

June 4, 2018

Chapel Rock to Pincher Creek Area Transmission Development

What we heard during our workshops

Thank you for spending your valuable time with us in person at our workshops in Pincher Creek or online through our virtual workshop. We know that spring brings with it many priorities for landowners and we truly appreciate your time and input.

We committed to providing all workshop participants with a summary of the input we received. During the workshop you spent time reviewing potential structure types, placement options for structures as well as discussing your values and priorities. We have taken your input and identified the preferences that arose.

Please note that we are still very early in our process and will continue gathering input from you and all stakeholders impacted by this project. We are including your input in our alignment planning, but you will likely see additional alignment options and structure types in our next phase of consultation that differ from your preferences. This is because not all stakeholders who are potentially impacted have had an opportunity to comment. Please note that when identifying alignments for a new transmission line we take into account factors such as cost, environmental impacts and technical requirements.

Structure types

Workshop participants indicated they generally prefer monopole structures because they can be placed in a road allowance, require less land and right-of-way and are viewed as the most visually appealing of the structures under consideration.

Stakeholders also prefer double circuit transmission structures (one structure with six wires on it), as opposed to two single circuit structures (two separate structures with three wires each), due in part to their reduced footprint and fewer construction impacts.

Structure placement

Stakeholders indicated they generally prefer locating structures within road allowances rather than on private property because of the reduced potential for agricultural and environmental impacts.

We heard potential disadvantages for locating structures within road allowance include:

- no compensation for landowners because the structures aren't on private property
- future road widening and other developments could be impacted
- safety concerns with structures being located close to roadways
- visual impacts and impacts to tourism with structures appearing more in 'line-of-sight' than if located on quarter line and further away

Stakeholders prefer locating transmission structures along quarter lines if structures are placed on private property. However, we do understand that the preferred solution from the feedback is to avoid private property as much as possible.

Values, interests and priorities

We heard that the concerns from the Castle Rock Ridge to Chapel Rock Transmission Project remain relevant to this project. While not an exhaustive list, the common concerns we heard include:

- routing and siting
- environmental concerns
- visual impacts
- property values and potential reduced resale values
- need for the project
- project costs and impact to power bills
- potential impacts to the scenic views throughout the project area
- visual impacts along Highway 3 and Highway 22
- potential twinning of Highway 3
- additional generation and turbines in the area
- frustration with providing feedback as part of previous projects

Specifically we received requests to:

- follow existing corridors/infrastructure
- avoid wildlife, wildlife corridors, and environmentally significant areas
- avoid native grasslands
- consider placing the line underground to address visual and residential impacts

Your questions answered

We received many questions about the project during our workshops and have included our responses in a Questions & Answers document attached with this letter. Please contact us at the information provided at the bottom of this letter if you believe that your question or feedback was not captured accurately.

Stakeholders also had questions for the Alberta Electric System Operation (AESO) about the need for this development, the potential alternatives to serve that need and about the process moving forward. The AESO has produced a video to help answer these questions which can be viewed at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/SATR-CRPC.

Next steps

We are now identifying potential alignment options for the project and anticipate mailing information packages to stakeholders and conducting further consultation this summer/fall, rather than our original target of late spring, to allow for adequate time to incorporate your feedback.

I want to let you know there may be more options on the map in our first phase of consultation than we have had in the past. Many routes will be new and some will be similar to those previously proposed.

Throughout the first phase of consultation we will continue to gather feedback from stakeholders about structure types and placement. While we will pursue alignment options based on the input we receive, please know that it may not be possible to use the stakeholder preferred structure type or structure placement. We are always available to provide and discuss the reasons for our alignments options.

Contact us

Thank you again for attending our workshops and spending your valuable time with us. If you have any questions or concerns about the project or information in this package, please contact us at stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca or 1.877.269.5903.

Sincerely,

Darcy Fedorchuk, P. Eng.
Vice President, Project Development