

Electric system improvements near you

Bull Trail Wind Power Project Connection

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

Bull Trail Renewable Energy Centre Limited Partnership (Bull Trail) is proposing to build a new wind power facility called the Bull Trail Wind Power Project. To connect their proposed wind power project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing to construct a new **transmission** line and **substation**.

Although AltaLink's project is required to connect the Bull Trail Wind Power Project, it is a separate project. Bull Trail will be consulting separately on their project. For more information about the Bull Trail Wind Power Project, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

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

You may have received information about other projects in the area called the Cypress Wind Power Connection and Engie Buffalo Trail North Wind Connection. Those are also separate projects. For information about those projects, please visit our website www.altalink.ca/projects.

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.

DEFINITIONS:

Transmission

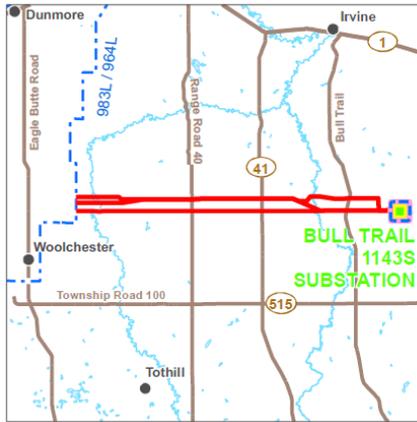
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind,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

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

AltaLink's project is located approximately 17 kilometres (km) southeast of Medicine Hat in Cypress County. To connect the Bull Trail Wind Power Project to the electric system, AltaLink's proposed project includes:

- constructing a new substation called, Gros Ventre Creek
- constructing approximately 400 metres (m) of new single circuit transmission line connecting the Gros Ventre Creek Substation (located in NE-21-10-2-W4) to an existing line in the area (called 983L)
- constructing approximately 23 km of a new 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (called 996L) to connect the Gros Ventre Creek and Bull Trail substations
- installing new telecommunications fibre optic cable

Route and site selection process

AltaLink takes several factors into consideration in an effort to find routes with low overall environmental, social, and economic effects. In addition to stakeholder input, we also consider residential, agricultural, environmental, visual and other potential impacts, such as cost. Based on an initial review of these factors, potential routes are being considered for the new 996L transmission line.

The input we receive from stakeholders will be used to help us determine the final routes that we include in the application that we file with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC will review the application and can approve, approve with conditions, or deny the project. If the project is approved the AUC can approve any of the routes, but only one of the routes will be built.

The potential routes for the transmission line are shown on the maps included in this package.

Transmission line structures

The proposed structures on the new transmission lines will primarily be monopole structures that:

- will be approximately between 25 – 52 m tall
- will be wood or steel
- will have a **right-of-way** of 25 m when on private property and either 11.5 m or 16.5 metres when parallel to the road
- may require guy wires for corner or angle structures

Additional structures, including H-frame and five-pole structures, may be required in some areas. Right-of-way requirements for these structures will vary and can be seen in the note boxes on the strip mosaic maps included in this package.



The new structures will look similar to the photos above.



The new substation will look similar to the photo above.

Substation

AltaLink has identified a target area for the Gros Ventre Creek Substation and would like your input to help us determine the preferred site location. The target area was selected as it provides opportunities to reduce the length of transmission line needed for the project. If, during consultation, other locations are identified outside the target area for the substation, AltaLink will investigate those locations. The substation target area is shown on the maps included in this package.

The proposed Gros Ventre Creek Substation site:

- will have dimensions of approximately 70 m x 103 m
- will have three **circuit breakers** and associated equipment
- will have one control building
- may require an access road to connect the substation to the nearest developed road

Telecommunications fibre optic cable

The fibre optic cable will allow us to communicate more effectively by providing our control centre with valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta's electric system. It is required in two locations:

- between the Bull Trail Substation and a structure adjacent to the substation
- between the existing 964L/983L transmission line and the new Gros Ventre Creek Substation

These new buried fibre optic cables are expected to be within the existing transmission line right-of-way or road allowance.

Construction workspace

Construction workspace, in addition to the transmission line right-of-way, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. The requirements for this workspace vary depending on the location. Construction workspace is shown on the strip mosaic maps included in this package. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace and access trails.

Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents, and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans. We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback.

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*.

DEFINITIONS:

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.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June-August 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	September to October 2022
Start construction if project is approved	January 2023
Construction completed	September 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

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about Bull Trail's proposed project please contact:

Bull Trail Renewable Energy Centre Limited Partnership

Mark Gallagher, Development Manager

403-448-3922

E-mail: Mark.Gallagher@edf-re.com

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*

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.

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