

Need for the Thornton 2091S Substation in the Grande Prairie area

Transmission Development Information for Stakeholders



ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to supply new demand for electricity in the Grande Prairie area. ATCO's request can be met by adding a new substation, to be called Thornton 2091S, which includes a 144 kV transformer, two 144 kV breakers, and associated equipment, and by adding two new 144 kV transmission lines, each approximately 2 km, to connect the new substation to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L20.

The AESO is processing ATCO's request, including providing information to landowners, occupants, residents and agencies that may be near the proposed transmission development. Later this year, the AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of this need. 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.

How is ATCO involved?

ATCO is the transmission facilities owner (TFO) in the Grande Prairie 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 Grande Prairie area or the AESO's application regarding this need, please contact:

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