

1. Introduction

From February 2023 to November 2023, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) for the *Alderson Solar Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document*. The AESO required the Market Participant, hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (Market Participant) to assist the AESO in providing notification as part of the AESO's PIP. The AESO also directed 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 and Indigenous Group Notification

The AESO developed a one-page AESO Need Overview document with the purpose of notifying Stakeholders and Indigenous groups 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, including the AESO's intention to consider the project for approval under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process.

A copy of the Need Overview was posted to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/alderson-solar-power-project-connection-1828/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on Feb 22, 2023. 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 Market Participant and the TFO project-specific information packages that were distributed to Stakeholders, as further described in Section 2.1 and 2.2.

2.1 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in the Market Participant's PIP

The Market Participant has advised the AESO that its PIP for the proposed Alderson Solar Power Project included notification within 800 meters of the proposed right-of-way for the transmission line as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.¹

¹ The Market Participant 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.

The Market Participant notified a total of approximately 25 Stakeholders, of which 3 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 19 notified Stakeholders and the 3 notified Indigenous groups are listed below:

- Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Farmers Advocate Office
- Alberta Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- Alberta Environment & Parks
- Alberta South West Regional Economic Development
- Alberta Transportation – Lethbridge
- AltaLink Management Ltd
- Canlin Energy Corp
- Crown Land
- Cypress County
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Eastern Irrigation District the Board of Trustees of the Eastern Irrigation District of Brooks
- Kainai Blood Tribe
- MLA of Cypress – Medicine Hat
- NAV Canada - AIS Data Collection
- Newell County
- Piikani Nation
- Siksika Nation
- TC Energy/Nova Gas Transmission Ltd
- TELUS Communications Inc.
- Torxen Energy Ltd
- TransCanada Energy Ltd
- Transport Canada

Attachment 3 includes the Market Participant's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the Market Participant's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders and Indigenous groups described above between February 2, 2022 and May 1, 2023. The Market Participant developed a project-specific webpage at <https://hep.global/solarparks/> on October 22, 2022.

The Market Participant'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 Market Participant, the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

2.2 Stakeholders and Indigenous Groups Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP for the Proposed AltaLink Development included notification within 200 meters of the existing transmission line right-of-way boundary and 100 m of the proposed fibre optic installation as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.²

The TFO notified a total of approximately 23 Stakeholders, of which 4 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 16 notified Stakeholders and 3 Indigenous groups are listed below:

- Advantage Energy Ltd.

² AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Minor transmission line replacements within the original right-of-way – rural or industrial*, as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

- Alberta Environment & Parks Public Lands – Prairie Parklands District
- Alberta Environment & Parks Fish and Wildlife – South Region
- Alberta Transportation
- Blood Tribe
- Canadian Natural Resources Limited
- Canlin Energy Corp
- Cardinal Energy Limited
- County of Newell
- Cypress County
- Eastern Irrigation District
- FortisAlberta Inc
- Imaginea Energy Corp.
- International Frontier Resources Corporation
- Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- Piikani Nation
- Siksika Nation
- Telus
- Torxen Energy Ltd

Attachment 4 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 March 6, 2023 and March 23, 2023. The TFO’s project newsletter and the AESO Need Overview were also posted on the TFO’s project-specific webpage at <https://www.altalink.ca/projects/view/410/hep-alderson-solar-power-connection-project> on March 6, 2023. 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, the Market Participant or the AESO for additional information.

3. Stakeholders Notified by the AESO

The AESO also notified 10 market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the Alderson Solar Project Connection. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, these market participants may be affected following the connection of the Alderson Solar Project Connection. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the Need Overview, was sent to the notified market participants on August 16, 2023.

The 10 notified market participants are:

- Alberta Solar One, Inc.
- BHE Canada Rattlesnake L.P.
- Buffalo Plains Wind Farm Inc.
- Conrad Solar Inc.
- Elemental Energy – Brooks Solar Corporation
- ENMAX Energy Corporation
- Signalta Resources Limited
- Solar Krafte Utilities Inc
- Taber Solar 2 Inc.

- Yellow Lake & Burdett Solar LP

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on August 17, 2023 at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/alderson-solar-power-project-connection-1828/> A copy has been included as Attachment 5.

4. Filing Notification

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to submit the NID to the Commission by way of a posting to the AESO website at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/alderson-solar-power-project-connection-1828/> and publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 1, 2023. Copies of the AESO website posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 6 and 7, respectively.

5. Responding to Questions and Concerns

To ensure that Stakeholders and Indigenous groups had the opportunity to provide feedback, the AESO provided Stakeholders and Indigenous groups 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 Market Participant and the TFO were 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

Two Stakeholders that received the AESO's Market Participant Notification Letter raised questions and concerns related to how their operations may be affected following the connection of the Alderson Solar Power Project. The AESO responded to the Stakeholders by providing information about the following:

- the application of remedial action schemes and Section 302.1 of the ISO rules, *Real Time Transmission Constraint Management*;
- the AESO's approach to planning the interconnected electric system and the provision of system access service;
- the AESO's near term plans for transmission development to mitigate constraints in the area; and
- the AESO's obligations and compliance under section 15(1) of the *Transmission Regulation*.

The Market Participant and the TFO have advised the AESO that none of the Stakeholders and Indigenous groups notified by the Market Participant and 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.

Apart from the inquiries above from the two Stakeholders, 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 (February 2023)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (February 22, 2023)
- Attachment 3 – The Market Participant's Project Newsletter (February 2023)
- Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project* (March 2023)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (August 16, 2023)
- Attachment 6 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (November, 2023)
- Attachment 7 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice (November 1, 2023)

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (February 2023)

Need for the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area

Hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (hep) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed hep Alderson Solar Power Project (Facility) in the Hamlet of Suffield area. hep'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 100L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process* (ANAP Rule), or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with 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.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

hep

- 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 100L.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Hamlet of Suffield 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 100L modification.
- 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 (February 22, 2023)



GRID

Alderson Solar Power Project Connection | Need for Transmission Development in the Hamlet of Suffield area

Hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (hep) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed hep Alderson Solar Power Project (Facility) in the Hamlet of Suffield area. hep's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 138 kV transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 100L 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 > Transmission Projects > Alderson Solar Power Project Connection (1828)

Attachment 3 – Market Participant’s Project Newsletter (February 2023)



hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

Project Information

hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd (hep) is applying for approval from the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to develop, build and operate the Alderson Solar Power Project (Alderson). Alderson is a 100 MWac solar energy generation power plant located in Cypress County, approximately 21 kilometers (km) Southeast of the hamlet of Tilley. As part of Alderson, hep will need to construct approximately 3 km of new 138 kV transmission line to connect to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), the provincial power grid.

hep applied to the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) for transmission system access to connect Alderson to the AIES. On January 5th, 2022, hep received a request from the AESO to assist the AESO in the Participant Involvement Program to satisfy the requirements of AUC Rule 007. To answer questions you may have regarding the need for the proposed connection project, please see the enclosed AESO Need Overview.

The proposed connection project involves constructing approximately 3 km of new overhead 138 kV transmission line located approximately 21 km Southeast of the hamlet of Tilley in Cypress County. The new overhead 138 kV transmission line to be designated as 100AL, will connect the hep Alderson Park 1061S Substation located on SE-19-16-10-W4 to the existing AltaLink Management Ltd (AltaLink) 100L 138 kV Transmission Line in a T-tap configuration.

AltaLink will be engaging stakeholders regarding their portion of the proposed project and will submit a separate facility application to the AUC.

Included In This Information Package:

- > Project Newsletter
- > AUC Brochure: Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development
- > AESO Need Overview
- > Project Map

Routing Selection and Details

Several factors are taken into account in an effort to site a transmission line route with the least overall impact. Factors considered include:

- > existing land use
- > environmental and agriculture impacts
- > existing and proposed infrastructure
- > proximity to residences
- > economic viability

One preliminary route has been identified for engagement through the initial siting process for this project, as shown on the enclosed map. The proposed transmission line routing alignment follows developed county road allowance.

The proposed transmission line will:

- > be single circuit
- > be 20 m to 30 m tall
- > consist mainly of wood or steel single pole structures
- > be within a right-of-way that measures approximately 16 to 25 m
- > potentially require guy anchors (within the right- of-way) on corner structures and deflections

Once the new transmission line is in-service, AltaLink will assume ownership, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line.

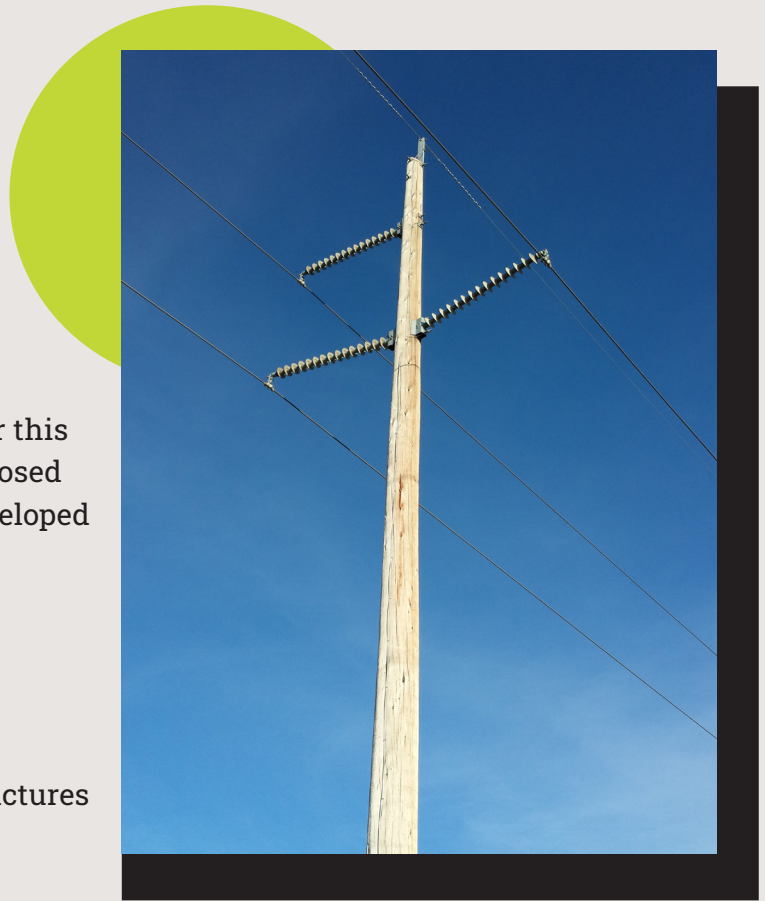
The Transmission Facility Owner, AltaLink, defines Transmission as follows:

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.

Public Consultation

As the proposed connection project advances through the development process, we are committed to working with all landowners and stakeholders to establish and maintain a strong relationship between hep and the community. We strive to exceed the minimum requirements on all our projects, and we commit to responding and acting on all comments and concerns in a timely manner.

We will advise stakeholders prior to submitting an application to the AUC for approval, which we anticipate could be as early as Q2 2023.



Proposed transmission line structures will look similar to above photograph.

Anticipated Project Timeline

February 2023	Public consultation initiated
February - March 2023	Personal one-on-one consultations
Q2 2023	AUC submission
Q3 2023	Anticipated AUC approval
Q1 2024	Start construction if project is approved
Q4 2024	Target in-service date

* Timeline is subject to change

**hep will continue to engage stakeholders until the in-service date.

hep: A Partner For Everything Solar Energy

Producing clean energy with solar projects worldwide. For the world of today and tomorrow. That's why we develop, build, operate and finance solar projects. hep has developed 50 + solar projects across Germany, Japan, USA and Canada.

Expanding in 2015, hep opened its Canadian branch in Calgary. Michele Morley, CPA, CA is President who is a born and raised Calgarian. hep currently has three Alberta projects, all with expected in-service dates of 2024. hep is a company with a strong awareness of responsibility. That's why we have a binding commitment to three fundamental values: sustainability, innovation, and community.



Contact Us:

hep Alderson Solar Power Project
Michele Morley, President
T 403 819 3391
E m.morley@hep.global

hep in your community

- > hep strives to be an active contributor in the communities it is involved with and looks forward to working within this community in the near future.
- > If you have any ideas on how we can take an active role in the community, please contact us.

Hardline Engineering
Stakeholder Relations Team
T 403 831 6513
E stakeholderrelations@hardlineeng.com



Have questions?
Email us: stakeholderrelations@hardlineeng.com



because: there
is no planet b.

About the 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 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 a hep 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.

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR (AESO)

Phone: 1-888-866-2959, Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca, Website: www.aeso.ca

About the AUC

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is a quasi-judicial independent agency established by the Government of Alberta, responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

They regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric and water utilities, and certain municipally owned electric utilities to protect social, economic and environmental interests of Alberta where competitive market forces do not.

For more information about the regulatory process, please contact:

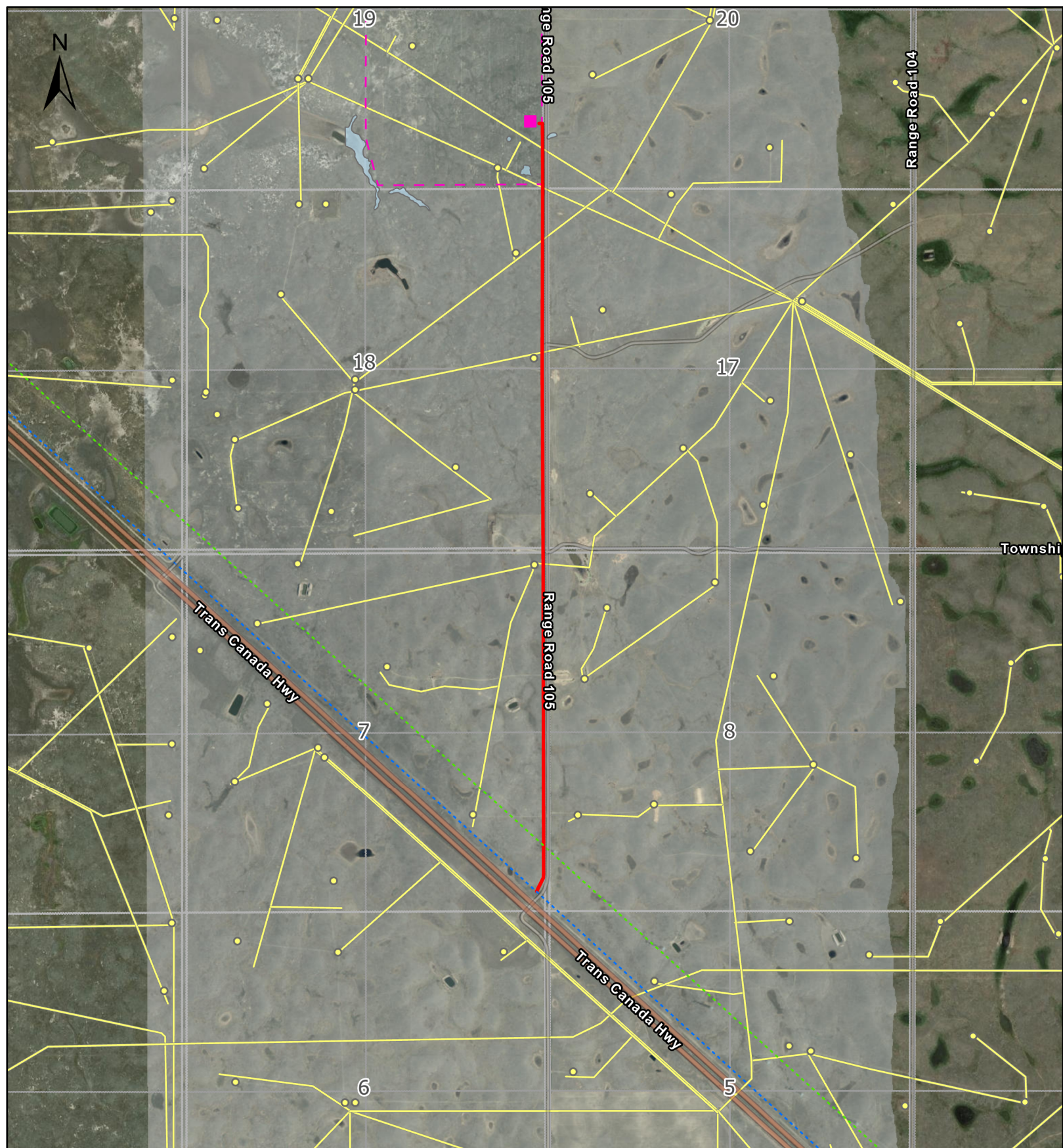
ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION

Phone: 780-427-4903, Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca, Website: auc.ab.ca

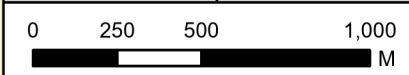
For more information about the proposed AltaLink portion of the project, please contact:

ALTALINK MANAGEMENT LTD

Phone: 1-877-267-1453, E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca, Website: altalink.ca/projects



Proposed Alderson
Solar Power Connection Project
Detail Photo Map - DP1



Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to generate this product or in the product itself, users of these data are advised that errors in the data may be present.



Revision: 00.00.0
Date: 01.16.2023

Legend

- Proposed Transmission Line
- - - Alderson Power Plant Project Boundary
- Proposed Substation
- Wells
- Pipelines
- Wetlands
- - - Existing 138kV Transmission Line
- - - Existing 240kV Transmission Lines

Need for the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area

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CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

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Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications

The AUC regulatory review process to consider facility applications for utility projects



The AUC uses an established process to review social, economic and environmental impacts of facility projects to decide if approval of a project is in the public interest.

