



March 2023

Electric system improvements near you

hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project, and we want your input.

To connect the hep energy Canada Ltd. Alderson Solar Connection Project (hep) to the grid, AltaLink is proposing modifications to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's proposed project is required to connect hep's project, it is a separate project. hep will consult separately on their proposed project. For more information about hep, 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

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.

DEFINITIONS:

Transmission

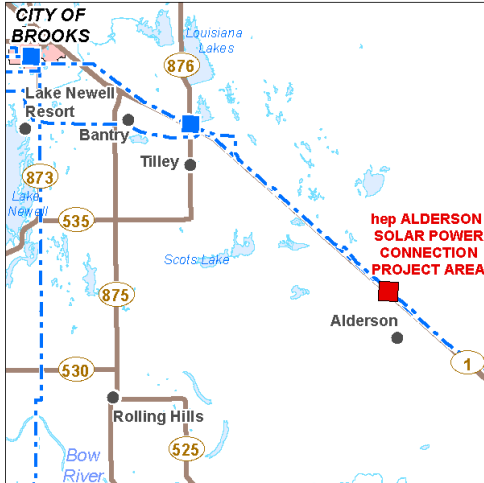
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind,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

CONTACT US








1-877-267-1453

stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

www.altalink.ca/projects



LEGEND

-  hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project Area
-  Existing Substation
-  Existing Transmission Line
-  Hamlet or Locality
-  Road
-  Urban Area
-  Water Body



The image on the left is an example of the proposed new transmission structure.



The image on the left is an example of the existing H-frame structures and the image on the right is an example of what the replacement H-frame structures and hardware replacements will look like.



The underground conduit box will look similar to the image on the left.

Project details

hep's proposed solar connection is located between Cypress County and Newell County in SE-7-16-10-W4, approximately 45 kilometres southeast of the City of Brooks.

AltaLink's proposed project includes modifications to two existing transmission lines in the area.

Proposed modifications to AltaLink's existing 138 kV transmission line (called 100L)

To connect hep's project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing to install one new transmission structure and modify two structures to accommodate it. The new structure will be approximately 19 metres tall and made of wood.

To ensure the safe and reliable operation of the line, AltaLink is proposing to replace and modify existing structures:

- Two H-frame structures will be replaced with two similar structures to increase the height of the structures from 14 metres to approximately 18-20 metres
- Hardware will be replaced on up to 11 structures

These modifications will allow sufficient clearance from the ground or other objects and enable the maximum power flow of the line – the voltage of the line will not increase.

Proposed modifications to AltaLink's existing 240 kV transmission line (called 1034L/1035L)

AltaLink is proposing the following telecommunications updates on its existing 1034L/1035L transmission line:

- Replacing approximately 350 metres of **optical ground wire** (OPGW) between two existing structures and adding new equipment to the structures to accommodate the connection
- Installing approximately two kilometres of **fibre optic cable** between AltaLink's existing Tilley Substation and 1034L/1035L

The fibre optic cable will be located within an existing transmission line **right-of-way** and along a highway right-of-way. Where located on private property, an additional five metres of right-of-way will be required.

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

Please see the detailed photo maps included in this package for more details.

DEFINITION:

Optical ground wire

This equipment provides lightning protection and is part of a telecommunication network that allows AltaLink to monitor, control, protect, and restore the electric system.

Fibre optic cable

AltaLink's fibre optic cables transmit data signals between substations and are part of a larger telecommunications system in Alberta. This telecommunications system allows AltaLink control centres to actively monitor the electric system, ensuring it runs safely and reliably.

Right-of-way

The right-of-way 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.

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 to consider facility applications*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	March – April 2023
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	July 2023
Start construction if project is approved	June 2024
Construction completed	October 2024

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:

ALATALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about the hep Alderson Solar Generation Interconnection, please contact:

hep energy Canada Ltd.

Michele Morley, CPA, CA President

Phone: 403-819-3391

Email: m.morley@hep.global

Website: www.hep.global

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.altalink.ca/projects

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)

Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

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*
- AESO need overview

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