



Need for transmission system reinforcement in Airdrie 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 reinforcement needed in the Airdrie area?

****The following Overview does not identify a new project or need for further transmission development in the Airdrie area. It is an updated version of the Need Overview that was distributed in early 2010.****

The City of Airdrie and surrounding area have been experiencing strong electricity demand growth in recent years. The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is forecasting that strong growth in the area will continue into the future. The AESO has determined that within a few years, electricity demand will surpass the capability of the existing transmission system to maintain a reliable electricity supply into the Airdrie area. The AESO has identified reinforcements to the 138kV Airdrie area transmission system to meet forecasted electricity demand.

The proposed transmission system reinforcements include establishing a new source of electricity supply directly into the area. Establishing a new supply source involves the development of a new 240/138kV substation in the Twin Lakes area east of the City. The new substation will be connected to the existing 138kV network near the City of Airdrie through the development of a new 138kV transmission line. Upgrades to some existing 138kV transmission lines will also be undertaken to reinforce the existing transmission system near the City of Airdrie.

The AESO intends to apply to the AUC for approval of the need identified for transmission reinforcement in the Airdrie area in March 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 (generally 69 kV and above) 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 reinforcement 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 is AltaLink Management Ltd. involved?

AltaLink Management Ltd. is the Transmission Facility Owner (TFO) in the Airdrie Area. While the AESO is responsible for determining the need for transmission system reinforcement, AltaLink, when directed by the AESO, is responsible for filing an application with the AUC for approval of the transmission facilities that will satisfy the transmission system reinforcement need identified by the AESO.

The AESO appreciates the views of stakeholders. Your comments and suggestions on the plan for transmission system reinforcement are encouraged. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding

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.

the need for transmission system reinforcement in the Airdrie area or the AESO's application regarding this need, please contact:

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