



# **NEWSLETTER TO THE COMMUNITY**

**Central East Transfer-Out Project**



**NEW  
PROJECT  
IN YOUR AREA**

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Central East Transfer-Out Project and we want your input.



# Central East Transfer-Out Project

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We are starting to develop a new **transmission** project in your area – the Central East Transfer-Out Project – and we want your input.

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) has identified the need for this project to enhance the reliability of the transmission system in the area and enable additional renewable generation connecting to the grid.

In conjunction with ATCO Electric, AltaLink has been directed by the AESO to identify potential locations for new electricity facilities in our service area and prepare an application for this project. We are in the early stages of our consultation process which includes investigating and gathering feedback on preliminary route and structure options.

## To help you understand what we're proposing to do, this newsletter includes:

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

### IMPORTANT

If you have any questions about the need for this project, please contact the AESO directly at [stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aesocanada.com) or 1.888.866.2959.

## 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.

### 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.

### Circuit

A circuit is three wires. Transmission line structures can be single or double circuit, and this affects how much electricity the structure carries. Single circuit transmission lines have three wires strung along the structures. A double circuit transmission line has six wires and carries double the amount of electricity. Photos of single and double circuit structures can be found on page 5.

# Project details

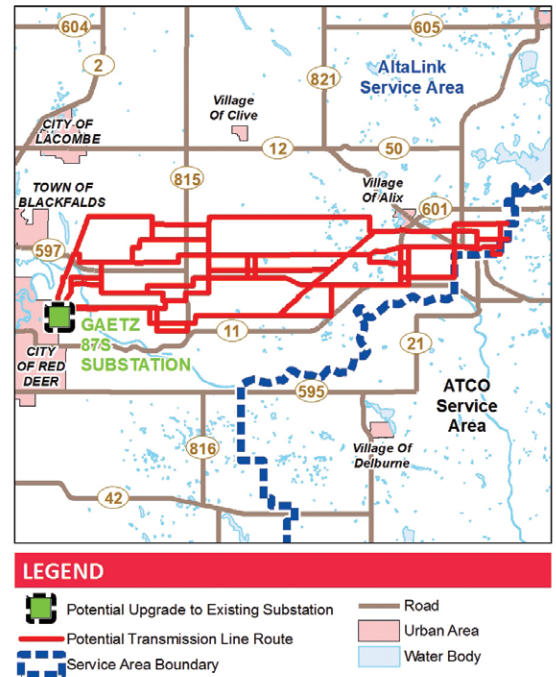
AltaLink’s portion of the proposed Central East Transfer-Out Project is located in the counties of Red Deer, Lacombe and Stettler.

## If approved, the project involves:

- Approximately 55-60 kilometres of new 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line connecting the Gaetz Substation, located east of the City of Red Deer, to a new ATCO Electric line, located southeast of the Village of Alix
- Installing new equipment at the Gaetz Substation and acquiring additional land south of the substation property to accommodate future developments

ATCO Electric is also planning a portion of the project in its service area. You may receive information from ATCO Electric if that portion of the proposed project is near you. Please see the back of this newsletter if you have questions regarding their portion of the project.

*Please note: The red lines in the map above represent several potential route options. Refer to the enclosed maps for a more detailed view of where the line may be located in your area.*



# Enabling renewables

## A STAGED APPROACH

The AESO manages the amount of generation that is added to Alberta’s electric system. This project is proposed to be staged to align with renewable generation milestones in the area so that additional transmission capacity is built as renewable generation targets are met. These targets are anticipated to occur by 2023 and then again by 2029. You can find more information about the need for this project in the AESO’s Need Overview included in this package.

**This staged approach means there are three potential options for meeting the need for this project:**

OPTION	FIRST STAGE (BY 2023)	SECOND STAGE (BY 2029)
One double circuit transmission line	One line built with only one side of the structure strung with one circuit	The second circuit will be strung on the other side of the same structure
Two single circuit transmission lines – parallel alignments	One line built	The second line will be built along an alignment parallel to the first line
Two single circuit transmission lines – different alignments	One line built	The second line will be built along a different alignment

## ROUTE SELECTION

AltaLink takes several factors into consideration in an effort to find a route with low overall environmental, social and economic effects. In addition to stakeholder input we also consider agricultural, residential, environmental and visual impacts, as well as cost.

