



Potential Transmission System Reinforcement in southeast Alberta

For more information please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959, www.aeso.ca or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Why is transmission reinforcement needed in southeast Alberta?

NaturEner Wild Rose 1 Energy Inc. and NaturEner Wild Rose 2 Energy Inc., affiliates of NaturEner Energy Canada Inc., have requested system access service for their respective wind farm projects, Wild Rose 1 and Wild Rose 2, both located south of Irvine, in Cypress County. Combined, these wind farms will provide up to 400 megawatts (MW) of wind power to the provincial electric transmission system. The AESO intends to file a single Needs Identification Document (NID) for both projects with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in late July or early August, 2010. The anticipated in-service dates for these connections are March 31 2012 for Wild Rose 1, and July 1, 2012 for Wild Rose 2.

In September 2009, the AUC approved the AESO's Southern Alberta Transmission Reinforcement NID for system reinforcements throughout southern Alberta to integrate future wind power development (see AUC Decision 2009-126). These reinforcements, along with additional system enhancements outlined in the NID for the connections of Wild Rose 1 and Wild Rose 2, will provide the capacity needed to integrate wind power development anticipated for this region.

Who is the AESO?

The AESO plans and operates the provincial electricity transmission system, formally known as the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES). This electric system or "grid" consists of higher-voltage lines, towers and equipment that transmit electricity from generators to lower-voltage systems, and distribute it to cities, towns, rural areas and large industrial customers. Working in the interest of all Albertans, our job is to maintain safe, reliable and economic operations on the provincial transmission grid. Our planning responsibility includes identifying needed transmission reinforcement and recommending preferred options to meet these needs. We are regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of the transmission system needs we identify. Further, the AESO is required by legislation to facilitate the connection of qualified electricity generators to the provincial grid.

How is AltaLink involved?

AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink) is the transmission facility owner (TFO) in Cypress County. While the AESO is responsible for identifying the need for transmission system connections, AltaLink, when directed by the AESO, is responsible for filing a Facilities Application with the AUC for installing facilities that will satisfy the transmission system reinforcement need identified by the AESO. Further consultation with stakeholders, particularly on routing of transmission lines, forms a critical component of the Facilities Application process.

The AESO appreciates the views of stakeholders. Should you have any questions or comments regarding the need for transmission system reinforcement to connect the Wild Rose 1 and Wild Rose 2 wind farms, we encourage you to contact:

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The AESO is committed to protecting your personal privacy in accordance with Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act. Any personal information collected by the AESO with regard to this project may be used to provide you with further information about the project, may be disclosed to the Alberta Utilities Commission (and as a result, may become public), and may also be disclosed to the eligible transmission facility owner(s) as required. If you have any questions about how the AESO will use and disclose your personal information collected with regard to this project, please contact us at 1- 888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca.