



April 21, 2008

Dear Stakeholder:

**Re: Potential transmission upgrade in the Slave Lake and Surrounding areas**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is responsible for the safe, reliable and economic planning and operation of the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES). The AESO's long term forecast for electrical load growth in the High Prairie area indicates demand for electricity to increase by approximately 20 per cent over the next nine years. The paper and pulp industry is expected to drive load growth in the Slave lake area. To assist in meeting growing electricity needs in these areas, we have identified a need to reinforce the transmission system between the substations at High Prairie and Slave Lake to facilitate the connection of the to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System.

The AESO is currently developing an Abbreviated Needs Identification Document (ANID) for the transmission facilities that will be required for this project and requests your input. The AESO plans to file the ANID with the Alberta Utilities Commission.

I have enclosed background information about the project. At this time, no final decisions have been made.

If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please contact:

**Doug Downs**

**AESO**

**1.888.866.2959**

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

We are committed to a consultation process founded upon principles of fairness, openness and transparency. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Pung Toy, P.Eng.

AESO North System Transmission Planner