

Need for McLaughlin Wind Power Facility connection in the Pincher Creek area

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



Why is transmission system development needed?

Renewable Energy Services Ltd. has requested connection to the transmission system for its McLaughlin Wind Power Facility, located northeast of the Town of Pincher Creek. In response to the request, the AESO has determined that the development of a short 138kV transmission line between the proposed wind power facility and the existing transmission system in the area is required.

The AESO is processing the request, including providing information to stakeholders on the need for the transmission development, and intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of this need in Summer 2012. At the same time that the AESO files its needs identification document (NID) for this development with the AUC, it will also be posted on the AESO's website at the link provided below.

Who is the AESO?

Alberta's transmission system, sometimes referred to as the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), is planned and operated by the AESO. The transmission system comprises the high-voltage lines, towers and equipment (generally 69kV and above) that transmit electricity from generators to lower voltage systems that distribute electricity to cities, towns, rural areas and large industrial customers.

The AESO's role is to maintain safe, reliable and economic operation of the AIES. The AESO's planning responsibility includes determining the need for transmission system development and the manner in which that need is met. The AESO is also mandated to facilitate the interconnection of qualified market participants to the AIES. The AESO is regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) and must apply to the AUC for approval of its needs identification documents (NID). The NID process is described on the AESO's website at: <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/8969.html>

How is AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink) involved?

AltaLink is the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO) in the Pincher Creek area. While the AESO is responsible for determining the need for transmission system development, AltaLink, when directed by the AESO, is responsible for filing an application with the AUC for approval of the transmission facilities that will satisfy the transmission system development need determined by the AESO.

The AESO appreciates the views of stakeholders. Your comments and suggestions on the proposed transmission system developments are encouraged. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the need to connect the proposed McLaughlin Wind Power Facility or the AESO's application regarding this need, please 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 AltaLink Management Ltd. as the legal owner of transmission facilities in your area. If you have any questions about how the AESO will use and disclose your personal information, please contact us at 1-888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca