

# NOVA SOLAR POWER CONNECTION PROJECT UPDATE

#### **PROJECT UPDATE**

In February 2022, Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc (RES) began the engagement process for a new overhead 240 kV transmission line located about 2 kilometers (km) southwest of Carseland in Wheatland County, Alberta. The new overhead 240kV 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 Alberta Utility Commission (AUC).

#### **PROJECT OVERVIEW**

RES is applying to the AUC to develop, build and operate the Nova Solar Power Plant ('Nova'). Nova is a 150 MWac solar energy generation power plant. As part of the Nova Solar Power Plant, RES will need to construct approximately 8 km of new overhead 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.



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
- stakeholder input

Several preliminary routes were identified and consulted on in the project area. Through consultation with stakeholders, RES has identified a preferred route and an alternate route. The proposed routes have increased in length due to the proposed Nova substation location being moved as part of the Nova Solar Power Plant Project. These routes are shown on the maps included in this package and will be filed with the AUC.

Overall the preferred route has the highest stakeholder support, the lowest residential impact, and falls within the Goldfinch Industrial Area Structure Plan.

Overall the alternate route has the highest residential impact, minimal stakeholder support and has a higher environmental impact.

The proposed transmission line will:

- consist of wood or steel single pole structures and h-frame 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 10 m to 35 m
- have a span of approximately 90 m to 200 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.

A RES representative will be in contact soon to make sure you have received this package and to set up a time to meet in person to answer any questions you may have. RES will advise stakeholders prior to submitting an application to the AUC for approval, which we anticipate could be as early as Q4 2022.

# **PROPOSED SCHEDULE**

Public consultation initiated	February 2022
Personal one-on-one consultations	February - September 2022
Environmental surveys completed	Spring 2022
Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) submission	Q4 2022
Anticipated AUC approval	Q1 2023
Municipal Development Permit submission and approval	January- February 2023
Start construction if project is approved	Q1 2023
Target in-service date	Q4 2023

\* 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.** Mailing Addresss: 5605 Avenue de Gaspé, suite 508, Montreal QC H2T2A4 Email: nova.solar@res-group.com

Andrea Cosman Development Manager Phone: 514 607 9055 Email: andrea.cosman@res-group.com Georgie Fisher - Hardline Engineering Stakeholder Engagement Advisor Phone: 403 689 9936 Email: gfisher@hardlineeng.com

# **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