AltaLink has identified multiple potential route options for the project which take these impacts into consideration. Please let us know what other factors are important to you so we can consider them when refining route options.



# Transmission structures

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## STRUCTURE PLACEMENT

We have identified potential transmission line routes, which are shown on the attached maps. When reviewing the maps, please keep in mind:

- AltaLink is considering multiple types of structures for the same routes – for example in the section between map designation points B40 and B45 any of the structures on the next page are suitable for use.
- We do not anticipate switching between different types of structures along an alignment, unless required due to site specific considerations.

## STRUCTURE TYPES

Typically, we identify what structures we plan to use before seeking public input. In this case however, because of the staged approach, we are engaging early with stakeholders to gather feedback on structure types as well as preliminary transmission line route options.

A brief overview of each structure type available for this project is shown to the right. There are two single circuit structure options and three double circuit structure options.

The single circuit structures could be built parallel to each other (twinned) or separated along different alignments.

# Substation requirements

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The proposed transmission line connects to the existing Gaetz **Substation**, located in Red Deer County, just east of the City of Red Deer. As part of this development we will need to install four new **circuit breakers** and supporting equipment at the substation. Two will be added during the first stage of the development and two will be added during the second stage.

No expansion of the fence line is required, but we do need to acquire approximately 250 m x 50 m of additional land south of the existing substation property to accommodate future capacity needs at the substation.








Existing Gaetz Substation



A typical 240 kV circuit breaker

## STRUCTURE TYPES FOR THIS PROJECT

<b>SINGLE CIRCUIT MONOPOLE</b>	Structure height	25-35 m
	<b>Right-of-way width:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When in road allowance (from the edge of the road allowance)</li> <li>On private property</li> </ul>	13 m 22 m
	Distance between structures	120-200 m
	Can be placed in road allowance*	Yes
	Can be placed on private property	Yes
	<b>DOUBLE CIRCUIT MONOPOLE</b>	Structure height
	<b>Right-of-way width:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When in road allowance (from the edge of the road allowance)</li> <li>On private property</li> </ul>	13 m 24 m
	Distance between structures	150-250 m
	Can be placed in road allowance*	Yes
	Can be placed on private property	Yes
	<b>SINGLE CIRCUIT H-FRAME</b>	Structure height
	<b>Right-of-way width:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When straddling the road allowance edge</li> <li>On private property</li> </ul>	21-25 m 35 m
	Distance between structures	180-275 m
	Can be placed in road allowance*	Yes
	Can be placed on private property	Yes
	<b>DOUBLE CIRCUIT H-FRAME</b>	Structure height
	<b>Right-of-way width:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When straddling the road allowance edge</li> <li>On private property</li> </ul>	21-25 m 30-35 m
	Distance between structures	200-300 m
	Can be placed in road allowance*	Yes
	Can be placed on private property	Yes
	<b>DOUBLE CIRCUIT LATTICE</b>	Structure height
	Right-of-way width	30-40 m
	Distance between structures	250-350 m
	Can be placed in road allowance*	No
	Can be placed on private property	Yes

## DEFINITIONS

### 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.

### Circuit breakers

Circuit breakers are electrical switches inside a substation that protect substation equipment. Circuit breakers help ensure the safety and reliability of the electric system.

### 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.

## NOTES ABOUT STRUCTURE TYPES

All dimensions are approximate and subject to change with further detailed engineering. For example, most of the structures do not require guy wires; however, a structure at an angle may need a guy wire.

\*Structures that can be placed in road allowance may be completely within road allowance or straddling the road allowance boundary, depending on the specific location and circumstances.



## Providing your input

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**Stakeholder input is critical to identifying the lowest overall impact route for this project. You can provide your input in any of the following ways.**

### ATTEND OUR PUBLIC EVENTS

We want to hear your thoughts and concerns to help us understand what is important to you as we move forward with the project. Please join us at one of our public events in the project area.

