

Need for the Riverview Wind Farm Connection in the Pincher Creek Area

Transmission Development Information for Stakeholders Update

In April 2012, stakeholders were sent an information package from AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink) containing a one-page AESO document describing the need for the Riverview Wind Energy Connection. The purpose of this document is to update stakeholders on the proposed date of the AESO's application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

Why is this transmission development needed?

ENEL Alberta Wind Inc. (ENEL) has requested connection to the transmission system for its proposed Riverview Wind Power Facility (Facility) in the Pincher Creek area. ENEL's request can be addressed by connecting the Facility to the existing Castle Rock Ridge 205S substation and adding a new 240 kV breaker and associated equipment to the Castle Rock Ridge 205S substation.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is processing ENEL's request, including providing information to landowners, occupants, residents and agencies in the Pincher Creek area that may be near the proposed transmission development. The AESO intends to apply to the AUC for approval of this need in the spring of 2013. The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/transmission/8969.html at the time of its application to the AUC.

Who is the AESO?

Alberta's transmission system, sometimes referred to as the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), is planned and operated by the AESO. The transmission system comprises the high-voltage lines, towers and equipment (generally 69kV and above) that transmit electricity from generators to lower voltage systems that distribute electricity to cities, towns, rural areas and large industrial customers.

The AESO's role is to maintain safe, reliable and economic operation of the AIES. The AESO's planning responsibility includes determining the need for transmission system development and the manner in which that need is met. The AESO is also mandated to facilitate the interconnection of qualified market participants to the AIES. The AESO is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

How is AltaLink involved?

AltaLink is the transmission facilities owner (TFO) in the Pincher Creek area. While the AESO is responsible for identifying that transmission system development is needed, AltaLink is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the associated transmission facilities. The AESO has directed AltaLink to provide information to stakeholders on this need and to file a facility proposal application with the AUC which will include a detailed description and location of the proposed transmission development.

Further Information

The AESO appreciates your views on the need for transmission system development and your comments are encouraged. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the need for the proposed transmission system development in the Pincher Creek area or the AESO's application regarding this need, please contact:

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The AESO is committed to protecting your personal privacy in accordance with Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act. Any personal information collected by the AESO with regard to this project may be used to provide you with further information about the project, may be disclosed to the Alberta Utilities Commission (and as a result, may become public), and may also be disclosed to AltaLink as the legal owner of transmission facilities in your area. If you have any questions about how the AESO will use and disclose your personal information, please contact us at 1-888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca