

April 1, 2026

Notification of 551L Wildfire Mitigation Project in Banff National Park

Dear Stakeholder,

AltaLink is proposing to conduct fire risk mitigation activities along the existing 551L transmission line which runs from the Town of Banff to the Village of Lake Louise in Banff National Park. The following notification is to update you about the project and draft Basic Impact Assessment.

Proposed project

AltaLink's existing 551L transmission line is a single circuit 69 kilovolt (kV) line, approximately 60 kilometres (km) long. The line is located in Banff National Park and connects the Lake Louise Substation to the Banff Substation.

The 551L transmission line was originally constructed in 1960. In 2020, AltaLink completed rebuilding the majority of the line. Since then, AltaLink has completed a further wildfire risk assessment and additional field reviews. These activities have identified areas along the line that require further mitigation to limit the risk of potential tree contacts igniting a wildfire by contacting the line.

To mitigate wildfire risk on the existing line, AltaLink is proposing:

- conducting vegetation management, in and around the right-of-way, at various locations across approximately 33 km of the line
- replacing transmission line conductor (wire) with a heavier covered conductor (also known as tree wire) in six targeted sections of line, totaling approximately 10 km
- replacing approximately 100 existing structures and adding approximately 50 new structures at various locations to support the heavier tree wire conductor
- building a temporary transmission line (also known as a by-pass line) to ensure reliable electricity supply during the tree wire installation

Draft Basic Impact Assessment

AltaLink is required to complete an impact assessment as per the *Impact Assessment Act, 2019*. AltaLink has engaged with Parks Canada to develop a Basic Impact Assessment (BIA). The BIA identifies baseline conditions within the project area, assesses the potential effects of the project on natural and cultural values, and proposes mitigations to ensure there are no significant adverse effects.

Notification period

A 30-day notification period for the project and draft BIA is occurring April 1 to April 30, 2026, with an opportunity to provide any questions or comments about the project and draft BIA. We kindly ask for any questions or comments to be shared by April 30, 2026.

What's next

Following the notification period, AltaLink will finalize the BIA for Parks Canada approval, and file an application to the Alberta Utilities Commission. Vegetation management is anticipated to begin in late 2026 and tree wire installation will begin in early 2028.

Additional information

For more information about the project or draft BIA, please contact AltaLink's Stakeholder Relations team by email at: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca or by phone at: 1-877-267-1453 (toll free).

Sincerely,

Kris Gladue
Manager, Stakeholder Engagement
AltaLink

Attachments:

1. Project Newsletter
2. Project Maps
3. Draft Basic Impact Assessment Summary
4. Alberta Utilities Commission Brochure