

Electric system improvements near you

Elk River Substation Telecommunications Tower Replacement

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 Elk River Substation Telecommunications Tower Replacement project and we want your input.

AltaLink has determined that an upgrade to the existing **telecommunications tower** at the Elk River **Substation** is required. The telecommunications tower has reached the end of its life and is proposed to be replaced as part of AltaLink's ongoing maintenance program. The proposed telecommunications upgrade will allow us to maintain the safety and reliability of the electric system in the area.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- maps of the proposed project
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

DEFINITION:

Telecommunications Tower

Telecommunications towers transmit data to our system and control centre allowing us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure the safety and reliability of the system for our customers.

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.

CONTACT US

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



Project details

The proposed project involves installing a new telecommunications tower at the Elk River Substation located in NW-1-46-14-W5M in Yellowhead County.

This will include removing the existing 12 metre tall telecommunications pole inside the substation fenceline and installing one new self-supporting tower.

The new telecommunications tower will:

- be a self-supported steel lattice structure
- be approximately 36 metres tall with the antenna and lightning rod
- have a triangular base with each side measuring approximately 1.5 metres
- comply with Transport Canada's requirements regarding painting and lighting

The new telecommunications tower will be located within the existing substation fenceline; no fenceline expansion is required.

The proposed telecommunications tower site will not be accessible to the public and the structure will only support AltaLink equipment at this time. Please see the attached Detail Photo Map (DP1) for an overview of the proposed location of the project location.



The new telecommunications tower will look similar to the tower in the image above.

Radio Frequency (RF)

Telecommunication towers use Radio Frequency (RF) signals to transmit and receive information. The point-to-point signals travel along a focused path at low power levels and are well below recommended safety limits. Licensed radio links on a telecommunications tower will not impact any other licensed telecommunication frequencies used by cellular phones, over-the-air television, satellite, radio, or GPS.

The telecommunication tower described in this notification will be installed and operated on an ongoing basis to be in compliance with Health Canada's Safety Code 6, which defines safe levels of RF exposure. To ensure the structural adequacy of the tower, the design and installation will follow industry standards and sound engineering practices.

For general information relating to telecommunications systems, please contact:

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

1-800-267-9401 (toll free in Canada)

Website: www.ic.gc.ca/towers

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 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	January/February 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	February 2022
Start construction if project is approved	May 2022
Complete construction	December 31, 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 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 map
- COVID-19 Letter
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*

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. 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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