



December 2021

Electric system improvements near you

Hilda Wind Power Project 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.

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Hilda Wind Power Project Connection and we want your input.

To connect RES's approved Hilda Wind Power Project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing upgrades to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of RES's project, it is a separate project. RES will consult separately on their proposed transmission line. For more information about RES, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- maps of the proposed project areas
- 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

www.altalink.ca/projects

Project details

This project is located in Cypress County. Part of the proposed project is located approximately 10 kilometres northwest of the hamlet of Hilda in NW-29-18-1-W4M, and part of it is located approximately 15 kilometres northeast of the city of Medicine Hat at the existing Chappice Lake Substation in SW-22-14-4-W4M.

The proposed project activity near Hilda includes:

- modifying or replacing three structures on the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (called 658L)
- installing a new **telecommunications tower** within RES's Hilda Substation

The new structure(s) will:

- be wood or steel monopole structure(s) with guy wires
- be approximately 20–25 metres tall
- be located within AltaLink's existing **right-of-way**
- require 10 metres of construction workspace on either side of the existing right-of-way

The proposed telecommunications tower will:

- be approximately 32 metres tall (including the antenna and lightning rod) and have a triangular base
- comply with Transport Canada's requirements regarding painting and lighting
- not be accessible to the public, as the structure will be inside the fenced area of an operating substation and only support AltaLink equipment at this time

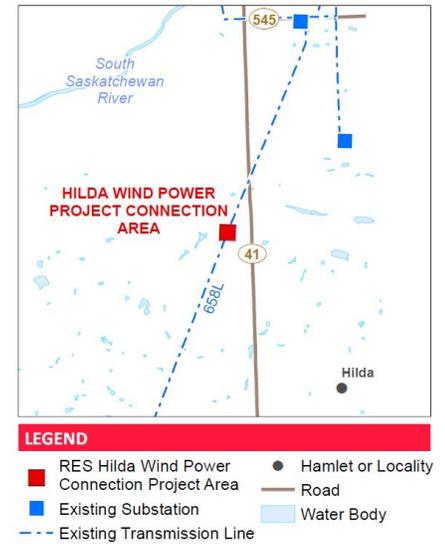
The proposed project activity at the Chappice Lake Substation includes:

- installing up to two new **circuit breakers** and associated equipment at the Chappice Lake Substation
- installing a telecommunications link between the Chappice Lake Substation and the Bowmanton Substation
 - the link will be either **fibre optic cable** buried adjacent to the existing 674L transmission line, **overhead optical ground wire (OPGW)** added to the 674L transmission line, or a combination of both

Please see Detail Photo Maps (DP1 and DP2) for the locations of the proposed activity at Hilda and the Chappice Lake Substation.

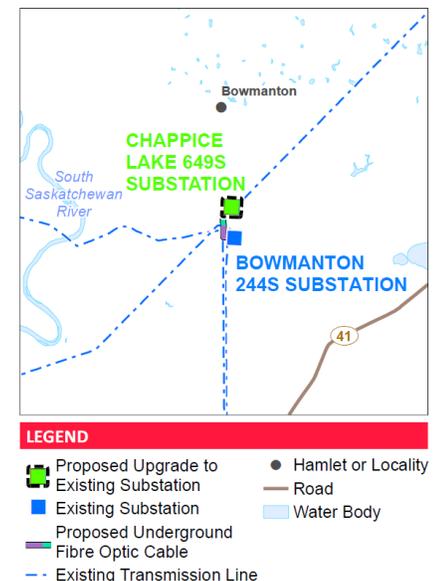
Construction workspace

Additional construction workspace may be required in order to install the telecommunications line. The construction workspace is intended to be primarily used for equipment access during construction. Final construction workspace will be determined following further detailed engineering and construction planning. AltaLink will consult with all affected stakeholders regarding the potential requirement for construction workspace prior to, and during construction of the project.



Left: The new telecommunications tower will look similar to the one above

Right: The new structure will look similar to the one above



DEFINITIONS:

Substation

Substations are the connection points between power lines of varying voltages and contain equipment that controls and protects the flow of power. Substations include transformers that step down and step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines or distributed to your community through distribution lines.

Telecommunications Towers and Fibre Optic Cable

Telecommunications towers and fibre optic cable transmit data to our system control centre. This allows us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure we provide safe and reliable power to our customers.

Right-of-way

The right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction and safe operation of a transmission line. A right-of-way refers to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line. The majority of the right-of-way can still be used by the landowner. Buildings cannot be placed on the right-of-way, but can be built up to the edge of the right-of-way.

Circuit Breaker

Circuit breakers are electrical switches inside a substation that protect substation equipment. Circuit breakers help ensure the safety and reliability of the electric system.

Overhead Optical Ground Wire (OPGW)

This equipment provides lightning protection and is part of a telecommunication network that allows AltaLink to monitor, control, protect, and restore the electric system.

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 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*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	December 2021
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	April 2022
Start construction if project is approved	July 2022
Construction completed	August 2022

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

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about the RES project, please contact:

Patrick Henn, Senior Development Manager

E-mail: patrick.henn@res-group.com

Phone: 1-438-266-1898

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@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 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

OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

If the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) approves this project, you may see or hear construction crews in the area. We have set strict standards by which we operate, including restricting work hours to reduce the impacts to local residents and businesses, ensuring safe construction practices and following environmental protection measures and appropriate environmental legislation. AltaLink believes that the environmental effects of this project will be negligible. This project is not located on federal lands, therefore Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 does not apply. AltaLink's safety standards and practices are developed to meet or exceed government guidelines and codes to ensure that our facilities meet the requirements for public, employee and neighbouring facility safety.

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 or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- COVID-19 Letter
- Information about Electric and Magnetic Fields and Radio Frequency
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

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

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