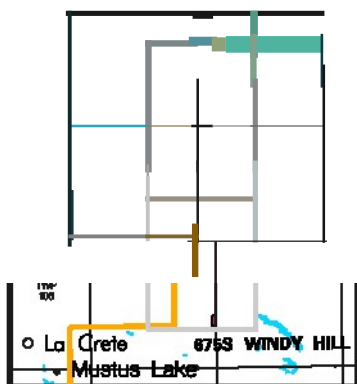
Jade Kause
Project Planner
ATCO
Toll Free 1-855-420-5775
Email consultation@atcoelectric.com

Enclosures:

Route Mosaic Map
AESO Project Cancellation notice



- LEGEND
- 144 kV Transmisskm tine SelecRoute
 - Rejoct00 Routes
 - Route Concept Start Point(s)
 - Route Concept End Poirt(s)
 - Residence
 - Church/Community Hall
 - School



ATCO Electric

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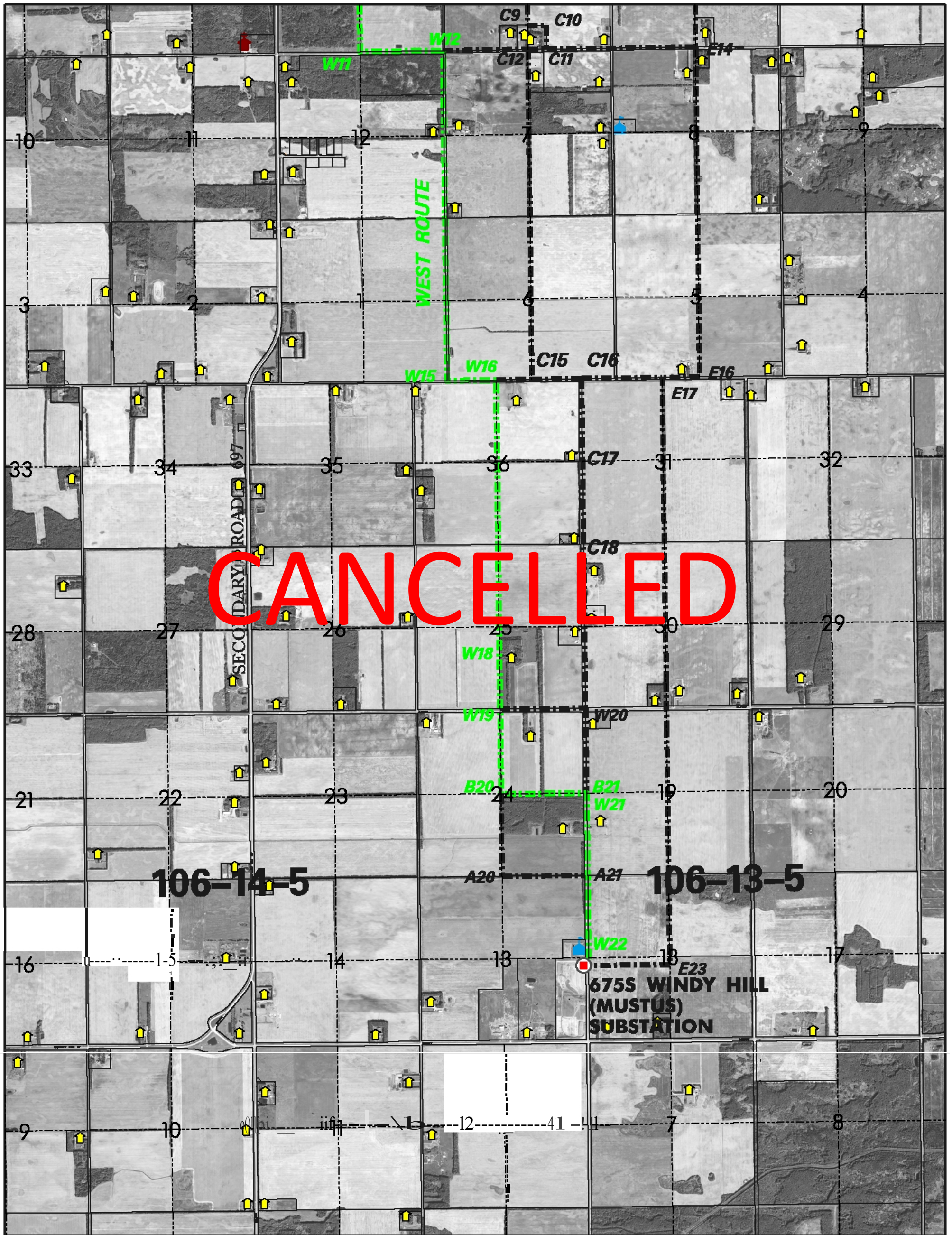


Blumenort 144 kV Transmission Project

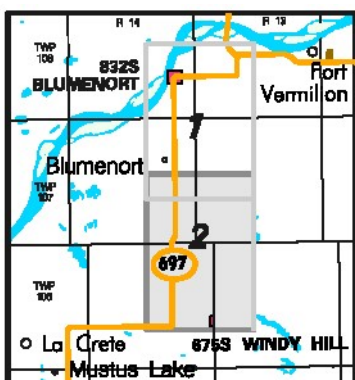
SELECTED ROUTE MOSAIC

1:35 000

RS-7L1ao - N - 03a



LEGEND
 144 kV Transmission line SeIRoute Optin
 Rejected Route
 Route Concept Start Point(s)
 Route Concept End Point(s)
 Residence
 Church/Community Hall
 Sc110ol



ATCO Electric

Blumentort 144 kV Transmission Project
 SELECTED ROUTE MOSAIC

1:35 000

RS-7L180 - N - 03b

November 2013

Project Cancellation for the Windy Hill Biomass Generation Plant Connection

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BACKGROUND

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NEXT STEPS

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