Members of our consultation, environment, electrical effects and siting teams will be available to discuss the project during the sessions. The AESO will also be available to answer questions about the need for this transmission development.

### PARTICIPATE IN A ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATION

We will contact all occupants, residents and landowners who are on or directly adjacent to the proposed transmission line route options to gather input through one-on-one consultations.

During the one-on-one process we will document the information you provide and respond to any questions or concerns you may have about the project.

AltaLink is committed to sharing information about its projects and working with the public to gather and respond to stakeholder input and concerns. A summary of stakeholder comments will be incorporated into the application we submit to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

### CONTACT US DIRECTLY

You can contact us by telephone, email, mail or through our website. Our contact information is on the back page of this newsletter.

### EVENT INFORMATION

**FEBRUARY 20, 2019 | 5 - 8 PM**

Alix Community Hall - 5008 49 Ave, Alix AB

**FEBRUARY 21, 2019 | 5 - 8 PM**

Balmoral Community Hall - #20 - 26553 Hwy 11,  
Red Deer County



# Next steps

The AESO has determined this transmission system development is needed and will file a **Needs Identification Document (NID) Application** with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). After our consultation process is complete we will file a **Facilities Application** with the AUC. The AUC will review both the NID Application and the Facilities Application at the same time through a process in which stakeholders can participate.

To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled *Public involvement in a proposed utility development*.

## ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

### Notify and consult with stakeholders

January to October 2019

### File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

Fall/Winter 2019

### Start construction if project is approved

Winter 2021

### Complete construction

2023 (first circuit); 2029 (second circuit)

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.

## DEFINITIONS

### Needs Identification Document (NID) Application

The AESO submits Needs Identification Document (NID) Applications to the AUC for review. A NID Application describes why a transmission project is required. The AUC must approve a NID Application before construction can begin.

### Facilities Application

AltaLink submits Facilities Applications to the AUC for review. A Facilities Application describes how AltaLink proposes to meet the requirements for a transmission project. It includes routing details, results of the participant involvement program and technical details. Facilities Applications must be approved by the AUC before construction can begin.

## ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS (EMF)

**AltaLink recognizes that people have concerns about exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) and we take those concerns very seriously. Everyone in our society is exposed to EMF from many sources, including:**

- power lines and other electrical facilities
- electrical appliances in your home
- building wiring

National and international organizations such as Health Canada and the World Health Organization have been conducting and reviewing research about EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these organizations have not recommended the general public take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us at [emfdialogue@altalink.ca](mailto:emfdialogue@altalink.ca) or **1-866-451-7817 (toll-free)**.

## PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Your personal information is collected and will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act. As part of the regulatory process for new transmission projects, AltaLink may provide your personal information to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information, visit our website at [www.altalink.ca/privacy](http://www.altalink.ca/privacy) or contact us directly via email [privacy@altalink.ca](mailto:privacy@altalink.ca) or phone at **1-877-267-6760**.

## CONTACT US

To learn more about the proposed Central East Transfer-Out Project, please contact:

### ALTALINK

**1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)**  
**stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca**

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](http://www.altalink.ca).

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

### ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

**780-427-4903 (toll-free 310-0000 before the number)**  
**utilitiesconcerns@auc.ab.ca**

The Alberta Utilities Commission (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.

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To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:

### ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

**1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)**  
**stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is an independent, not-for-profit organization responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the provincial transmission grid. For more information about why this project is needed, please visit [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca). If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your concerns known to an AltaLink representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

A copy of the AESO's Need Overview for the Central East Transfer-Out Transmission Development is included in this package and can be found here: [www.aeso.ca/grid/projects](http://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects)

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For more information about ATCO Electric's portion of the project, please contact:

### ATCO Electric

**1.855.420.5775 (toll-free)**  
**consultation@atcoelectric.com**

## INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure:  
*Public involvement in a proposed utility development*

## SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

1. Visit [altalink.ca/projects](http://altalink.ca/projects)
2. Search for the project title
3. Click **Subscribe to Updates**

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