

May 17, 2013

## **Grist Lake Substation and Transmission Line Notice of preferred and alternate route options**

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the Grist Lake Substation and Transmission Line project. We want to provide you with an update and inform you that we have identified preferred and alternate route options for the proposed transmission line.

### **The project**

The Grist Lake Substation and Transmission Line project is located approximately 30 kilometres (20 miles) southeast of Conklin and includes:

- a new substation (called Grist Lake 190S)
- modifications to the proposed Pike 170S Substation (the Pike Substation is proposed as part of AltaLink's Christina Lake Area Transmission Development)
- approximately seven kilometres (four miles) of new 138 kV double circuit transmission line (called 476/477L) to connect the Grist Lake Substation to the Pike Substation

The Grist Lake Substation and Transmission Line project will connect Devon NEC Corporation's proposed Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD) facility to Alberta's electric system.

### **Update – proposed substation location**

In the previous newsletter and maps, which you received in February 2013, we provided a proposed location for the Grist Lake Substation. After evaluating the options and stakeholder input received, we have moved the proposed location of the substation approximately 650 metres (2,132 feet) to the east.

Please see the attached detail photo (DP) map and strip maps to view the new proposed substation location.

### **Preferred and alternate route options**

In the previous newsletter and maps, which you received in February 2013, we provided two potential routes for the transmission line. In spring of 2013, AltaLink consulted with stakeholders regarding these two options.

After evaluating the routes and the stakeholder input received, we have identified the eastern route as the preferred option and the western route as the alternate option. The eastern route is the preferred route option because it is the shorter of the two routes, has the lowest cost, the least environmental impact and runs adjacent to an existing all-weather road. Please see the attached DP map and strip maps to view the preferred and alternate route options for the proposed transmission line.

Both route options will be included in our application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and will make the final decision about whether the project is approved, and, if the project is approved, which route option will be built. If the project is approved, only one transmission line will be built.

Based on further engineering, and to accommodate other stakeholders in the area, the preferred (eastern) route has been refined from the original potential route option shown in our February 2013 newsletter. The preferred route has now moved approximately 110 metres (361 feet) south between point designations A0 and A5. The route also features a straight line between point designations A10-A15 and A20-A25 – as demonstrated in the strip maps. This was done to reduce the cost of the preferred route.

We have also determined that guy wires will be needed to anchor the transmission structures at some points where the line direction changes on the preferred and alternate route options. In order to allow the guy wires to remain within the proposed right-of-way without impacting adjacent rights-of-way, the centre line has shifted slightly at several corners along the preferred route. These shifts in the centre line can be seen on the strip maps at point designations A10 to A20 on the preferred route.

We will request additional rights-of-way in our application to the AUC. The rights-of-way will accommodate the guy wires at point designation A25 on the preferred route, and B40-B45 on the alternate route.

### Next steps

After the notification process is complete we will file an application with the AUC. The AUC will review the application through a process in which you can participate. We will notify you when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project.

### Anticipated project schedule

File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	Summer 2013
Start construction if project is approved	Summer 2014
Complete construction if project is approved	Summer 2015

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

### Contact us

We are available to gather any further input you have or address any questions or concerns. Please contact us at [stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca) or 1-877-267-1453.

Further information about this project and maps are available on [www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects](http://www.altalink.ca/regionalprojects). You will find the project in the list in alphabetical order.

Sincerely,



Regan Smith  
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AltaLink