



July 2021

# Electric system improvements near you

## ENGIE Buffalo Trail North Wind Connection

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 ENGIE Buffalo Trail North Wind Connection and we want your input.

ENGIE Development Canada LP (ENGIE) is proposing to build a new substation and **transmission** line for their proposed Buffalo Trail North Wind project. To connect their proposed facility to the grid, modifications to AltaLink's existing 983L transmission line and a new fibre optic cable are required.

Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of ENGIE's project, it is a separate project. ENGIE will consult separately on their proposed substation and wind farm facility. For more information about the ENGIE Buffalo Trail North Wind project, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

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

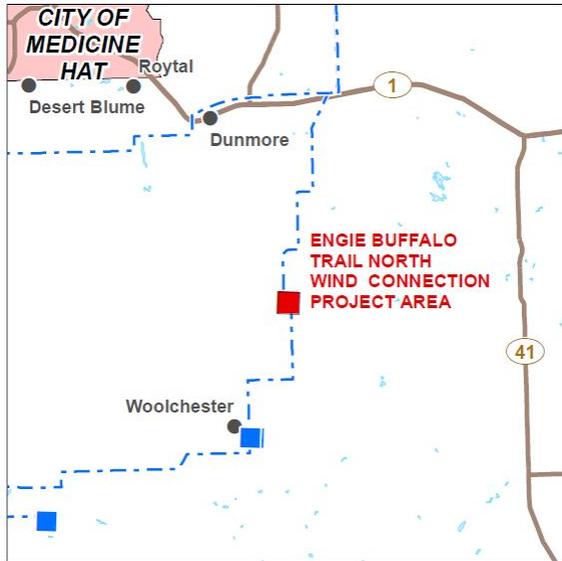
DEFINITION:

### Transmission

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances 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](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)  
[www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)



LEGEND	
<span style="color: red;">■</span>	ENGIE Buffalo Trail North Wind Connection Project Area
<span style="color: blue;">■</span>	Existing Substation
<span style="color: blue;">---</span>	Existing Transmission Line
●	Hamlet or Locality
<span style="color: brown;">—</span>	Road
<span style="color: pink;">■</span>	Urban Area
<span style="color: lightblue;">■</span>	Water Body



*The new structures will look similar to the photo above but may have additional poles and guy wires.*

## Project details

AltaLink's proposed project is located in Cypress County, in SW-5-11-4-W4, approximately 15 kilometres southeast of the City of Medicine Hat.

ENGIE's proposed Buffalo Trail North Substation will connect to AltaLink's existing 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (called 983L).

To accommodate the connection, AltaLink is proposing to modify an existing structure along the 983L transmission line and build approximately 200 to 500 metres of new single **circuit** transmission line.

The proposed transmission structures will be:

- one, two, or three pole structures, that may require guy wires
- be between 21-50 metres tall, depending on the number of structures required
- located within AltaLink's existing right-of-way

AltaLink will install approximately 300 to 500 metres of new underground fibre optic telecommunications cable. The fibre optic cable will allow us to communicate more effectively by providing our control centres with valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta's electric system. A portion of the cable will be buried within the existing transmission line right-of-way, and a small segment will be buried on private land and will require a right-of-way of six metres.

Construction workspace will be required on private land. Where private land access is required, AltaLink will contact stakeholders accordingly.

Please refer to the attached detail photo map (DP1) for the location of the proposed transmission line and underground fibre optic cable.

Definition:

### **Circuit**

A circuit is a group of wires that electricity flows through. The wires are strung along power line structures. Transmission line structures can be described as single or double circuit. In a single circuit transmission line, three single or bundled wires are strung along the transmission structures. A double circuit transmission line has six single or bundled wires strung along the structures.

## 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.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us.

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

Email: [emfdialogue@altalink.ca](mailto:emfdialogue@altalink.ca)

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

## 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](http://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 our consultation and notification process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and 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 *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*.

## Contact us directly

You can contact us by telephone, email, mail, or through our website. Our contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

## Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	July 2021
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	October 2021
Start construction if project is approved	July 2022
Construction completed	February 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.*

## Contact us

*To learn more about the proposed project please contact:*

### **ALTALINK**

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

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

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

*To learn more about ENGIE's wind project, please contact:*

### **ROB MAITLAND, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

1-647-403-2216

E-mail: [rob.maitland@engie.com](mailto:rob.maitland@engie.com)

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

### **ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR**

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

Email: [stakeholder.relations@aesoc.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesoc.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](http://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 a transmission facility owner 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](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)

### **PRIVACY COMMITMENT**

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the Personal Information Protection Act. 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](http://www.altalink.ca/privacy) or contact us directly via e-mail [privacy@altalink.ca](mailto:privacy@altalink.ca) or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

## INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project map
- COVID-19 Letter
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*

## SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

- 1) Visit: [altalink.ca/projects](http://altalink.ca/projects)
- 2) Search for the project title
- 3) Click **Subscribe to Updates**

## LET'S TALK TRANSMISSION



[www.twitter.com/altalink](https://www.twitter.com/altalink)



[www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission](https://www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission)