

Electric system improvements near you

Duchess Solar Project Connection

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.

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Duchess Solar Project Connection and we want your input.

Engie Development Canada LP (ENGIE) is proposing to build a new **substation** as part of their Duchess Solar Project. To connect their proposed substation to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's project is required to connect ENGIE's project, it is a separate project. Engie will consult separately on their proposed substation and solar project. For more information about the Duchess Solar Project, see ENGIE's contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- a map of the proposed project
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

You may have received information about a previous version of this project. That project was cancelled in 2019 but is now proceeding again and we would like your input.

For more information about the need for this project, please refer to the AESO need overview included in this package.

DEFINITION

Substation

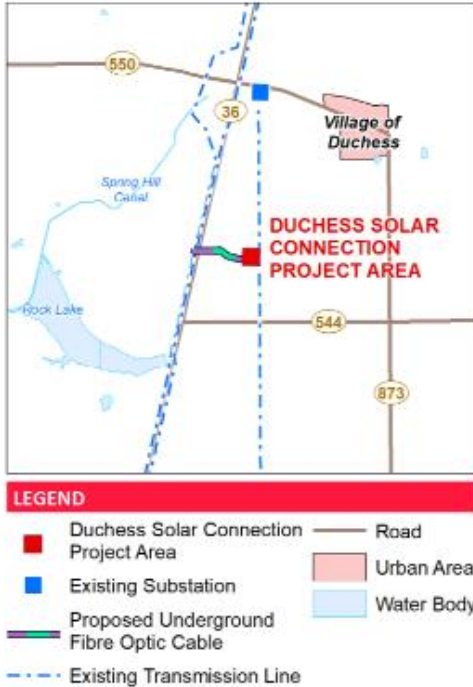
Substations are the connection points between power lines of varying voltages and contain equipment that controls and protects the flow of power. Substations include transformers that step down and step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines or distributed to your community through distribution lines.

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 including wind, high-efficiency coal, natural gas and more.

CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453
stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca
www.altalink.ca/projects



Project details

AltaLink's proposed project is located approximately four kilometres southwest of the Village of Duchess, in SE-24-20-15-W4.

To connect Engie's proposed substation (called Rock Lake) to the electric system, AltaLink's proposed project includes:

- building approximately 190 metres of new single circuit 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between AltaLink's existing 831L line and the Rock Lake Substation
- building a temporary transmission line during construction to ensure customers in the area continue to receive reliable electricity service
- installing approximately 1.5 kilometres of new underground fibre optic telecommunications cable between AltaLink's existing 1053L transmission line and the Rock Lake Substation
- modifications to AltaLink's Cutting Lake Substation. A temporary mobile substation may be required during the project, it will be located outside of the substation fenceline

Transmission structures

The proposed transmission structures on the new line will:

- consist of two H-frame wood structures
- be approximately 14-25 metres tall
- have a **right-of-way** of approximately 20 metres on private land

Temporary transmission line

The temporary line will be approximately 160 metres in length and will use wood structures similar to the existing 831L transmission line. Once construction of the proposed transmission line is complete, the temporary line will be removed.

Fibre optic telecommunications cable

The fibre optic telecommunications cable will allow us to communicate more effectively by providing our control centre with valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta's electric system. If approved, the cable will be buried approximately one to three metres underground within a five metre right-of-way on private land.

Temporary construction access and workspace will be located on private property. Where private land access and workspace is required, AltaLink will contact stakeholders accordingly.

Definition:

Right-of-way

A **right-of-way (ROW)** is a strip of land required for the construction, maintenance and safe operation of a transmission line. A ROW refers to the physical space in which a transmission line is located and includes areas on either side of the transmission line structures and the conductors, which are the wires that carry the electricity.



The existing 831L line near the proposed project area.



The H-frame structures will look similar to the photo above.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

AltaLink recognizes that people may have concerns about exposure to EMF and we take those concerns seriously.

Everyone in our society is exposed to power frequency 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 (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research on exposure to EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these agencies have not recommended that the general public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines, including individuals that are located on the edge of a power line right-of-way.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us.

Website: www.altalink.ca/emf

Email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

Toll-free phone number: 1-866-451-7817

Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans. We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback.

After our consultation and notification process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and 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*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June to July 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	September 2022
Start construction if project is approved	May 2023
Construction completed	September 2023

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.



Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about ENGIE's project, please contact:

Rob Maitland, Business Development Director

1-647-403-2216

E-mail: rob.maitland@engie.com

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

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Website: www.aeso.ca

The 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 refer to the AESO's Need Overview included with this package or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to a transmission facility owner 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.

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

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

780-427-4903 (toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number.)

E-mail: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

If the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) approves this project, you may see or hear construction crews in the area. We have set strict standards by which we operate, including restricting work hours to reduce the impacts to local residents and businesses, ensuring safe construction practices and following environmental protection measures and appropriate environmental legislation. AltaLink believes that the environmental effects of this project will be negligible. This project is not located on federal lands, therefore Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 does not apply. AltaLink's safety standards and practices are developed to meet or exceed government guidelines and codes to ensure that our facilities meet the requirements for public, employee and neighbouring facility safety.

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 map
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure:
Participating in the AUC's independent review process

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

- 1) Visit: altalink.ca/projects
- 2) Search for the project title
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