

# Electric system improvements near you

## Tempest Wind Power Connection Project

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).

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Tempest Wind Power Connection Project and we want your input.

To connect TransAlta's Tempest Wind Power Connection Project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's project is required to connect TransAlta's project, it is a separate project. TransAlta will consult separately on their proposed wind project. For more information about TransAlta's project, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

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

#### DEFINITIONS:

#### **Transmission**

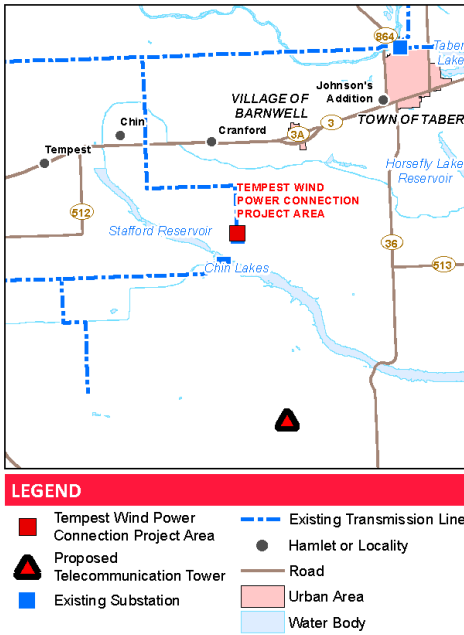
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, solar, natural gas and more.

#### **CONTACT US**

1-877-267-1453

[stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)

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



## Project details

To connect its project to the grid, TransAlta is constructing a new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, located approximately 20 kilometres south of the Town of Taber. To accommodate the connection, AltaLink's proposed project includes:

- modifying the existing 172EL transmission line at one of two potential locations
- installing a new underground **fibre optic cable** between one of two potential connection points and an existing **substation** in the area (called Suncor Hillridge), located in NW-36-8-18-W4M
- installing a new **telecommunications tower** at TransAlta's Tempest Substation, located in SE-19-7-17-W4M

## Potential connection points

TransAlta is considering two connection points along AltaLink's existing 172EL transmission line. To accommodate this connection, AltaLink is proposing the following modifications to its transmission line at both potential connection points. If approved, only one of these modifications will be constructed, based on the final connection point determined by TransAlta.

The length of the proposed fibre optic cable will depend on the final connection point. The cable will primarily be located in road allowance. Where the cable is located on private property, approximately six metres of **right-of-way** is required.



The new structures will look similar to the photo above.



The telecommunications tower will look similar to the photo above.

Location	Work required if selected
North connection point (SW-1-9-18-W4M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adding one new single pole structure</li> <li>• Replacing two existing single pole structures with new single pole structures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The existing structures are approximately 18 metres (m) tall and the new structures will be approximately 18-25 m tall</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Installing approximately 760 m of fibre optic cable</li> </ul>
South connection point (NW-36-8-18-W4M)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacing one existing single pole structure with a new single pole structure with guy wires <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The existing structure is approximately 18 metres (m) tall and the new structure will be approximately 18-25 m tall</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Installing approximately 70 m of fibre optic cable</li> </ul>

## Telecommunications tower

The proposed telecommunications tower will:

- be a self-supported steel structure
- be approximately 25-40 m tall (including the antenna and lightning rod) and have a triangular base
- comply with Transport Canada's requirements regarding painting and lighting
- not be accessible to the public, as the structure will be inside the fenced area of an operating substation and only support AltaLink equipment at this time

The locations of the proposed connection point options, fibre optic cable, and telecommunications tower are shown on the Detail Photo Maps (DP1 and DP2) included in this package.

**DEFINITIONS:**

**Fibre optic cable**

Fibre optic cable allows us to communicate effectively between a customer connection point or substation and our control centre and provides valuable data that will be used to maintain the reliability of Alberta’s electric system.



In certain locations along the proposed fibre optic cable, a small underground conduit box, similar to the one in the image on the right, may be required to facilitate construction and maintenance of the cable. These locations will be determined following detailed engineering and discussions with landowners.

**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.

**Telecommunications tower**

Telecommunications towers support equipment that transmits data to our system control centre. This allows us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure we provide safe and reliable power to our customers.

**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.

**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](http://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 to consider facility applications*.

**Anticipated project schedule**

Notify and consult with stakeholders	June - August 2023
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	September 2023
Start construction if project is approved	January 2025
Construction completed	April 2025

*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](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)

Website: [www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)

*To learn more about the TransAlta project, please contact:*

### **TRANSALTA**

Dmitriy Teterkin, Project Manager – Transmission

Email: [Dmitriy\\_Teterkin@transalta.com](mailto:Dmitriy_Teterkin@transalta.com)

Phone: 1-587-763-5011

Cell: 1-587-830-2179

*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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

Website: [www.aeso.ca](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.altalink.ca/privacy) or contact us directly via e-mail [privacy@altalink.ca](mailto:privacy@altalink.ca) or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

## INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AESO Need Overview
- Electric and Magnetic Fields and Radio Frequency Information
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

## 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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