

May 19, 2021

## **113L Transmission Line Rebuild Notice of application filing and project update**

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the 113L Transmission Line Rebuild. We submitted an application for the project to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on April 9, 2021. On May 6, 2021 we filed an amendment to our application that incorporates an update we made to the project. We want to provide you with information about the project update and planned activities in the area over the next few weeks. Information about the application and the AUC process is described below.

### **Project update – included in amendment filed on May 6**

As a result of ongoing engineering, AltaLink has determined that Optical Ground Wire (OPGW) will need to be installed along the length of the 113L transmission line rebuild instead of Overhead Shield Wire (OHSW). Visually, OPGW looks the same as the originally proposed OHSW, but in addition to providing lightning protection it is part of a telecommunication network that allows AltaLink to monitor, control, protect, and restore the electric system. We do not believe this change results in any additional impacts to stakeholders, however if you would like to discuss this change, please contact us.

### **Planned vegetation management for 113L**

In our August 2020 project update, we let you know that certain locations along the transmission line will require a Vegetation Control Easement (VCE) because they are located in a High Fire Risk area. The VCE allows AltaLink to remove vegetation that is in danger of falling onto or touching the transmission line, which could cause an outage or a fire.

In November 2020, the boundaries of the proposed VCE and right-of-way were marked with survey stakes and trees that are anticipated to be removed or trimmed have been marked with paint, as identified below.

#### **Survey stake colour**

- Orange: Southern boundary of the VCE
- Pink: AltaLink's proposed ROW boundary

#### **Trees to be removed or trimmed**

- Yellow: Hazard trees that will be removed
- Red: Danger trees to be trimmed, topped, or removed as determined by field crews

These markings are meant to provide a visual representation of planned vegetation management for the area; the final decision will be determined when a field verification is completed by our field crews.

If the project is approved, any vegetation in the VCE that needs to be removed will be removed before construction begins.

In preparation, AltaLink has been surveying, staking, and flagging boundaries of the proposed VCE and right-of-way for the project and this work will continue until early June. These activities occur daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. between Spray Lake Road and the Kananaskis River. Use of the trails within Canmore and the Bow Valley, such as the TransCanada Trail and Heart Creek Trail, is possible while flagging is taking place.

**Geotechnical engineering**

AltaLink is conducting geotechnical engineering from May 31 to June 17. Depending on where you are in relation to the project, you may see crews, trucks, and drilling equipment. The activities will occur daily between 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. within the 113L right-of-way near Peaks Drive. Short road closures will be required to move equipment across Peaks Drive. Use of Powerline Trail will be possible while geotechnical engineering is taking place. The information gathered will be used for detailed engineering of the proposed transmission structures.

**Next steps**

The AUC will review the application and can approve, approve with conditions, or deny the project. The AUC may also host a hearing regarding the project. To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved please visit [www.auc.ab.ca](http://www.auc.ab.ca).

Where construction activities are required to take place on private property, we will contact you in advance to discuss the specific dates and times we will require access to your property.

**The application**

The application can be viewed on the AUC's website at <https://www2.auc.ab.ca/Proceeding26458/SitePages/Home.aspx>.

To access the application, click on the 'eFiling System Login' button on the top of the page and log in to your eFiling account. If you do not have an account, select 'New Account' and follow the steps onscreen. Please note any questions or concerns regarding account creation and management should be directed towards the AUC at [info@auc.ab.ca](mailto:info@auc.ab.ca)

Once your account has been created and you have successfully logged in, enter Filing number 26458 into the 'Go to...' search bar on the top of the page to locate the application. Alternatively, you can navigate to 'Find', click 'Proceedings' and enter "113L" into the 'Description' search bar. If you have any issues accessing the application, please contact us at the details below and we will mail a copy of the application to you.

**Project background**

The existing 138 kilovolt (kV) 113L transmission line has reached the end of its lifecycle and is proposed to be rebuilt to reduce safety risks and ensure a reliable supply of power is available for years to come. If approved, the project involves rebuilding approximately 23 kilometres of the overhead portion of the 113L line between the Spray Substation to the Kananaskis River.

**Contact us**

We are available to address any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact us at [stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca) or 1-877-267-1453. Further information about this project and maps are available at <http://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/339/113l-transmission-line-rebuild>.

Sincerely,

Dave Lee  
Manager, Stakeholder Engagement