

Weasel Creek and Abee Substations and Transmission Line Development - Need for transmission system development in Athabasca/Lac La Biche area

For more information please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959, www.aeso.ca or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca



Why is transmission system development needed in the Athabasca/Lac La Biche area?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has received two requests for connection to the transmission system in the Athabasca/Lac La Biche area. One request is from ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) on behalf of Access Pipelines Inc. The other request is from Enbridge Pipelines Inc. (Enbridge). The AESO has established the need for transmission system development to help meet this demand. The AESO is recommending construction of a new 138 kV (kilovolt) substation to meet the need for ATCO, a new 138 kV substation to meet the need for Enbridge, as well as installation of new 138 kV transmission line from the two new substations to the existing 808L transmission line.

The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need identified in the Athabasca/Lac La Biche area in April 2011.

Who is the AESO?

Alberta's transmission system, sometimes referred to as the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES) or "grid," is planned and operated by the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO). The transmission system is comprised of the high-voltage lines, towers and equipment that transmit electricity from generators to lower voltage systems that distribute it to cities, towns, rural areas and large industrial customers. Our job is to maintain safe, reliable and economic operation of the provincial transmission grid. Our planning responsibility includes identifying needed transmission development and recommending preferred options to meet these needs. We are regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and must apply for approval of the transmission system needs we identify. Further, the AESO is also mandated to facilitate the interconnection of qualified electricity generators and new load customers to the provincial transmission grid.

How are ATCO Electric Ltd. and AltaLink Management Ltd. involved?

ATCO Electric and AltaLink are the transmission facility owners (TFOs) in Athabasca/Lac La Biche area. While the AESO is responsible for determining the need for transmission system development, ATCO Electric and AltaLink, when directed by the AESO, are responsible for filing applications with the AUC for approval of the transmission facilities that will satisfy the transmission system development need identified by the AESO.

The AESO appreciates the views of stakeholders. Your comments and suggestions on the plan for transmission system development are encouraged. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the need for transmission system development in the Athabasca/Lac La Biche area or the AESO's application regarding this need, please contact:

Brandy Eagleson
AESO Stakeholder Relations
1-888-866-2959
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
2500, 330 – 5th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0L4

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 the local Transmission Facility Owner. If you have any questions about how the AESO will use and disclose your personal information collected with regard to this project, please contact us at 888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca.