

AESO PIP SUMMARY

1. Introduction

From May 2020 to July 2023, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection*. The AESO required the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case AltaLink Management Ltd., in its capacity as general partner of AltaLink, L.P., to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP.

The AESO's PIP is designed to notify Stakeholders and Indigenous groups in the area where the AESO has reasonably determined that facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the request for system access service.

The AESO's PIP has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of Section 7.1.2, NID12 and Appendix A2 of the current Alberta Utilities Commission (Commission) Rule 007 (AUC Rule 007), effective April 25, 2022.

2. Stakeholder Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Need Overview document with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders of the following items:

- a description of the need for development;
- a description of the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- identification of the general area where facilities could be installed to implement the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request;
- the AESO's contact information, including telephone, email and website, for further information; and
- the AESO's next steps.

A copy of the Need Overview was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-solar-farm-connection/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on May 7, 2020. Copies of the Need Overview posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. The Need Overview was also included with the TFO's project-specific information package that was distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

After the May 2020 Need Overview was distributed, the AESO developed an updated one-page AESO Need Overview Update document that notified Stakeholders of a change in the AESO's proposed transmission development and a revision to the schedule. The AESO's Need Overview Update was posted on the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-solar-farm-connection/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on June 21, 2022. Copies of the Need Overview Update posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 3 and 4, respectively. The Need Overview Update was also included with the TFO's updated project-specific information package that was distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1.

2.1 Stakeholders Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP included two rounds of notification, one in 2020 (2020 Notification) and one in 2022 (2022 Notification), as described further below.

2.1.1 2020 Notification

The TFO has advised the AESO that in their 2020 Notification, its PIP included notification within 800 meters of the proposed substation fence expansion and transmission line, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.¹

The TFO notified a total of approximately 36 Stakeholders, of which 15 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 21 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- Alberta Environment and Parks
- Board of Directors of the Bow River Irrigation District
- Bonnefield GP III Inc.
- Bonnefield GP V Inc.
- Bow River Gas Co-op Ltd.
- Campus Energy
- Canadian Natural Resources Limited
- Cona Resources
- Equis
- Fortis Alberta Inc.
- Harvest Operations Corp.
- Inter Pipeline Ltd.
- Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- Municipal District of Taber
- NAV Canada
- Rogers Communications Inc.
- Shaw
- Solar Krafte Utilities Inc.
- Taber Solar 2 Inc. A wholly-owned subsidiary of Innogy Renewables Canada
- Telus Communications Inc.
- Transport Canada

Attachment 5 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between May 1, 2020 and September 28, 2020. The TFO's project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at <http://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/343/solar-krafte-vauxhall-connection> on May 1, 2020. The TFO's project newsletter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

¹ AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting* as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

2.1.2 2022 Notification

The TFO has advised the AESO that in their 2022 Notification, its PIP included notification within 800 meters of the proposed transmission line, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.²

The TFO notified a total of approximately 40 Stakeholders, of which 16 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 24 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- Alberta Arts, Culture and Status of Women
- Alberta Environment and Parks
- Barrel Oil Corp.
- Board of Directors of the Bow River Irrigation District
- Bonnefield GP III Inc.
- Bonnefield GP V Inc.
- Bow River Gas Co-op
- Campus Energy
- Canadian Natural Resources Limited
- Cona Resources
- Equis
- Fortis Alberta Inc.
- Gear Energy Ltd.
- Harvest Operations Corp.
- Inter Pipeline Ltd.
- Lantic Inc.
- Municipal District of Taber
- NAV Canada
- Rogers Communications Inc.
- Shaw
- Solar Krafte Utilities Inc.
- Taber Solar 1 Inc.
- Telus Communications
- Transport Canada

Attachment 6 includes the TFO's project update letter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview Update in the TFO project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between October 20, 2022 and December 1, 2022. The TFO's project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview Update were also posted on the TFO's project-specific webpage at <http://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/343/solar-krafte-vauxhall-connection> on October 20, 2022. The TFO's project update letter included the AESO's contact information, a description of the AESO's role, a reference to the AESO Need Overview Update, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

² AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting* as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

3. Stakeholders Notified by the AESO

The AESO also notified ten market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, the market participant may be affected following the connection of the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the Need Overview Update, was sent to the notified market participants on June 16, 2022.

The ten notified market participants are as follows:

- BER Wheatcrest Solar LP
- BHE Canada Rattlesnake LP
- Capital Power Corp.
- Conrad Solar Inc.
- Enbridge
- ENMAX Energy Corporation
- SignAlta Resources Limited
- Solar Krafte Utilities Inc.
- Taber Solar 1 and 2
- Yellow Lake & Burdett Solar LP

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on June 16, 2022 at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-solar-farm-connection/>. A copy has been included as Attachment 7.

4. Notification of ANAP Consideration

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to consider the need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection to be approved under the AESO's Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP) by posting a Notification of ANAP Consideration to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/vauxhall-solar-farm-connection/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on July 26, 2023. Copies of the Notification of ANAP Consideration posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 8 and 9, respectively.

5. Responding to Questions and Concerns

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

As directed by the AESO, the TFO was prepared to direct any Stakeholder questions addressed to the AESO, or questions regarding the AESO Need Overview, to the AESO.

6. Questions and Concerns Raised

The TFO has advised the AESO that none of the Stakeholders notified by the TFO identified any concerns or objections regarding the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

The AESO has not received any indication of concerns or objections about the AESO's preferred option to respond to the system access service request or the need for development.

7. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (May 2020)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (May 7, 2020)
- Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection* (May 2020)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Need Overview Update (June 2022)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Update Notice (June 21, 2022)
- Attachment 6 – TFO Project Update Letter – *Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection* (October 17, 2022)
- Attachment 7 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (June 16, 2022)
- Attachment 8 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (July, 2023)
- Attachment 9 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (July 26, 2023)

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (May 2020)

Need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection in the Vauxhall Area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area. Solar Krafte's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Vauxhall 158S substation.
- Modify the Vauxhall 158S substation, including adding one 138 kV circuit breaker.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in late 2020.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/stakeholder-engagement/transmission-projects at the time of its application to the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Vauxhall Area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)

Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (May 7, 2020)

May 7, 2020

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Vauxhall area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area. Solar Krafte's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing Vauxhall 158S substation.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

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 Stakeholder Engagement > Transmission Projects > Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection.

Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection* (May 2020)

Electric system improvements near you

Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection



You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection project and we want your input.

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has requested a connection to the transmission system for their proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm. To facilitate this connection AltaLink is proposing to construct a **transmission** line, operated and maintained by AltaLink, to connect Solar Krafte's proposed substation and solar farm to the electric system.

Although AltaLink's project is separate from Solar Krafte's project, it is required to facilitate the connection of their project. Solar Krafte will consult separately on their proposed project. For more information about Solar Krafte's project, please see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- a map of the proposed project site
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule

AltaLink's transmission system efficiently delivers electricity to 85 per cent of Albertans. Dedicated to meeting the growing need for electricity, AltaLink connects Albertans to renewable, reliable and low-cost power. With a commitment to community and environment, AltaLink is ensuring the transmission system will support Albertans' quality of life for years to come. Learn more at www.altalink.ca.

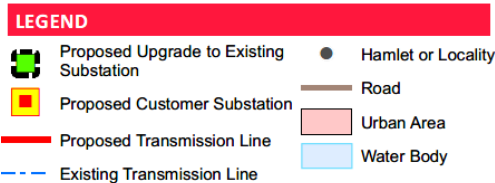
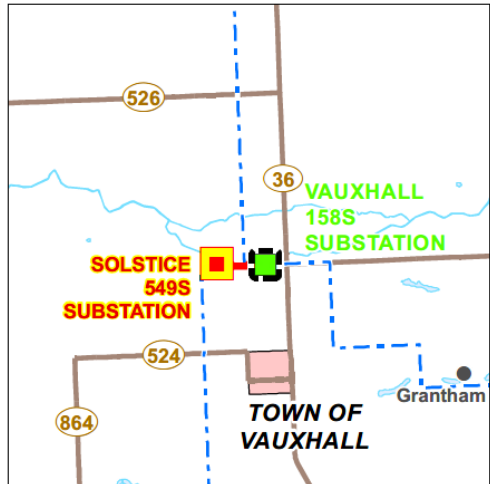
DEFINITION:

Transmission

Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to your community where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power from power plants across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, high-efficiency coal, natural gas and more.

CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453
stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca
www.altalink.ca/projects



Above: The existing Vauxhall Substation



Above: Deadend and tangent structures will look similar to the structures shown above, and may be wood or steel.

Project details

The proposed project is located in the Municipal District of Taber, approximately three kilometres north of the Town of Vauxhall.

It includes constructing approximately 1.5 kilometres of new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect Solar Krafte's proposed Solstice Substation to AltaLink's existing Vauxhall Substation.

For a detailed overview of the project, please refer to the detailed photo map (DP1) included in this package.

Route selection

We have identified two potential routes to connect Solar Krafte's Solstice Substation to AltaLink's Vauxhall Substation. AltaLink's potential routes and Solar Krafte's substation are shown on the map included in this package. If the project is approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), only one route will be selected for construction. AltaLink takes several factors into consideration in an effort to find a route with low overall environmental, social and economic effects. In addition to stakeholder input we also consider other effects, such as agricultural, residential, environmental and visual impacts, as well as cost.

Proposed structures

The proposed single circuit transmission line structures will:

- be wood or steel
- be approximately 15 to 30 metres tall
- require guy wires at deadend structure locations
- have a right-of-way approximately 20 metres wide when located on private property, and approximately 10 metres when located in road allowance.

Easements, off right-of-way access and construction workspace

Additional temporary workspace outside of the right-of-way in certain areas may be required in order to access and construct the transmission line. The construction workspace is intended to be primarily used for equipment access during construction, including the potential stringing areas located behind some corner structures.

Final construction workspace and off right-of-way access will be determined following further detailed engineering and construction planning. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding the potential requirement for construction workspace and off right-of-way access prior to, and during construction of the line. Additional right-of-way for the purposes of guy wires for corner structures will also be required.

Construction workspaces and guy anchor easements are shown on the attached Detail Photo (DP1) map.

Substation upgrades

AltaLink is proposing to add one new 138 kV **circuit breaker** and associated equipment to the Vauxhall Substation to accommodate the new connection. A fence expansion of approximately 35 by 10 metres is required on the southwest side of the substation. This expansion will be located on land owned by AltaLink.

Communications equipment upgrades are required as part of this project to ensure the safe and reliable operation of Solar Krafte's Solstice Substation. AltaLink is proposing to install optical ground wire (OPGW) on the proposed transmission line between Solar Krafte's Solstice Substation and the existing Vauxhall Substation for protection and telecommunications purposes.

DEFINITION:

Circuit breakers are electrical switches inside a substation that protect substation equipment. Circuit breakers help ensure the safety and reliability of the electric equipment.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)

AltaLink recognizes that people may have concerns about exposure to EMF and we take those concerns seriously.

Everyone in our society is exposed to power frequency EMF from many sources, including:

- power lines and other electrical facilities
- electrical appliances in your home
- building wiring

National and international organizations such as Health Canada and the World Health Organization (WHO) have been conducting and reviewing research on exposure to EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these agencies have not recommended that the general public needs to take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines, including individuals that are located on the edge of a power line right-of-way.

If you have any questions about EMF please contact us.

Website: www.altalink.ca/emf

Email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

Toll-free phone number: 1-866-451-7817

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	May 2020 to July 2020
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	December 2020
Start construction if project is approved	September 2021
Construction completed	December 2021

Although we attempt to follow the anticipated project schedule it is subject to change. We will continue to provide you with updated schedule information if required as the project progresses.

Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be conducting meetings via telephone or electronic methods. After the consultation process is complete we will file an application with the AUC. The AUC will review the application through a process in which stakeholders can participate. We will notify stakeholders when we file the application and again once the AUC has reached a decision about the project. To learn more about the AUC process and how you can become involved, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled *Public involvement in a proposed utility development*.

Contact us

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about the Solar Krafte Substation:

SOLAR KRAFTE UTILITIES INC.

403-879-9768

Email: engineering@solarkrafte.com

Website: <https://www.prairiesunlight.com>

To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

1-888-866-2959

E-mail: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

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 package, or visit www.aeso.ca. If you have any questions or concerns about the need for this project or the proposed transmission development to meet the need you may contact the AESO directly. You can make your questions or concerns known to an AltaLink representative who will collect your personal information for the purpose of addressing your questions and/or concerns to the AESO. This process may include disclosure of your personal information to the AESO.

To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

780-427-4903 (toll-free by dialing 310-0000 before the number)

E-mail: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. AltaLink will collect, use, and disclose personal information in accordance with AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the *Personal Information Protection Act* (Alberta). As part of the regulatory process for new transmission projects, AltaLink may provide your personal information to Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information, visit our website at www.altalink.ca/privacy or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

- 1) Visit: altalink.ca/projects
- 2) Search for the project title
- 3) Click **Subscribe to Updates**

LET'S TALK TRANSMISSION



www.twitter.com/altalink



www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission

Attachment 4 – AESO Need Overview Update (June 2022)

Need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection in the Vauxhall area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in May 2020. As a result of a change in the solution and schedule, the AESO determined that a Need Overview Update is required.

Solar Krafte's request can now be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 763L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule) in late-2022.
- A minimum of 14 days prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule, the AESO will notify stakeholders and post supporting documents on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects.
- If the AESO does not approve the need for this project under the ANAP Rule, the AESO may submit a needs identification document (NID) application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need for this project.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve certain requests for system access service through the ANAP. If this project no longer qualifies for approval under the ANAP, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Vauxhall area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)

Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Update Notice (June 21, 2022)

June 21, 2022

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Information Update for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Vauxhall area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in May 2020. As a result of a change in the solution and schedule, the AESO determined that a Need Overview Update is required.

Solar Krafte's request can now be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 763L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

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 Grid > Projects > Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection (1926).

Attachment 6 – TFO Project Update Letter – *Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection* (October 17, 2022)

October 17, 2022

Solar Kraft Vauxhall Connection – Project update

Thank you for your ongoing participation in the proposed Solar Krafte Vauxhall Power Connection. We began consulting with stakeholders on this proposed project in May 2020 and want to provide you with an update. As a potentially impacted stakeholder, we would like to get your feedback.

Due to the changes made to the project, AltaLink has updated the proposed structure types, removed and updated transmission line routes, and will no longer require upgrades at an existing substation.

Project background

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) is proposing to construct a new substation as part of their proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm in the Municipal District of Taber, approximately three kilometres north of the Town of Vauxhall.

To connect the Vauxhall Solar Farm to the grid, AltaLink is proposing to:

- construct approximately 100 metres of new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line between an existing transmission line (called 763L) and Solar Krafte's proposed Solstice Substation, located in SE-20-13-16 W4
- install approximately three kilometres of fibre optic cable in the road allowance between AltaLink's existing Vauxhall Substation and Solar Krafte's Solstice Substation

Proposed transmission structures

The proposed single circuit transmission line structures (pictured to the right) will:

- be wood or steel monopoles
- be approximately 15 to 25 metres tall
- have a right-of-way approximately 20 metres wide
- require guy wires where the new transmission line connects to the existing 763L transmission line
- A right-of-way of 30 metres by five metres will be required for the guy anchors



Where structures are proposed to be located on privately owned land, we will contact landowners directly to discuss right-of-way requirements. AltaLink offers fair market value for any land that it acquires for its rights-of-way, and this will be discussed on an individual basis with the landowner.

Two existing structures on the 763L transmission line adjacent to the connection point may need to be modified or replaced in order to accommodate the connection. This will be determined after a detailed engineering analysis.

Route selection

As the location of Solar Krafte's proposed Solstice Substation has changed, there is now only one proposed route, and it connects to an existing transmission line rather than AltaLink's Vauxhall Substation. The previously proposed routes are no longer being considered. The proposed route is shown on the map included in this package.

Update: Proposed substation upgrades

AltaLink was proposing to add one new 138 kV circuit breaker and associated equipment to the Vauxhall Substation to accommodate the new connection. Because Solar Krafte is now connecting their project to the 763L transmission line rather than Vauxhall substation, no new equipment or fence expansion is required at Vauxhall Substation.

Next steps

We will contact landowners, residents, and occupants affected by the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns.

After the consultation process is complete, we will file our application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in October. We will notify you of the AUC's decision regarding the project.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	October to November 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	February 2023
Start construction if project is approved	Spring 2024
Construction completed	Summer 2024

Although we attempt to follow the anticipated project schedule it is subject to change. We will continue to provide you with updated schedule information if required as the project progresses.

Contact us

We are available to address any questions or concerns you may have. Please contact us at stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca or 1-877-267-1453. You can find more information about the project on our website at www.altalink.ca/projects.

To learn more about the Solar Krafte project, please contact them at engineering@solarkrafte.com or 403-879-9768.

For more information about Alberta's electric system and why this project is needed, please refer to the Alberta Electric System Operator's (AESO) Need Overview included with this package, or contact them at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca or 1-888-866-2959.

Sincerely,

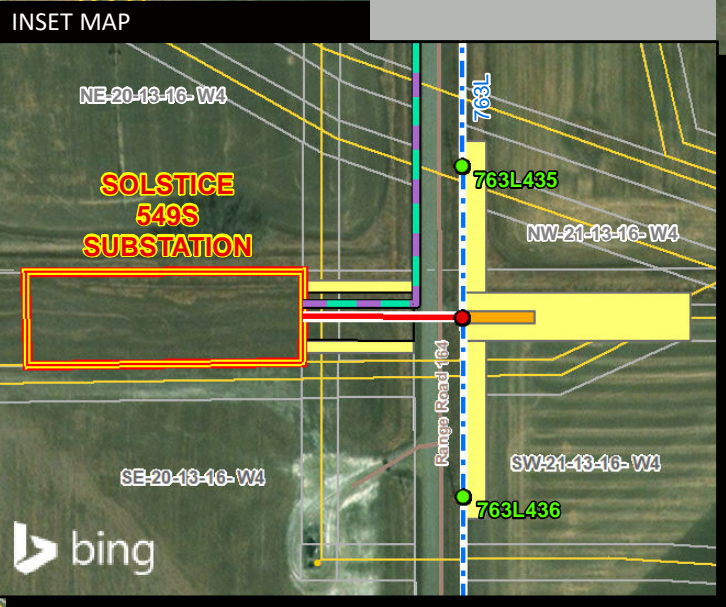
Kris Gladue
Manager, Indigenous Relations and Consultation

NOTES

Approximately 10 x 160 m of construction workspace may be required adjacent to Range Road 164 for construction of the project. A 95 m x 20 m area of construction workspace may be required east of the proposed new structure.

Approximately 5 m of construction workspace may be required on either side of the proposed 20 m wide right-of-way.

A 5 x 30 m guy anchor box will be required east of the proposed new structure.

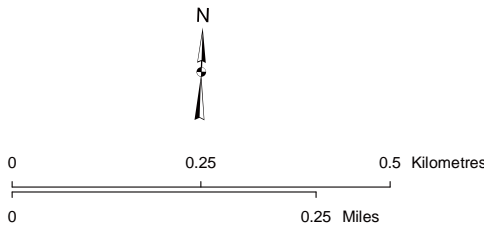


LEGEND

- Proposed New Structure
- Proposed Modification of Existing Structure
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Proposed Underground Fibre Optic Cable
- Existing Transmission Line
- 20m Right of Way Boundary
- Proposed Customer Substation
- Existing Substation Fenceline
- Proposed Guy Anchor
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road
- Water Body

NO: 35024064 - 6201
DRAWN: SG - AL
FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
REVISION: 1.00.02
AL FOLDER: Solar Krafte
Vauxhall Connection
DATE: 2022-09-28

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DETAIL PHOTO DP1



PROPOSED
Solar Krafte Vauxhall Connection

Need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection in the Vauxhall area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in May 2020. As a result of a change in the solution and schedule, the AESO determined that a Need Overview Update is required.

Solar Krafte's request can now be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 763L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule) in late-2022.
- A minimum of 14 days prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule, the AESO will notify stakeholders and post supporting documents on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects.
- If the AESO does not approve the need for this project under the ANAP Rule, the AESO may submit a needs identification document (NID) application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need for this project.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve certain requests for system access service through the ANAP. If this project no longer qualifies for approval under the ANAP, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Vauxhall area.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

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We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

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2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)*

The Commission supports ongoing efforts to reach an agreeable outcome for the applicant and all affected parties. The Commission encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement to continue to attempt to resolve any outstanding issues. If all concerns can be satisfactorily resolved this may eliminate the need for a formal hearing. However, if there continues to be unresolved issues, those matters will typically be addressed at an AUC hearing.

Step 6: The public hearing process*

The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if there continues to be legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location in addition to a process schedule. The AUC conducts public hearings in its Edmonton and Calgary hearing rooms and, where suitable venues exist, in communities closer to the proposed project area.

The public hearing process allows persons with standing that have unresolved concerns about the application, to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members.

An AUC hearing is a formal, evidence-based, court-like proceeding. The public can attend the hearing in person or listen to hearings online through the AUC’s website.

Participants in a hearing can either represent themselves or be represented by a lawyer. In addition, participants may hire experts to assist in preparing and presenting evidence to support their position.

Cost assistance

A person determined by the Commission to be a local intervener can apply for reimbursement of reasonable costs. Those who hire a lawyer or technical experts must be aware that while reimbursement for the costs of legal and technical assistance is available under AUC Rule 009: *Local Intervener Funding*, recovery of costs is subject to the Commission assessing the value of the

contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts. People with similar interests and positions are expected to work together to ensure that expenditures for legal or technical assistance are minimized and costs are not duplicated.

Step 7: The decision

The AUC’s goal is to issue its written application decision no more than 90 days after the hearing is complete. The Commission can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. All AUC decision reports are available to any member of the public on the AUC’s website or by obtaining a printed copy from the AUC.

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

An applicant or dissatisfied participant may formally ask the Court of Appeal of Alberta for permission to appeal a Commission decision. An application for permission to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date the decision is issued.

An applicant or dissatisfied participant can also ask the Commission to review its decision. An application to review a Commission decision must be filed within 60 days from the date the decision is issued and satisfy the limited grounds described in AUC Rule 016: *Review and Variance of Commission Decisions*.

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the Commission must adhere to any conditions that were set out in that approval. If concerns about compliance with approval conditions and post-construction operations cannot be resolved with the applicant, they can be brought to the AUC’s attention for consideration. The AUC has significant compliance and enforcement powers for all approved applications. Additional information is available on the AUC website under “Compliance and enforcement.”

***Opportunity for public involvement**

The Alberta Utilities Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the Government of Alberta that ensures the delivery of Alberta’s utility services take place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

Contact us

Phone: 310-4AUC (310-4282 in Alberta)
1-833-511-4AUC (1-833-511-4282 outside Alberta)
Email: info@auc.ab.ca

Eau Claire Tower	106 Street Building
1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W.	10th Floor, 10055 106 Street
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5	Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2Y2

The Alberta Utilities Commission is committed to ensuring that Albertans whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by a utility development project are informed of the application and have the opportunity to have their concerns heard, understood and considered.



**Participating
in the AUC’s
independent
review process**

Application review process

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application by proponent

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

Step 3: Public notice issued by the AUC

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation

Step 6: The public hearing process

Step 7: The decision

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance

The AUC’s regulatory role in needs and facility applications and its independent review and hearing process:

The AUC uses an established process, outlined in this brochure, to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval is in the public interest. Approvals from the AUC are required for the construction, operation, alteration and decommissioning of transmission lines and electric substations.

- Approvals are required for:
- The need for transmission upgrades.
 - The route and location of transmission facilities.
 - The siting of power plants, including renewables such as wind and solar more than five megawatts.

Sometimes a needs application is considered together with a facility application in a single hearing; sometimes separate hearings may be held to consider each application.

Step 1: Public consultation prior to application*

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development, the applicant must engage in a public consultation program in the area of the proposed project, so that concerns may be raised, addressed and, if possible, resolved.

The application guidelines and requirements for facility applications can be found in AUC Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations and Hydro Developments*, and AUC Rule 020: *Rules Respecting Gas Utility Pipelines*.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the initial public consultation, as early involvement in discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

The Alberta Electric System Operator, as the system planner, will notify potentially affected stakeholders of applications on the need for transmission development.

Step 2: Application filed with the AUC

When the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application with the AUC through a public filing system, called the eFiling System, on the AUC website.

The application is then reviewed to ensure the information required by the Commission is included. If the required information is not provided, the AUC may close the application or request more

information from the applicant. In the application, any issues that were raised during the public consultation and any related amendments to the proposal should be identified. All unresolved objections or concerns identified during the public consultation must be described in the application.

Step 3: Public notice

The AUC generally issues a notice by mail directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be affected by the Commission's decision on the proposed project. The notice for larger facility projects with potentially greater impacts may also be published in local newspapers.

The notice will specify a submission deadline. The information required by this deadline is general in nature as outlined in Step 4. Additional opportunities to provide evidence and additional information will arise after this deadline.

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC*

The AUC review process is referred to as a proceeding. Anyone with unresolved objections or concerns about the application can file a brief written statement with the AUC on the proceeding. The easiest way to file a statement is to fill out the form through the eFiling System found on the AUC website. The statement must include your contact information, where you reside or own property in relation to the proposed facility, your concern or interest in the application, an explanation of your position and what you feel the AUC should decide.

The AUC uses the information it gathers through the forms to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The Commission must hold a hearing if a person can demonstrate that he or she has rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the Commission's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the Commission. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to understand the application and present their position on the application either in writing or in person.

Subject to some limited exceptions, all information and materials provided as part of an AUC proceeding will become part of the public record and will be available through the eFiling System. The AUC's treatment of some types of information as confidential is rare and only available under limited circumstances to ensure that the AUC's process is open and transparent.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the tool that the AUC uses to manage applications and submissions in its proceeding-based review. The eFiling System gives access to all public documents associated with an application and is how to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the related proceeding filings. Those who do not have access to the internet can send submissions, evidence and other material by mail and the AUC will upload the submission on their behalf.

***Opportunity for public involvement**

Attachment 7 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (June 16, 2022)

SENT VIA EMAIL

June 16, 2022

Notified Market Participant Corporate Legal Name

Address Line 1.

Address Line 2.

City, Province, Postal Code.

Dear **Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:**

Re: **Planned Generating Facility Connections in the AESO's South Planning Region**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that the proponents of two planned generating facilities (Facilities) have each applied for transmission system access to connect their respective Facilities to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO's South Planning Region.

Planning for the connection of these Facilities is undertaken by the AESO as part of the *AESO Connection Process*. The Facilities are as follows:

- the Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection; and
- the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection.

The AESO has produced Need Overview documents that describe the AESO's proposed transmission development to connect each of the Facilities to the AIES and the AESO's next steps, which include consideration of the Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection and the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process. Copies of the applicable AESO Need Overview documents are attached for your information.

You may have been notified by the AESO in January 2022 about the potential for congestion in the AESO planning areas of Vauxhall and Medicine Hat following the addition of new generation. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has now identified that, under credible worse case forecast conditions, the operation of the **[Effective Generation Facility Name]** (**[Effective Generation Facility Asset ID]**) may be affected following the connection of one or more of the above-noted Facilities.¹

Engineering connection assessments were carried out to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the Wheatcrest Solar Project (Wheatcrest Facility) alone, the Vauxhall Solar Farm (Vauxhall Facility) alone, and both the Wheatcrest Facility and the Vauxhall Facility together.

Connection Assessment Findings – Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection

The connection assessment for the Wheatcrest Facility alone identified the potential for thermal criteria violations on the 138 kV transmission lines 610L and 879L following the connection of the Wheatcrest Facility, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category

¹ The studies were performed assuming the following Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacities: Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection, Rate STS of 60 MW; and Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection, Rate STS of 60 MW.

A). In addition, thermal criteria violations were also identified when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the Wheatcrest Facility.

The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Project² will alleviate the thermal criteria violations under Category A conditions. In addition, to mitigate the potential Category B system performance issues, a new remedial action scheme (RAS) for 138 kV transmission line 763L will be required, which curtails the Wheatcrest Facility upon activation.

Connection Assessment Findings – Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection

The connection assessment for the Vauxhall Facility alone identified the potential thermal criteria violations, under credible worse case forecast conditions, when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the Vauxhall Facility. To mitigate the potential Category B system performance issues, planned RAS 180 will be modified by adding the Vauxhall Facility to the RAS logic. In addition, a new RAS for 138 kV transmission line 763L will be required, which curtails the Vauxhall Facility upon activation.

Sensitivity Assessment Findings – Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection & Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection

The sensitivity assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations on the 138 kV transmission lines 610L, 879L and 763L following the connection of both the Wheatcrest Facility and the Vauxhall Facility, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A).

The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development project will alleviate the thermal criteria violations on 610L and 879L under Category A conditions. Should the AESO determine that mitigation is required to address potential thermal criteria violations on 763L under Category A conditions, the AESO may develop operational procedures or other mitigation measures.

Real Time Transmission Constraint Management

The AESO will make use of real-time operational measures to mitigate these potential system performance issues in accordance with [Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, Real Time Transmission Constraint Management](#) (TCM Rule), which is in effect today. When applied, the TCM Rule could result in the AESO issuing directives for curtailment to source assets that are effective in managing a constraint.

The connection assessments have identified source assets, including the **[Effective Generation Facility Asset ID]**, which are effective in mitigating the potential transmission constraints.

To address congestion under Category A conditions, the AESO will make an application to the AUC to obtain approval for an “exception” under Section 15(2) of the *Transmission Regulation*. The AESO will notify market participants when the AESO determines it is necessary to apply to the AUC for approval of such an exception.

For Further Information

To support the AESO’s consideration of the Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection and Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, the engineering connection assessments will be posted on the AESO website at: <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/projects/>. Stakeholders will be notified when

² More information about the Vauxhall Area Transmission Development is available on the AESO website.

this occurs via an “Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration” post on the AESO website and in the AESO stakeholder newsletter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO at 1-888-866-2959 or stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Attachments:

AESO Need Overview: *Need for the Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection in the Enchant area*

AESO Need Overview: *Update - Need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection in the Vauxhall Area*

Need for the Wheatcrest Solar Project Connection in the Enchant area

BER Wheatcrest Solar LP, on behalf of BER Wheatcrest Solar GP Inc. (BER Wheatcrest Solar LP), has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Wheatcrest Solar Project (Facility) in the Enchant area. BER Wheatcrest Solar LP's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 763AL in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in early 2022.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects at the time of its application to the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

BER WHEATCREST SOLAR LP

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing, and constructing the new 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the transmission line 763AL.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Enchant area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 138 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the transmission line 763AL modification.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

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Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)

Need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection in the Vauxhall area

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect its proposed Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall Area.

Distribution of the original AESO Need Overview began in May 2020. As a result of a change in the solution and schedule, the AESO determined that a Need Overview Update is required.

Solar Krafte's request can now be met by the following solution:

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NEXT STEPS

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Attachment 8 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (July 2023)

Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection (1926)

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection (Project) for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after August 10, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

The AESO has determined that the Project is eligible for consideration under the ANAP Rule because the following eligibility criteria have been met:

- Project costs are estimated to be approximately \$4.7M of which \$4.3M is classified as participant-related and \$0.4M is classified as system-related, in accordance with the ISO tariff;
- the AESO has completed a participant involvement program (PIP) in accordance with the guidelines in Alberta Utilities Commission Rule 007;
- the Project is not anticipated to result in significant environmental effects; and
- no concerns or objections with the need for the Project have been raised. Prior to making its approval decision, the AESO will address additional stakeholder concerns that arise, if any.

Supporting information about this Project is available in the following documents:

- Engineering Connection Assessment
- Cost Estimate
- PIP Summary

Attachment 9 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (July 26, 2023)

July 26, 2023

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection - Abbreviated Needs Approval Process Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after August 10, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

Solar Krafte Utilities Inc. (Solar Krafte) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its approved Vauxhall Solar Farm (Facility) in the Vauxhall area. Solar Krafte's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 763L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

More information is available on the AESO website. Please [click here](#) to view the project page or visit the AESO website at www.aeso.ca and follow the path Grid > Projects > Vauxhall Solar Farm Connection (1926) to see relevant supporting documents.