

Electric system improvements near you

757L Transmission Line Relocation

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the proposed 757L Transmission Line Relocation project and we want your input.

We are proposing to relocate approximately 10 kilometres of the existing 757L **transmission** line. AltaLink's existing 757L transmission line was constructed in 1962 and is reaching the end of its lifecycle and needs to be rebuilt.

We are proposing to relocate this segment of the line to ensure that a safe and reliable supply of power is available in the area for years to come. We are providing you with:

- project details
- a map of the proposed project site
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

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.

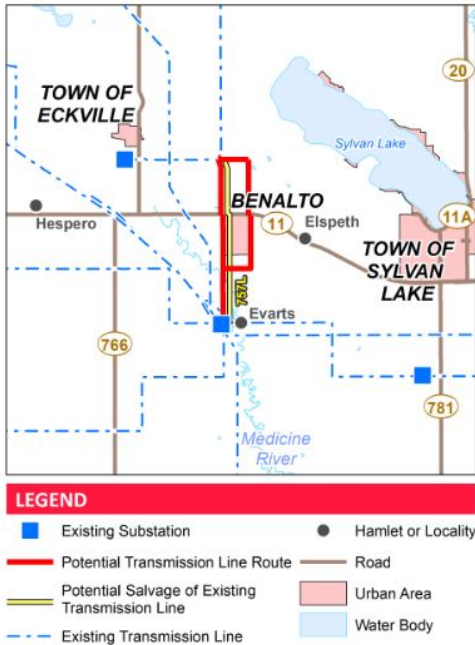
DEFINITION:

Transmission

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to your community where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power from power plants across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, high-efficiency coal, natural gas and more.

CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453
stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca
www.altalink.ca/projects



Project details

AltaLink is proposing to relocate approximately 10 kilometres (km) of the southern portion of the 138 kilovolt (kV) 757L transmission line. This portion runs from the Benalto Substation along the eastern side of range road 30 to the connection with 785L at Township Road 382, approximately 3.5 kilometers north of the Hamlet of Benalto. Please see the enclosed map for more details.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is currently analyzing the need for the northern portion of 757L. Following the results of the analysis, AltaLink will review plans to rebuild the northern portion of the 757L transmission line. We will contact impacted stakeholders if it is determined that portion needs to be rebuilt.

The southern portion of the 757L transmission line cannot be taken out of service until the new line is constructed and in-service, which does not allow us to rebuild the line along the same alignment. Once the line is rebuilt and in-service, the existing portion that is no longer needed will be salvaged (removed).

The existing transmission structures are wood pole structures that are approximately 17 to 20 metres tall. The proposed new structures:

- will be wood or steel
- will be approximately 20 to 30 metres tall
- may require guy wires at angle or corner structure locations
- will primarily be located one metre within county road allowance
- will have a right-of-way of approximately 10 metres wide onto private lands adjacent to the road allowance



The proposed structures will look similar to the structures shown above and may be wood or steel.

There may be an interruption to electrical service to your home or business during construction which is planned in 2023. FortisAlberta will be in contact prior to any power outage. If you have questions about this process or potential power outages, please call FortisAlberta at 403-310-WIRE (9479).

Proposed routes

We have identified two potential route options for this proposed relocation. We would like your input on the potential routes and options to help us in our project planning.

AltaLink's potential routes are shown on the map included in this package. If the project is approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), only one route will be built.

AltaLink takes several factors into consideration in an effort to find a route with low overall environmental, social and economic effects. In addition to stakeholder input, we also consider other effects, such as agricultural, residential, environmental and visual impacts, and cost.

Telecommunications

Telecommunications equipment upgrades are required as part of this project. AltaLink is proposing to install optical ground wire (OPGW) on the 757L transmission line. OPGW transmits data signals between substations and is part of a larger telecommunications system in Alberta. This telecommunications system allows AltaLink control centres to actively monitor the electric system, ensuring it runs safely and reliably. It also acts as a grounding wire for transmission structures and shields transmission lines from lightning strikes.

Easements, off right-of-way access and construction workspace

Additional temporary workspace outside of the right-of-way in certain areas may be required in order to access and construct the transmission line. The construction workspace is intended to be primarily used for equipment access during construction, including the potential stringing areas located behind some corner structures.

Final construction workspace and off right-of-way access will be determined following further detailed engineering and construction planning. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding the potential requirement for construction workspace and off right-of-way access prior to, and during construction of the line.

Proposed construction workspaces and guy anchor easements are shown on the Strip Mosaic (SM) maps included with this package.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

AltaLink recognizes that people may have concerns about exposure to EMF and we take those concerns seriously.

Everyone in our society is exposed to power frequency EMF from many sources, including:

- power lines and other electrical facilities
- electrical appliances in your home
- building wiring

National and international organizations such as Health Canada and the World Health Organization (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research on exposure to EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these agencies have not recommended that the general public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines, including individuals that are located on the edge of a power line right-of-way.

Website: www.altalink.ca/emf

Email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

Toll-free phone number: 1 -866-451-7817

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	Spring to Summer 2021
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	Fall 2021
Start construction if project is approved	Fall 2023
Construction completed	Winter 2023

Although we attempt to follow the anticipated project schedule it is subject to change. We will continue to provide you with updated schedule information if required as the project progresses.

Keeping the lights on during COVID-19

AltaLink is closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public while ensuring that we can continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans.

Providing your input

At this time, we are limiting in-person meetings and will be conducting the majority of meetings via telephone or electronic methods. If you'd like to provide input, you can also do so through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback. As the situation regarding COVID-19 changes we will re-assess this approach. We will update you as the situation evolves. Our focus is ensuring the lights stay on, and that you have the electricity you need.

After the consultation process is complete, we will file an application with the AUC. The AUC will review the application through a process in which stakeholders can participate. We will notify stakeholders when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project. 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 a proposed utility development*.

Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project, please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

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

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

1-888-866-2959

E-mail: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

The AESO is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this project is needed, please refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package, or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to an AltaLink representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

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

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

780-427-4903 (toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number)

E-mail: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*
- COVID-19 update

PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. AltaLink will collect, use, and disclose personal information in accordance with AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the *Personal Information Protection Act* (Alberta). As part of the regulatory process for new transmission projects, AltaLink may provide your personal information to Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information, visit our website at www.altalink.ca/privacy or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

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