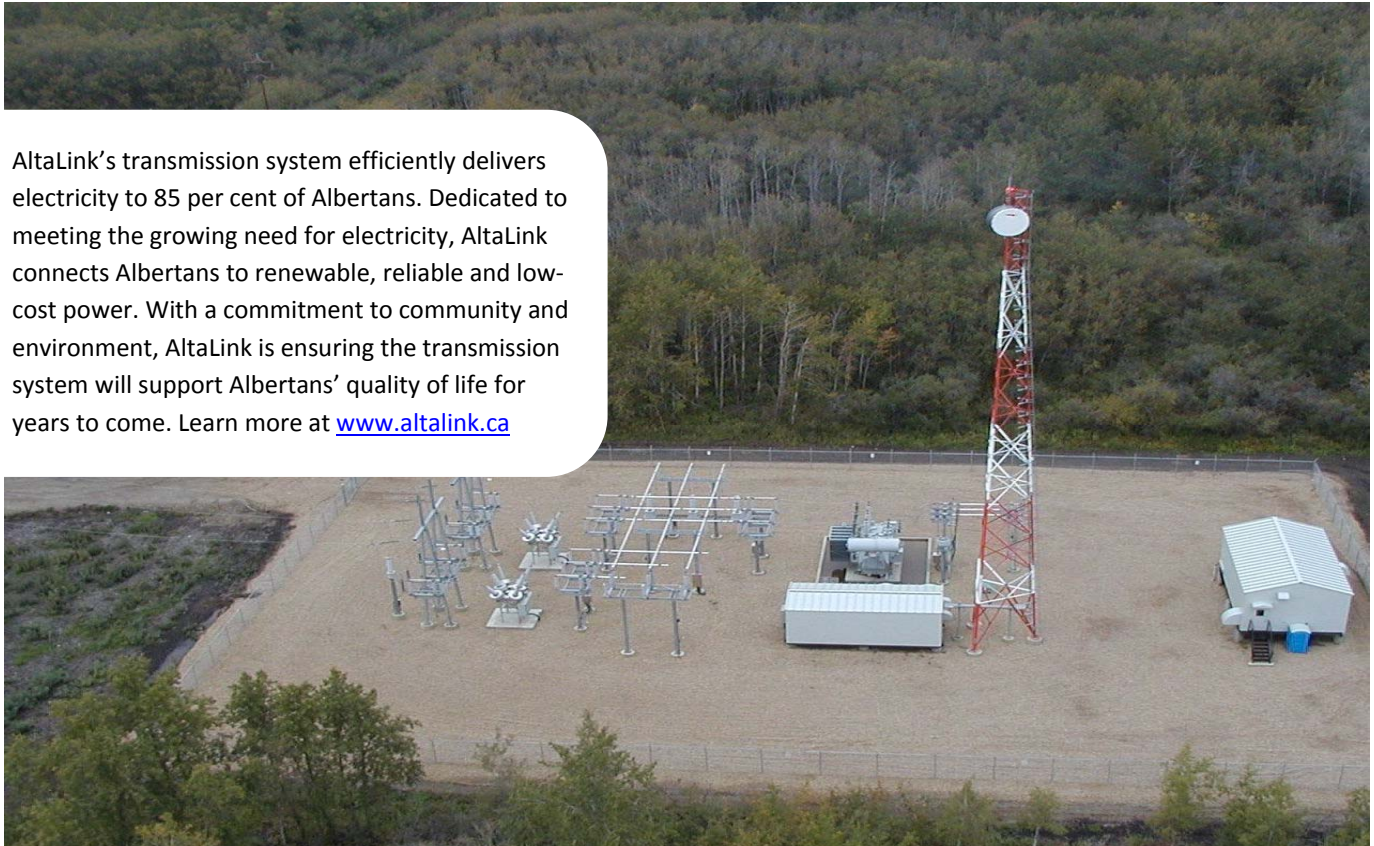


# Electric system improvements near you

## Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade - Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower

AltaLink's transmission system efficiently delivers electricity to 85 per cent of Albertans. Dedicated to meeting the growing need for electricity, AltaLink connects Albertans to renewable, reliable and low-cost power. With a commitment to community and environment, AltaLink is ensuring the transmission system will support Albertans' quality of life for years to come. Learn more at [www.altalink.ca](http://www.altalink.ca)



You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower project and we want your input.

As part of the Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade project, we are proposing to install a new **telecommunications tower** to ensure the reliability of our telecommunications network.

We want to provide you with:

- project details
- map of the proposed development
- project schedule
- information about how you can provide your input
- a description of other projects in the area

### Definition:

#### Telecommunications tower

Telecommunications towers support equipment that transmits data to our system control centre. This allows us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure the safety and reliability of the system for our customers.

## CONTACT US

1-877-380-0303

[Regional.consultation@altalink.ca](mailto:Regional.consultation@altalink.ca)

Visit us online at:

[www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects](http://www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects)

*Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade*

The Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade project involves a series of proposed telecommunications developments. The need for these upgrades has been identified by the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) as a result of the increased demand for electricity in the region. The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the Alberta electric system. The telecommunications system allows AltaLink to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure the safety and reliability of the system for Albertans.

AltaLink is proposing 11 telecommunication developments in the Athabasca region, including the Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower described in this notification.

As part of the Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade project, the Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower was originally proposed to be built at NW-28-60-20-W4M. AltaLink filed a Facilities Application in 2010 with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for review. The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta’s utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC and the AUC reviews them in a public process. A Facilities Application describes how AltaLink proposes to meet the requirement for a transmission project.

After filing the Facilities Application for the Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade project with the AUC, additional stakeholder input was gathered. As a result of this stakeholder input, AltaLink is now proposing to build the Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower at SW-6-61-19-W4M on property owned by Enbridge Pipelines Inc., adjacent to AltaLink’s proposed Abee Substation. The telecommunications tower site, on which Enbridge Pipelines Inc. is proposing to build a pumping station, is located approximately 40 kilometres northeast of the Town of Redwater.

The proposed Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower will be:

- approximately 85 metres (280 feet) tall
- a self-supporting structure
- located at SW-6-61-19-W4M on Enbridge property

The tower may have lighting and be painted to comply with Transport Canada’s requirements.

*The radio installation described in this notification 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. To ensure the structural adequacy of the tower, the design and installation will follow industry standards and sound engineering practices.*



*A typical self-supporting telecommunications tower*

## Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. After the current stage of consultation is complete, we will file an amendment to the Facilities Application for the Athabasca Area Telecommunications Upgrade project with the AUC. The AUC will review the amendment through a public process in which stakeholders can participate.

We will notify stakeholders when we file the amendment and again once the AUC has reached a decision. To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled *Public Involvement in Needs or Facilities Applications*.

## Project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June and July 2011
Amend Application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	August 2011
Start construction if project is approved	January 2012
Construction completed	July 2012

## Other projects in the area

### *Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection*

You may have already received information about the proposed Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection project. The Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection project includes building a new substation approximately 40 kilometres northeast of the Town of Redwater, and building approximately 10 kilometres of new transmission line. The Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection project is required to connect Enbridge Pipelines' and Access Pipelines' proposed pump stations to Alberta's electric system.

AltaLink is currently planning to submit its Facilities Application for the Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection project to the AUC in summer 2011.

More information about the Abee Substation and Transmission Line Connection project can be found at [www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects](http://www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects).

## Contact us

***If you have any questions or concerns about the Weasel Creek Telecommunications Tower please contact AltaLink within 30 days of receiving this notification.*** Your feedback is important to us. To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

**AltaLink** at 1-877-380-0303 (toll free)

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

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

To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:

**Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)** at 1-888-866-2959

E-mail: [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:

**Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)** at 780-427-4903

(You can call toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number.)

E-mail: [utilitiesconcerns@auc.ab.ca](mailto:utilitiesconcerns@auc.ab.ca)

For general information about antenna systems contact, please contact:

**Industry Canada** at 1-800-328-6189 (toll-free)

Website: <http://strategic.ic.gc.ca/antenna>

## Included in this information package:

- Project map
- AltaLink brochure: *A Dialogue on Electric & Magnetic Fields*
- AltaLink brochure: *Good Neighbours*
- AUC brochure: *Public Involvement in Needs or Facilities Applications*
- AESO Need Overview
- Industry Canada brochure: *Antenna Towers in Your Community*

## DID YOU KNOW?

Essential services that are critical to Albertans, such as hospitals and schools, rely on large amounts of power. On average, hospitals use 1,875,000 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity a month. That's enough to power more than 3,000 typical homes for a month. Transmission lines transport the power supply hospitals need to perform medical procedures and provide emergency services for Albertans.