

APPENDIX C AESO PIP

Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade

Needs Identification Document

1.0 Participant Involvement Program (PIP)

From June to December 2015, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) to assist in preparing its Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade Needs Identification Document (NID). The AESO directed transmission facility owner (TFO), ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO), to assist the AESO in providing notification in accordance with NID14 and Appendix A2 of Alberta Utilities Commission Rule 007.

1.1 Stakeholder Notification

The AESO's PIP was designed to notify and provide information to all occupants, residents and landowners within the notification area of the proposed development, as well as to other interested parties, including the following government bodies, agencies and other stakeholder groups (Stakeholders):

- Alberta Culture and Tourism
- Alberta Environment and Parks
- Municipal District of Greenview No. 16
- TELUS Communications Inc.
- Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation

The AESO used a variety of methods to notify Stakeholders on the need for the Simonette 733S substation upgrade. The AESO developed a one-page Need Overview document that described the need for the proposed transmission development. A copy of this document was posted to the AESO website at <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/32180.html> on June 17, 2015 and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on June 18, 2015. Copies of the Need Overview and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively.

The Need Overview was also included with ATCO's project-specific information package mailed on June 15, 2015 to the Stakeholders noted above. Attachment 3 includes a copy of ATCO's information brochure.

To ensure that Stakeholders had the opportunity to provide feedback, the AESO also provided Stakeholders with a dedicated, toll-free telephone line (1-888-866-2959) and a dedicated email address (stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca). AESO contact information,

along with the AESO's mailing address (2500, 330 5th Ave. SW, Calgary) and website address (www.aeso.ca), and a privacy statement that described how the AESO is committed to protecting Stakeholders' privacy, were included on the Need Overview related to this application.

As directed by the AESO, the TFO was prepared to direct any inquiries or concerns about the project need to the AESO. The TFO has indicated that Stakeholders have not identified any concerns or objections with the need for the proposed transmission development.

1.2 Public Notification

Most recently, the AESO published a Public Notification of NID Filing to the AESO website at <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/32180.html> and in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 17, 2015. Copies of the Public Notification of NID Filing posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 4 and 5, respectively.

1.3 Concerns and Objections Raised

The AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections from any party about the need for the proposed transmission development.

1.4 List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice
- Attachment 3 – ATCO's Information Brochure – *Alterations to the Simonette 733S substation* (June 2015)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing (AESO Website Posting)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview

Need for the Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade in the Fox Creek area

Transmission Development Information for Stakeholders



ATCO Electric (ATCO) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to supply new industrial demand for electricity in the Fox Creek area. ATCO's request can be met by upgrading the existing Simonette 733S substation, including replacing the existing 144/25 kV transformer with one of higher capacity, and adding a 144 kV breaker and associated equipment.

The AESO is processing ATCO's request, including providing information to landowners, occupants, residents and agencies that may be near the proposed transmission development. The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of this need in late 2015 or early 2016. The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/nid at the time of its application to the AUC.

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 69 kV 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 AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID application.

How is ATCO involved?

ATCO is the transmission facilities owner (TFO) in the Fox Creek area. While the AESO is responsible for identifying that transmission system development is needed, ATCO is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the associated transmission facilities. The AESO has directed ATCO to provide information to stakeholders on this need and to file a facility proposal application with the AUC which will include a detailed description and location of the proposed transmission development.

Further Information

The AESO appreciates your views on the need for transmission system development and your comments are encouraged. If you have any questions or comments regarding the need for the proposed transmission system development in the Fox Creek area or the AESO's application regarding this need, please contact:

Susan Haider
AESO Stakeholder Relations
1-888-866-2959
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
2500, 330 – 5th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0L4

The AESO is committed to protecting your privacy. Your feedback, comments and/or contact information collected by the AESO will be used to respond to your inquiries and/or to provide you with further information about the project. The AESO will not use your personal information for any other purposes and will not disclose your information without consent or a legal obligation. If you choose to communicate by email, please note, email is not a secure form of communication. Security of your communication while in transit cannot be guaranteed.

Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice

Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade – Need for Transmission System Development in the Fox Creek area

ATCO Electric has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to supply new industrial demand for electricity in the Fox Creek area. ATCO's request can be met by upgrading the existing Simonette 733S Substation, including replacing the existing 144/25 kV transformer with one of higher capacity, and adding a 144 kV breaker and associated equipment.

The AESO has posted a Need Overview for this project on its website. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Transmission > Needs Identification Documents > Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade.

Attachment 3 – ATCO’s Information Brochure – *Alterations to the Simonette 733S substation* (June 2015)



June 15, 2015

<landholder name
and address>

RE: Alterations to the Simonette 733S substation

Dear Landholder,

This letter provides you with information about the proposed upgrades to transmission facilities in your area and outlines our public consultation process.

Upgrades to the existing Simonette substation are needed to meet an increasing demand for electricity. The substation is located approximately 60 kilometres northwest of the Town of Fox Creek.

We are advising neighbouring landowners, occupants, agencies and other interested parties about plans to upgrade and alter existing equipment at the Simonette substation.

Project Details

The existing Simonette substation requires upgrades to meet the increasing demand for electricity in the area. If approved, this work will include:

- Replacement of an existing transformer and voltage regulator with a new 30/40/50 Mega Volt Ampere (MVA), 144/25 kilovolt (kV) load tap changing (LTC) transformer;
- Installation of one 144-kV breaker with associated disconnect switch;
- Removal of the existing 10/13 MVA, 144/25-kV transformer and 10/13, 25-kV voltage regulator;
- Removal of the existing 144-kV circuit switch; and
- Upgrades to the existing access road.

The equipment described above will be installed within the existing boundaries of the Simonette substation site located on the northeast quarter of Section 6-63-25 W5M (see enclosed substation layout). The equipment to be removed will be disposed of according to government regulations and guidelines.

During construction, a portion of the substation fence will be removed to allow for the installation of a mobile substation. This will require a temporary fence to be installed expanding the existing Simonette substation fence to the west. Once construction activities are complete, the temporary fence will be removed and the existing fence boundary restored.

The Process

ATCO Electric is seeking your input on how this project may affect you. If you have an interest in lands adjacent to the Simonette substation, ATCO Electric will contact you in the weeks ahead to conduct a consultation. Once feedback has been received and the project details have been finalized, ATCO Electric will file an application for the project with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) seeking approval for the substation upgrades.

For more information about how you can participate in the AUC process, please refer to the enclosed brochure entitled *Public involvement in a proposed utility development*.



Proposed Timeline

May 2015 - Notification and consultation with landowners, occupants, agencies and other interested parties

September 2015 - Submission of the facilities application to the AUC

January 2016 - If approval is granted by the AUC, construction will commence

December 2016 - Alterations completed and substation operating

Timing may be adjusted to reflect final plans.

Why is this project needed?

When upgrades to Alberta's electrical system are needed, they are identified by the Alberta Electric System Operator (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 letter, or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project you may contact the AESO directly or you can make your concerns known to an ATCO Electric representative who will communicate them to the AESO on your behalf.

Regulating the Decision – AUC

Alberta's electrical system is regulated by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC is an independent agency of the province that ensures the fair and responsible delivery of utility services. Before ATCO Electric can begin construction on a project, the AUC must approve the facilities application, which includes details such as location of transmission facilities and routes.

Shape the Conversation

Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this project. You can provide feedback and share other information using the enclosed reply form and postage paid envelope or by contacting us at the toll free line and email address listed below. For more information about how you can participate in the approval process required by the AUC, please refer to the enclosed brochure entitled *Public involvement in needs a proposed utility development*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. Little".

Kathleen Little, Project Planner

ATCO Electric Ltd.

Toll Free: 1-855-420-5775

Direct: 1-780-508-4893

E-mail: consultation@atcoelectric.com

Enclosed:

- Simonette substation layout (Drawing RS-733S-N-01)
- Brochure entitled *Public involvement in a proposed utility development*
- *AESO Need Overview*

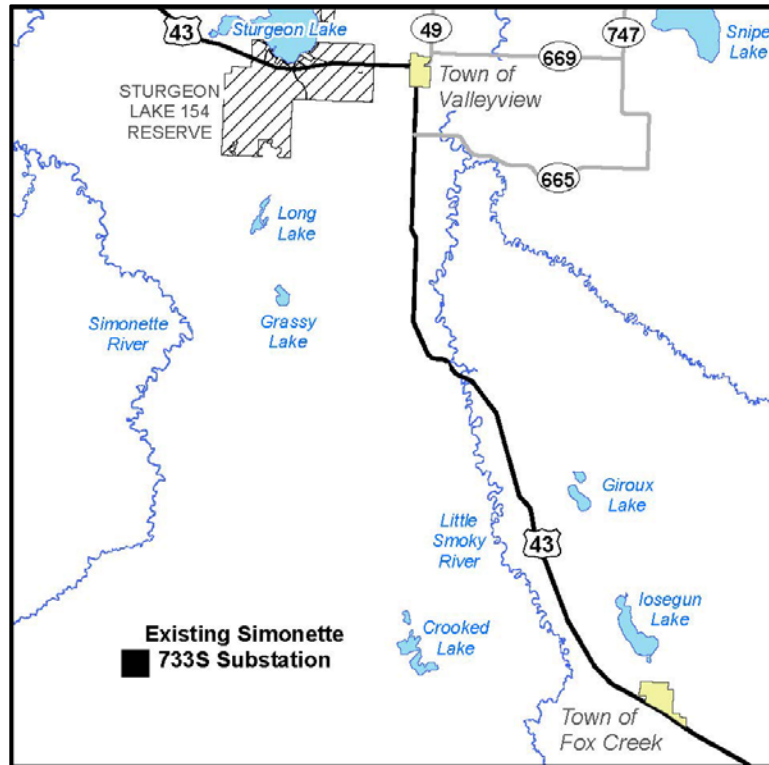
Attachment 4 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing (AESO Website Posting)

AESO Public Notification of NID Filing

Addressing the Need for the Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade in the Fox Creek Area

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) advises you that it intends to file a Needs Identification Document (NID) for the Simonette 733S substation upgrade with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after December 2, 2015.

ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to supply new and growing industrial demand for electricity in the Fox Creek area. ATCO's request can be met by upgrading the existing Simonette 733S substation, including replacing the existing 144/25 kV transformer with one of higher capacity, and adding a 144 kV breaker and associated equipment.



The black square on the map indicates the approximate location of the Simonette 733S substation, which is at NE 6-63-25-W5 or about 60 kilometres northwest of the Town of Fox Creek. In a separate application called a Facility Application, ATCO the transmission facility owner (TFO) in the Fox Creek area, will describe the specific upgrades to be performed and request AUC approval to construct and operate the specific transmission facility.

The AESO and ATCO presented this need to stakeholders, including residents, occupants and landowners, from June 2015 to November 2015. The AESO has considered feedback gathered from stakeholders, and technical and cost considerations, and will apply to the AUC for approval of the need for this transmission development. Once it is filed, the NID will be posted on the AESO website at <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/32180.html>

Please visit our website, www.aeso.ca for more information, or contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice

Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade – Notice of NID Filing

ATCO Electric Ltd. has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to supply new and growing industrial demand for electricity in the Fox Creek area. ATCO's request can be met by upgrading the existing Simonette 733S substation, including replacing the existing 144/25 kV transformer with one of higher capacity, and adding a 144 kV breaker and associated equipment.

The AESO will be filing the Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission on or after December 2, 2015, requesting that the Commission approve this NID.

The AESO has posted the public notification for its NID filing on its website for the Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade. Please [click here](#) to view the document or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Transmission > Needs Identification Documents > Simonette 733S Substation Upgrade to see all the relevant documents, including the NID application once it is filed with the Commission.