

NOVA SOLAR POWER CONNECTION PROJECT

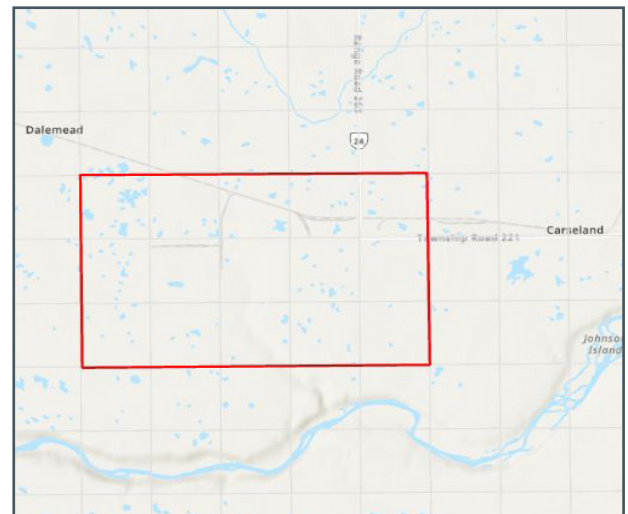
ABOUT THE PROJECT

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RES) is applying for approval from the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to develop, build and operate the Nova Solar Power Plant (“Nova”). Nova is a 150 MWac solar energy generation power plant located about 2 kilometers (km) southwest of Carseland in Wheatland County, Alberta. As part of the Nova Solar Power Plant, RES will need to construct approximately 6 km of new 240 kV transmission line to connect to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), the provincial power grid.

RES applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect the Nova Solar Power Plant to the AIES. On November 8, 2021, RES received a request from the AESO to assist the AESO in the Participant Involvement Program to satisfy the requirements of AUC Rule 007. To answer questions you may have regarding the need for the proposed connection project please see the enclosed AESO Need Overview.

The proposed connection project involves constructing approximately 6 km of new overhead 240 kV transmission line located near the town of Carseland in Wheatland County. The new overhead 240 kV transmission line, to be designated as 927AL, will connect the RES Nova 1005S Substation located on NW 3-22-26-W4M to the existing AltaLink Management Ltd (AltaLink) 927L 240 kV Transmission Line in a T-tap configuration.

AltaLink will be engaging stakeholders regarding their portion of the proposed project and will submit a separate facility application to the AUC.



Included in this information package

- Project newsletter
- Project Map
- AUC Brochure: Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development
- AESO Need Overview

ROUTING SELECTION AND DETAILS

Several factors are taken into account in an effort to site a transmission line route with the least overall impact.

Some of the factors considered include:

- existing land use
- environmental and agriculture impacts
- existing and proposed infrastructure
- proximity to residences
- economic viability

Two preliminary routes have been identified for engagement through the initial siting process for this project, as shown on the enclosed map. While two preliminary routes have been identified, only one will be constructed. The proposed transmission line routing alignment follows developed county road allowances and quarter lines.

The proposed transmission line will:

- consist of wood or steel single pole structures
- potentially require guy anchors (within the right-of-way) on corner structures and deflections
- be single circuit
- be 20 m to 40 m tall
- be within a road allowance or right-of-way that measures approximately 12.5 m to 25 m

Once the new transmission line is in-service, AltaLink, will assume the ownership, operation and maintenance of the transmission line.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

As the proposed connection project advances through the development process, we are committed to working with all landowners and stakeholders to establish and maintain a strong relationship between RES and the community. We strive to exceed the minimum requirements on all our projects, and we commit to responding and acting on all comments and concerns in a timely manner. All personal engagement with stakeholders will be conducted following the current Government guidelines in relation to COVID-19.

We will advise stakeholders prior to submitting an application to the AUC for approval, which we anticipate could be as early as Q2 2022.



Proposed transmission line structures will look similar to the above photograph.

The Transmission Facility Owner, AltaLink, defines Transmission as follows:

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to your community where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power from power plants across the province.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Public consultation initiated	February 2022
Personal one-on-one consultations	February - April 2022
Environmental surveys completed	Spring 2022
Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) submission	Q2 2022
Anticipated AUC approval	Q3 2022
Municipal Development Permit submission and approval	October - November 2022
Start construction if project is approved	Q4 2022
Target in-service date	Q2 / Q3 2022

* *Timeline is subject to change*

***RES will continue to engage stakeholders until the in-service date.*

ABOUT RES

RES, the largest independent renewable energy company in the world, is a family-owned business, owned by the McAlpine Family Trust, and has been in the renewable energy business since 1982. Through our corporate culture and values, we are dedicated to a zero-carbon future for all Canadians and our focus is solely on renewable energy projects (wind, solar) and enabling and supporting projects (energy storage, transmission). RES has been developing, constructing, owning and/or operating renewable energy, transmission, and energy storage projects in Canada since 2003. RES has developed and/or built 28 projects across Canada.



Please visit: <http://www.res-group.com> for more information.

NOVA SOLAR POWER CONNECTION PROJECT

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc.

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Stakeholder Engagement Advisor

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RES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

RES is an active player in the community and supports various fundraising events and special initiatives that bring local benefit.

If you have any ideas on how we can take an active role in the community, please contact us.



ABOUT THE AESO

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 Renewable Energy Systems Canada 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.

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

Phone: 1-888-866-2959, Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca, Website: www.aeso.ca

ABOUT THE AUC

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is a quasi-judicial independent agency established by the Government of Alberta, responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

They regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric and water utilities, and certain municipally owned electric utilities to protect social, economic and environmental interests of Alberta where competitive market forces do not.

For more information about the regulatory process, please contact:

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Phone: 780-427-4903, Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca, Website: auc.ab.ca

For more information about the proposed AltaLink portion of the project, please contact:

ALTALINK MANAGEMENT LTD

Phone: 1-877-267-1453, E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca, Website: altalink.ca/projects

Need for the Nova Solar Project Connection in the Carseland area

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc (RESC) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) to connect its proposed Nova Solar Project (Facility) in the Carseland area. RESC's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 927L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in mid-2022.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects at the time of its application to the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

RESC

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, and constructing the new 240 kV transmission line to connect the Facility.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Carseland area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 240 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the addition of the new 240 kV transmission line.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

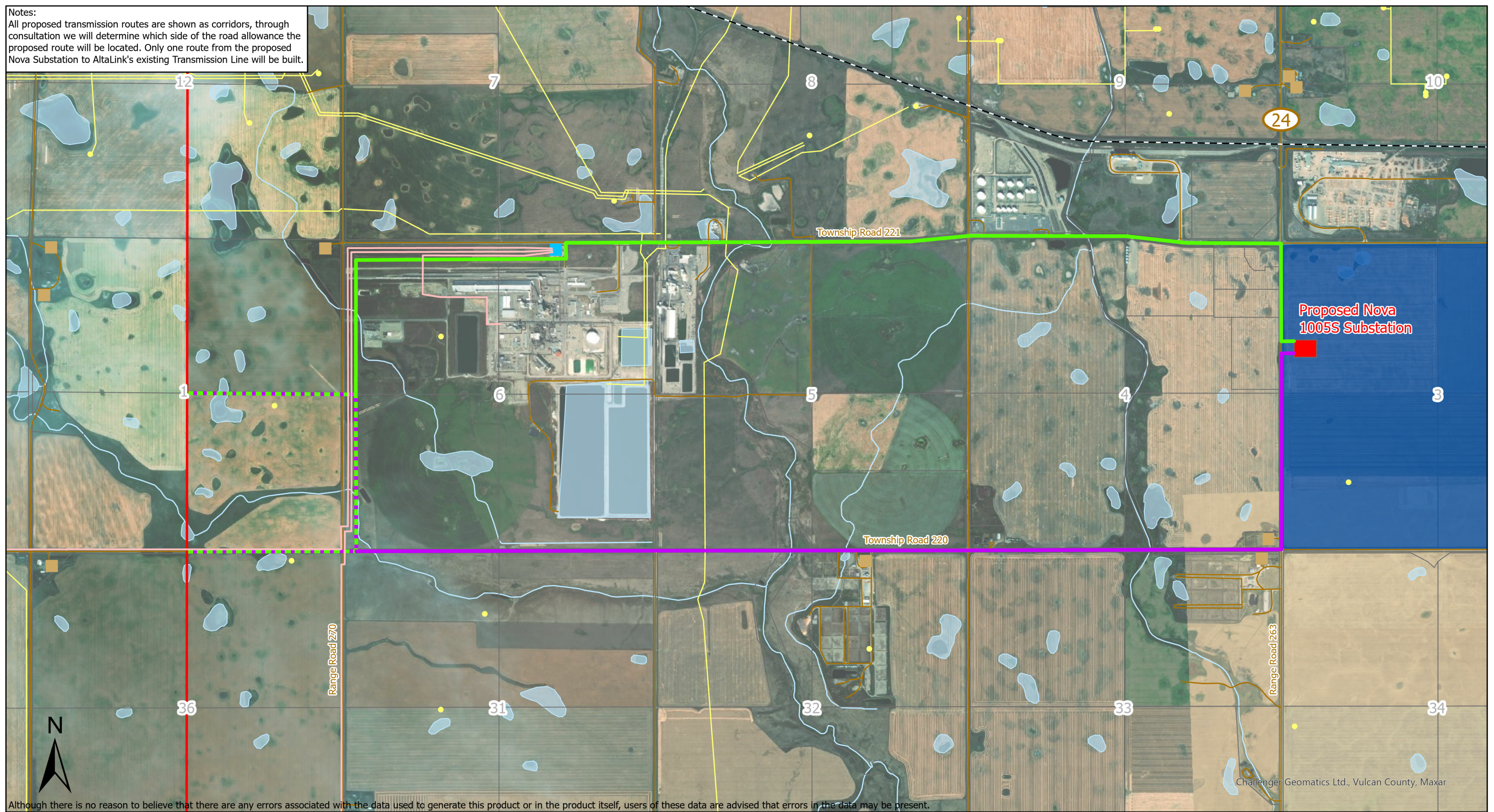
Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aes0.ca
1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaes0](https://twitter.com/theaes0)

Notes:
 All proposed transmission routes are shown as corridors, through consultation we will determine which side of the road allowance the proposed route will be located. Only one route from the proposed Nova Substation to AltaLink's existing Transmission Line will be built.



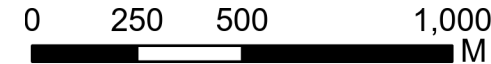
Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to generate this product or in the product itself, users of these data are advised that errors in the data may be present.

Challenger Geomatics Ltd., Vulcan County, Maxar

Legend

- Proposed North Alignment
- Proposed South Alignment
- - - Proposed North and South Connection Alignments
- Proposed Nova 1005S Substation
- Proposed Power Plant
- Existing 138kV Transmission Line
- Existing 240kV Transmission Line
- Existing Substation
- Residence
- Roads
- Wells
- Pipelines
- Watercourses
- Waterbodies
- - - Railway

**Renewable Energy Systems
 Proposed Nova Solar Power Connection Project
 Detail Photo Map - DP1**



No. 1
 Drawn: SM
 File No. RES-DP1
 Revision: 0.00.01
 Date: 2022-01-26

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)*

The Commission supports ongoing efforts to reach an agreeable outcome for the applicant and all affected parties. The Commission encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, those matters will typically be addressed at an AUC hearing.

Step 6: The public hearing process*

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if there continues to be legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location in addition to a process schedule. The AUC conducts public hearings in its Edmonton and Calgary hearing rooms and, where suitable venues exist, in communities closer to the proposed project area.

The public hearing process allows persons with standing that have unresolved concerns about the application, to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members.

An AUC hearing is a formal, evidence-based, court-like proceeding. The public can attend the hearing in person or listen to hearings online through the AUC's website.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by a lawyer. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

Cost assistance

A person determined by the Commission to be a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs. Those who hire a lawyer or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance is available under AUC Rule 009: *Local Intervener Funding*, recovery of costs is subject to the Commission assessing the value of the

contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts. People with similar interests and positions are expected to work together to ensure that expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

Step 7: The decision

The AUC's goal is to issue its written application decision no more than 90 days after the hearing is complete. The Commission can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. All AUC decision reports are available to any member of the public on the AUC's website or by obtaining a printed copy from the AUC.

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

An applicant or dissatisfied participant may formally ask the Court of Appeal of Alberta for permission to appeal a Commission decision. An application for permission to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

An applicant or dissatisfied participant can also ask the Commission to review its decision. An application to review a Commission decision must be filed within 60 days from the date the decision is issued and satisfy the limited grounds described in AUC Rule 016: *Review and Variance of Commission Decisions*.

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the Commission must adhere to any conditions that were set out in that approval. If concerns about compliance with approval conditions and post-construction operations cannot be resolved with the applicant, they can be brought to the AUC's attention for consideration. The AUC has significant compliance and enforcement powers for all approved applications. Additional information is available on the AUC website under "Compliance and enforcement."

*Opportunity for public involvement

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the Government of Alberta that ensures the delivery of Alberta's utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC (310-4282 in Alberta)
1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-511-4282 outside Alberta)
Email: info@auc.ab.ca

Eau Claire Tower
1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

106 Street Building
10th Floor, 10055 106 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2

The Alberta Utilities Commission is committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a utility development project are informed of the application and have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered.



Participating
in the AUC's
independent
review process

Application review process

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application by proponent

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

Step 3: Public notice issued by the AUC

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation

Step 6: The public hearing process

Step 7: The decision

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

www.auc.ab.ca

The AUC's regulatory role in needs and facility applications and its independent review and hearing process:

The AUC uses an established process, outlined in this brochure, to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval is in the public interest. Approvals from the AUC are required for the construction, operation, alteration and decommissioning of transmission lines and electric substations.

Approvals are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades.
- The route and location of transmission facilities.
- The siting of power plants, including renewables such as wind and solar more than five megawatts.

Sometimes a needs application is considered together with a facility application in a single hearing; sometimes separate hearings may be held to consider each application.

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application*

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development, the applicant must engage in a public consultation program in the area of the proposed project, so that concerns may be raised, addressed and, if possible, resolved.

The application guidelines and requirements for facility applications can be found in AUC Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments*, and AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial public consultation, as early involvement in discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

The Alberta Electric System Operator, as the system planner, will notify potentially affected stakeholders of applications on the need for transmission development.

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

When the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application with the AUC through a public filing system, called the eFiling System, on the AUC website.

The application is then reviewed to ensure the information required by the Commission is included. If the required information is not provided, the AUC may close the application or request more

information from the applicant. In the application, any issues that were raised during the public consultation and any related amendments to the proposal should be identified. All unresolved objections or concerns identified during the public consultation must be described in the application.

Step 3: Public notice

The AUC generally issues a notice by mail directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be affected by the Commission's decision on the proposed project. The notice for larger facility projects with potentially greater impacts may also be published in local newspapers.

The notice will specify a submission deadline. The information required by this deadline is general in nature as outlined in Step 4. Additional opportunities to provide evidence and additional information will arise after this deadline.

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC*

The AUC review process is referred to as a proceeding. Anyone with unresolved objections or concerns about the application can file a brief written statement with the AUC on the proceeding. The easiest way to file a statement is to fill out the form through the eFiling System found on the AUC website. The statement must include your contact information, where you reside or own property in relation to the proposed facility, your concern or interest in the application, an explanation of your position and what you feel the AUC should decide.

The AUC uses the information it gathers through the forms to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The Commission must hold a hearing if a person can demonstrate that he or she has rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the Commission's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the Commission. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to understand the application and present their position on the application either in writing or in person.

Subject to some limited exceptions, all information and materials provided as part of an AUC proceeding will become part of the public record and will be available through the eFiling System. The AUC's treatment of some types of information as confidential is rare and only available under limited circumstances to ensure that the AUC's process is open and transparent.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the tool that the AUC uses to manage applications and submissions in its proceeding-based review. The eFiling System gives access to all public documents associated with an application and is how to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the related proceeding filings. Those who do not have access to the internet can send submissions, evidence and other material by mail and the AUC will upload the submission on their behalf.

***Opportunity for public involvement**