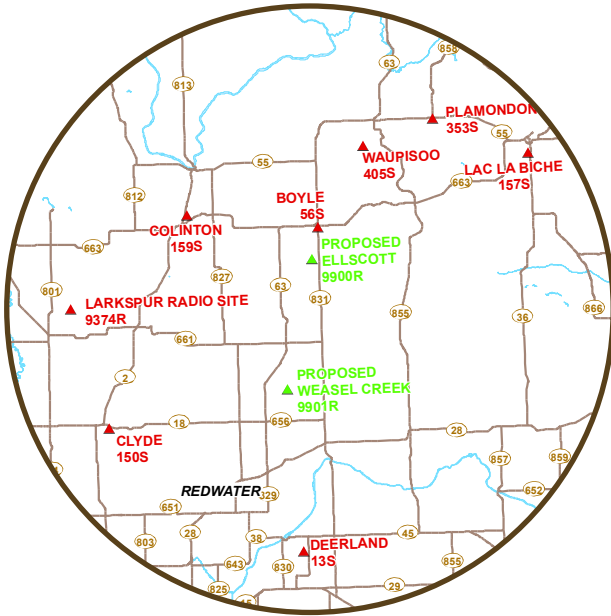


# Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade

May 2010 **ALTALINK**



## Why are you receiving this newsletter?

You are receiving this newsletter because you are a resident or landowner located near the proposed telecommunications developments in the Athabasca area and we want to provide you with important project information.

## What does this project involve?

AltaLink is proposing to build two new telecommunications tower sites, install a new telecommunications tower at one existing site, and upgrade telecommunications towers at seven existing sites.

We want to provide you with:

- Project details
- A project schedule
- A map of the project area
- Contact information

## What are the project details?

AltaLink is proposing to build two new telecommunications sites, one in Athabasca County and one in the County of Thorhild. AltaLink is also proposing to install a new telecommunications tower at its existing Waupisoo Substation, and upgrade the telecommunications towers at the following seven existing sites:

- Colinton Substation
- Boyle Substation
- Plamondon Substation
- Lac La Biche Substation
- Clyde Substation
- Deerland Substation
- Larkspur Radio Site

## Who is AltaLink?

AltaLink owns the transmission system in the area and is consulting with you about this project. We are based in Alberta and own and operate approximately 11,800 kilometres of transmission lines and approximately 270 substations. We provide electric service to more than 85 per cent of Albertans and own the majority of the transmission system in central and southern Alberta. To find out more about AltaLink, or if you have any questions please contact us at 1-877-267-1453.

# ALTALINK

## Electricity. When you need it.

All proposed equipment will be installed inside a substation fence or radio site which will only be accessible through a locked gate by authorized personnel. The existing sites will have self supporting towers and the two new sites will have guyed towers. All the towers will have antennas attached at or near the top of the tower. They may be painted and have obstruction lighting to meet the requirements of Transport Canada.

Below are the details of each site:

### **Athabasca County**

#### *Proposed Ellscott Radio Site*

- Construct new radio site
- To be located in NE 5-64-19-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.513/-112.832)
- Proposing to install a new telecommunications tower
- Tower will be approximately 125 metres (400 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of tower approximately two metres (7 feet)
- Guyed tower
- Will have a new radio building installed within fenced area

### **The County of Thorhild**

#### *Proposed Weasel Creek Radio Site:*

- Construct new radio site
- To be located in NW 28-60-20W4 (Lat/Long: 54.223/-112.939)
- Proposing to install a new telecommunications tower
- Tower will be approximately 100 metres (330 foot) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately two metres (7 feet)
- Guyed tower
- Will have a new radio building installed within fenced area

### **Athabasca County**

#### *Waupisoo Substation:*

- Waupisoo Substation is called 405S
- Located in SW 1-67-18-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.762/-112.618)
- Proposing to install a new telecommunications tower
- Tower will be approximately 45 metres (147 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately seven metres (23 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- No fence expansion required

### **Included in this Stakeholder Information Package:**

- A project map
- The Alberta Electric System Operator's Need Overview
- Public Involvement in Facility Applications to the Alberta Utilities Commission
- Industry Canada Pamphlet

## **Athabasca County**

### *Colinton Substation:*

- Colinton Substation is called 159S
- Located in SE 18-65-22-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.618/-113.309)
- Proposing to replace existing 30-metre telecommunications tower
- New tower will be approximately 30 metres (100 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately four metres (13 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- Fence expansion required

