

AESO PARTICIPANT INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY

P7083: Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project

Date: March 22, 2023

Classification: Public

P7083

1. Introduction

From October 2022 to March 2023, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project*.

The AESO's PIP is designed to notify Stakeholders and Indigenous groups in the area where the AESO has reasonably determined that facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the need for transmission development.

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1.1, NID6 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective April 25, 2022.

2. Stakeholder Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Newsletter titled *Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project Newsletter* with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders of the following items:

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

A copy of the AESO Newsletter was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/bowmanton-244s-substation-voltage-support-project-7083/> on October 12, 2022 and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter¹ on October 13, 2022. Copies of the AESO Newsletter posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The AESO Newsletter was also distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

2.1 Stakeholders Notified in the AESO's PIP

The AESO's PIP included notification of Stakeholders within 200 metres from the edge of the existing substation site boundary, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 of AUC Rule 007.²

The AESO notified a total of 12 stakeholders on October 13, 2022, of which 2 were classified as private or individual landowners, through either email or by mail. The other 10 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- Cypress County
- Fortis Alberta Inc.

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

² The AESO identified this development type as *Substation developments within existing facilities, where there is no change in the substation fence line and which create minimal visual or noise impact – rural and industrial*, as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

- Telus Communications Company
- Advantage Energy Ltd.
- Alberta Environment and Parks - Regional Resource Management
- Alberta Environment and Parks - Fish and Wildlife
- Alberta Transportation
- Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- Questfire Energy Corp
- Nova Gas Transmission Ltd. Attn: Surface Land c/o TC Energy

2.2 Indigenous Groups Notification

There were no Indigenous groups identified within 1000 meters of the proposed Project. All lands around the Project are privately owned and the Project will not impact Crown lands therefore notification to Indigenous groups was not required.³

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

4. Questions and Concerns Raised

One Stakeholder that received the AESO's Newsletter raised questions and concerns related to how its operations may be affected following the proposed transmission development. The AESO responded to the Stakeholder by providing information about outage requirements and outage coordination.

A second Stakeholder contacted the AESO and raised questions and concerns about the need and proposed solutions that the AESO are evaluating to resolve the voltage issues. The AESO responded to the Stakeholder by providing information about its evaluation of solutions to meet the need.

The AESO also encouraged the Stakeholders to contact the AESO directly with any outstanding questions or concerns.

Apart from the two Stakeholder inquiries described above, the AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections about the AESO's preferred option to respond to the need for transmission development.

³ The Project meets the Category B criteria as per Appendix A1-B in Rule 007.

5. Notification of ANAP Consideration

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to consider the need for the Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project to be approved under the AESO's Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP) by posting a Notification of ANAP Consideration to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/bowmanton-244s-substation-voltage-support-project-7083/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on March 22, 2023. Copies of the Notification of ANAP Consideration posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 3 and 4, respectively.

6. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Newsletter (October 2022)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Project Newsletter Notice (October 13, 2022)
- Attachment 3 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Website Posting (March 2023)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (March 22, 2023)

Attachment 1 – AESO Newsletter (October 2022)

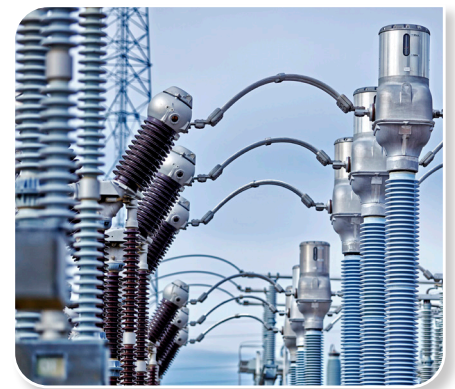


The electricity system in your area needs improvement

Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project

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

- Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Medicine Hat area needs to be modified to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is optimizing the existing system by proposing modifications to the existing Bowmanton 244S substation, which include the addition of three capacitor banks and three 240 kilovolt (kV) circuit breakers.



WILL YOU BE AFFECTED?

If you are receiving this information, you live or work close to the Bowmanton 244S substation, located approximately 15 kilometers northeast of the City of Medicine Hat. As the Transmission Facility Owner in the Medicine Hat area, AltaLink Management Ltd. is responsible for the modifications and identifying locations for construction purposes. The AESO anticipates these additions can be accommodated within the existing substation fence.

QUESTIONS?

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

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

NEXT STEPS

The AESO intends to consider the need for this project for approval under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP) in Q4 2022.

The process is outlined in section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process. Once approved, the ANAP approval letter will be posted on the project page of the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/



ABOUT THE AESO

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

The AESO is committed to protecting your privacy.

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

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

**Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Project
Newsletter Notice (October 13, 2022)**

October 13, 2022

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project – Project Newsletter

Recent studies have shown the existing transmission system in the Medicine Hat area needs to be modified to reliably connect new generation in the area. The AESO is optimizing the existing system by proposing modifications to the existing Bowmanton 244S substation, which include the addition of three capacitor banks and three 240 kilovolt (kV) circuit breakers.

The AESO has posted a Project Newsletter on its website. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Transmission Projects > Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project (7083).

**Attachment 3 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP
Consideration Website Posting (March 2023)**

Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project (7083)

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project (Project) for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after April 6, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

The AESO has determined that the Project is eligible for consideration under the ANAP Rule because the following eligibility criteria have been met:

- Project costs are estimated to be less than \$15M;
- the AESO has completed a participant involvement program (PIP) in accordance with the guidelines in Alberta Utilities Commission Rule 007;
- the Project is not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects; and
- Stakeholder concerns or objections with the need for the Project have been addressed. Prior to making its approval decision, the AESO will address additional stakeholder concerns that arise, if any.

Supporting information about this Project is available in the following documents:

- Notice of ANAP Consideration
- Planning Report
- Cost Estimates
- AESO PIP Summary

**Attachment 4 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of
ANAP Consideration (March 22, 2023)**

Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project – Abbreviated Needs Approval Process Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP Rule) on or after April 6, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

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More information is available on the AESO website. Please [click here](#) to view the project page or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Transmission-Projects > Bowmanton 244S Substation Voltage Support Project (7083) to see relevant supporting documents.