

APRIL 2026

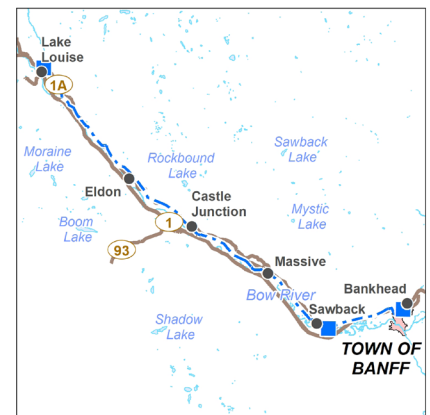


551L Wildfire Mitigation Project

AltaLink is proposing to conduct fire risk mitigation work on the 551L transmission line in Banff National Park.

AltaLink’s existing 551L **transmission** line is a single circuit 69 **kilovolt (kV)** line. Located between the Town of Banff and the Village of Lake Louise, the line is approximately 60 kilometres (km) long. The line services Sunshine Village and the Village of Lake Louise.

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



LEGEND

- Existing Substation
- Existing Transmission Line
- Hamlet or Locality
- Road
- Urban Area
- Water Body

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

<p>APRIL 1 TO 30, 2026 Notification period for the project’s draft Basic Impact Assessment</p>	<p>SPRING TO SUMMER 2026 Targeted project stakeholder engagement for the application to the Alberta Utilities Commission</p>	<p>SUMMER 2026 Submission to Parks Canada for project approval and permitting</p>	<p>SUMMER 2026 File application with the Alberta Utilities Commission</p>	<p>FALL 2026 Project activity begins</p>	<p>2029 Project activity completed</p>
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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.



Above: Monopole structure



Above: Two-pole structure



Above: H-frame structure

Please note: The structures for the rebuilt line will look similar to the those shown in this package.

Project details

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

- conducting vegetation management, in and around the **right-of-way** (ROW), at various locations across approximately 33 km of the line
- replacing transmission line conductor (wire) with a heavier covered conductor (known as tree wire) in six targeted sections of the 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

The proposed fire mitigation work is targeted to specific areas that have been identified. Please refer to the maps in this package for the activity locations.

Subject to project engagement and Parks Canada approval, AltaLink anticipates vegetation management will begin in late 2026 and tree wire installation will begin in early 2028.

Proposed transmission structures

The existing 551L structures are:

- wood monopole structures
- approximately 15 metres tall

The proposed structures to be installed to support the tree wire will be:

- a combination of weathered steel monopoles, two-pole and H-frame structures at various locations
- approximately 14 to 22 metres tall

Vegetation management

Safety is AltaLink's top priority. We work with experts to identify high-risk fire areas within our service territory so we can manage our transmission assets safely and responsibly. Vegetation management is one of the most important ways that AltaLink prevents potential fire risk. Vegetation management near our transmission lines includes removing or trimming **danger trees**, **hazard trees**, shrubs or undergrowth along and adjacent to the ROW.

Temporary transmission line

AltaLink has identified the need for a temporary transmission line (also known as a by-pass) on the sections of the line where tree wire will be installed. The by-pass line is required to maintain the flow of electricity to Sunshine Village and the Village of Lake Louise while the work on the line is taking place. Wooden monopole structures are proposed for this temporary line.

Access trails and construction workspace

To support the project activity, access trails, access gates and construction workspace will be required. Access trails are required to move material, equipment and personnel onto the ROW. The proposed access trails can be seen on the maps included in this package. Where possible, we have tried to use existing access trails that avoid steep ground, wet areas and other potential impacts.

Construction workspace, in addition to the transmission line ROW, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. Construction workspace is required to set up or maneuver equipment; to remove existing structures; and to lay out, assemble and erect new structures. The requirements for the construction workspace vary depending on the location.

Draft Basic Impact Assessment – Banff National Park

In addition to comments received on the project, we are also providing an opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions regarding AltaLink's draft Basic Impact Assessment (BIA) for the project in Banff National Park.

AltaLink is required to complete an impact assessment as per the *Impact Assessment Act, 2019*. AltaLink has engaged with Parks Canada to develop a 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. If you have any questions, please let us know within 30 days by April 30, 2026, to ensure they are considered.

Based on the questions received and in consultation with Parks Canada, AltaLink will consider all input, finalize the BIA, and submit for Parks Canada's approval.

You can reach out to AltaLink directly with questions on the project or BIA, including if you would like a complete copy of the BIA, through the details listed in the Contact us section in this package.

Electric and Magnetic Fields

We understand that you may have concerns about exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) and we take those concerns seriously. Everyone is exposed to power frequency EMF from many sources, including power lines, building wiring, or appliances in your home.

Health Canada, the World Health Organization, and other agencies have not recommended that the public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines. This includes people that live near the edge of a transmission line ROW.

If you have any questions about EMF, please visit: www.altalink.ca/emf.

You can also email us at: emfdialogue@altalink.ca or call the phone number listed in the Contact us section in this package.

DEFINITIONS:

Transmission | *Transmission lines are 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 generation.*

Kilovolt (kV) | *A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts and is commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines. AltaLink's transmission lines range from 69 kV (69,000 volts) to 500 kV (500,000 volts). Light bulbs typically range from 120 to 300 volts.*

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.*

Danger tree | *Danger trees are vegetation/trees located under or adjacent to transmission lines that could fall over and contact transmission line conductors or where line conductors could, under windy conditions, blow out and contact the tree producing an electrical flash over to the line.*

Hazard tree | *Hazard trees are defective trees that are at imminent risk of falling on the line, both on and off the right-of-way, and must be immediately removed.*

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.*

Next steps

We will contact all stakeholders who are on or directly adjacent to the transmission line where the proposed work will take place as required by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

After engagement is complete, we will consider all feedback received. We will then seek development approval from Parks Canada and file an application with the AUC for the areas where tree wire is to be installed.

The AUC 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 to consider facility applications*.

Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project and to ask questions regarding the BIA, please contact:

ALTALINK

Phone: 1-877-267-1453 (toll free)
Email: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca
Mail:
Attn: Stakeholder Relations
2611 – 3rd Avenue SE
Calgary, Alta.
T2A 7W7

To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:

AUC

Phone: 780-427-4903 (toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number)
Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC and the AUC reviews them in a public process.

Other project in the area

AltaLink is proposing another project in Banff National Park to ensure we can continue to deliver safe and reliable electricity for years to come.

Project name	54L Transmission Line Rebuild
Description	Rebuilding the entire transmission line from the Canmore Substation to the Banff Substation
Status	Finalizing project proposal

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
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

Let's talk transmission



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Sustainable
Electricity
Designation