## **Athabasca County**

### *Boyle Substation: (within Village of Boyle)*

- Boyle Substation is called 56S
- Located in NW 34-64-19-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.585/-112.803)
- Proposing to replace existing 30-metre telecommunications tower
- New tower will be approximately 30 metres (100 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately four metres (13 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- Fence expansion required

## **Lac La Biche County**

### *Plamondon Substation:*

- Plamondon Substation is called 353S
- Located in NW 23-67-16-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.819/-112.344)
- Proposing to replace existing 45-metre telecommunications tower
- New tower will be approximately 65 metres (215 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately seven metres (23 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- Fence expansion required

## **Lac La Biche County**

### *Lac La Biche Substation:*

- Lac La Biche Substation is called 157S
- Located in SE 25-66-14-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.734/-111.979)
- Proposing to replace existing 30-metre telecommunications tower
- New tower will be approximately 60 metres (212 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately seven metres (23 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- No fence expansion required

## Westlock County

### *Clyde Substation:*

- Clyde Substation is called 150S
- Located in SW 36-59-25-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.144/-113.625)
- Proposing to replacing existing 15-metre wood pole telecommunications structure
- Tower will be approximately 20 metres (150 feet) tall
- Triangle base dimension of approximately three metres (16 feet)
- Self-supporting tower
- Fence expansion required



*Typical guyed structure*

## Westlock County

### *Larkspur Radio Site:*

- Larkspur Radio Site is called 9374R
- Located in NW 36-62-26-W4 (Lat/Long: 54.412/-113.764)
- Proposing to install an antenna to the existing telecommunications tower
- No fence expansion required

## Lamont County

### *Deerland Substation:*

- Deerland Substation is called 13S
- Located in NW 22-56-20-W4 (Lat/Long: 53.857/-112.895)
- Proposing to install an antenna to the existing telecommunication tower
- No fence expansion required

## What is the project schedule?

May/June 2010	Notify and consult with stakeholders
August 2010	File application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)
January 2011	Start project construction if approval is granted by AUC
December 2011	Complete project construction

## Why is this project needed?

The purpose of a telecommunications tower is to support equipment that transmits data to our system control centre. Telecommunications towers are also used by the AltaLink Control Centre for remote control operation of the electrical system as well as private voice communications to staff on site, allowing us to monitor the safety and reliability of the electrical system.

## What happens during construction?

Depending on where you are in relation to the project you may see or hear construction crews and noise.

Any noise associated with the construction and/or operation of the new facilities will comply with the AUC's Noise Control Rule 12 and any other relevant provincial or municipal noise regulations and standards.

Following all applicable Alberta Environment legislation and requirements, our contractors will use appropriate techniques to protect water quality, soil, other vegetation and wildlife habitat.

## How can you provide input?

Your feedback is important to us and we will work with you to understand and address any concerns or questions you may have.

We will summarize stakeholder input and any commitments we make in a Facility Application (FA). The FA describes our plans to meet technical requirements set by the AESO. It provides information on routing, environment, costs, project components, and schedules and our participant involvement program. We will submit the FA to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for its approval.

The AUC is a quasi-judicial agency established by the Alberta government that ensures the fair and responsible delivery of our utility services. The AUC may decide to review the application through a public hearing process or written hearing process.

Industry Canada has a dispute resolution process in place to bring timely resolution where parties cannot do so independently.

## Who can you contact for more information?

For general information relating to antenna systems contact Industry Canada:

**Website:** <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/antenna>

**Telephone:** 613-954-5031

**Toll-free:** 1-800-328-6189 (Canada)

For more information regarding AltaLink and this project, please contact us at:

**Website:** [www.altalink.ca/athabasca](http://www.altalink.ca/athabasca)

**Phone:** 1-877-267-1453

**E-mail:** [siting.consultation@altalink.ca](mailto:siting.consultation@altalink.ca)

*If you have any questions or concerns please contact AltaLink within 30 days of receiving this notification.*

**Thank you!**

Your feedback is important to us. To learn more about this project visit [www.altalink.ca/athabasca](http://www.altalink.ca/athabasca).

The logo for AltaLink, featuring the word "ALTA" in blue and "LINK" in grey, with vertical lines through the letters.

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**Richard Hird, P.Eng.,** AltaLink  
Manager, Network Communications

Richard Hird attests that the radio installation described in this notification package will be installed and operated on an ongoing basis so as to comply with Health Canada's Safety Code 6, which defines safe levels of radio frequency, (RF), exposure. The radio system described is excluded from the environmental assessment under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. To ensure the structural adequacy of the tower, the design and installation will follow industry standards and sound engineering practices.