The AUC considers applications requesting approval of the need for transmission development and facilities applications seeking approval to construct, operate, alter and decommission electric and natural gas facilities. Applications, as specified in AUC Rule 007, are required for:

- The need for transmission upgrades.
- The route and location of transmission facilities.
- The siting of power plants.
- The construction of a battery storage system.
- The designation of an industrial system.
- The need for and siting of natural gas utility pipelines.

Sometimes the Alberta Electric System Operator's needs identification document application is considered together with a facility application in a single proceeding; sometimes separate proceedings are held to consider each application.

Application review process



- Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC
- Step 2: Application filed to the AUC
- Step 3: Public notice
- 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

Application review process

Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC



An applicant seeking approval of a proposed utility development project is required to engage in a participant involvement program prior to filing an application with the AUC. The public involvement program involves consultation with persons whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by 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, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines*.

Potentially affected parties are strongly encouraged to participate in the public consultation, also called a participant involvement program. Early, active and ongoing discussions with an applicant may lead to greater influence on project planning and what is submitted to the AUC for approval.

Step 2: Application filed to the AUC



When the applicant has concluded its consultation with potentially affected parties and the participant involvement requirements have been completed, the applicant files its application through the AUC online public filing system, called the eFiling System.

AUC staff members review each application submitted to verify that all of the application requirements in Rule 007 have been met before an application is deemed complete. If all of the required information is not provided, the application may be closed or missing information will be requested of the applicant. Rule 007 specifies, among other requirements, that applicants must submit the results of a public involvement program in its application that includes information about how applicants consulted and notified stakeholders and Indigenous groups and identifies any unresolved objections and concerns about the project.

Step 3: Public notice



When the AUC receives an application it is assigned a proceeding number and the AUC generally mails a notice of application directly to those who live, operate a business or occupy land in the project area who may be directly and adversely affected if the AUC approves the application. The notice initiates the opportunity for formal intervention in the proceeding to consider an application or applications. The notice of application will also set out important dates and information about where to find the application and other items being considered. The five-digit eFiling System proceeding number in the notice is the most efficient way to find information about a proposed project through the AUC website.

Step 4: Public submissions to the AUC



Prior to the submission deadline provided in the notice, formal submissions of outstanding concerns and unresolved objections about a project may be submitted to the AUC. To submit a concern, participants will need to register to participate in the proceeding, which involves providing a brief written statement called a statement of intent to participate. Submissions are filed electronically through the eFiling System. The information filed becomes part of the public record and is an important part of the process to ensure that outstanding concerns are heard, understood and considered.

The AUC uses the information gathered through statement of intent to participate submissions to decide whether to hold a hearing on the application(s). The AUC must hold a hearing if a concerned person can demonstrate that they have rights that may be directly or adversely affected by the AUC's decision on the application. Such a person is said to have standing before the AUC. If the AUC decides to hold a hearing, the AUC will provide further opportunities for participants with standing to ask the applicant questions on the public record and present their position on the application either in writing or in person. Hearings may

be held in writing, in person or virtually through web-conference software.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the online 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. The system is also used to submit your concerns and provide input to the AUC and can be used to monitor 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.

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)



The AUC supports efforts to reach a mutually agreeable outcome among the applicant and affected parties. The AUC encourages the applicant and those who have filed a statement of intent to participate 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 in an AUC hearing.

Step 6: The public hearing process



The AUC will issue a notice of hearing if a person with standing continues to have legitimate unresolved concerns with the application. The notice of hearing will provide a hearing date and location, or specify if the hearing will be held in writing or virtually. When the AUC holds a public hearing, registered parties are given the opportunity to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members. Any member of the public can listen to an in-person or virtual oral hearing. An oral public hearing operates similar to a court proceeding.

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 AUC to have standing or 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: *Rules on Local Intervener Costs*, recovery of costs is subject to the AUC's assessment of the value of the contribution provided by the lawyer and technical experts in assisting the AUC to understand the specifics of the case. It is also subject to the AUC's published scale of costs.

People with similar interests and positions are expected and encouraged 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 decision no more than 90 days after the close of record. The AUC can approve, or deny an application and can also make its approval conditional upon terms or conditions. AUC decisions are publicly available through the AUC website at www.auc.ab.ca.

Step 8: Opportunity to appeal



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

An applicant or participant in a proceeding can also ask the AUC to review its decision. An application to review a 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 of Commission Decisions*.

Step 9: Construction, operation and compliance



An applicant that receives approval to build and operate a facility from the AUC is expected to follow through on any commitments it has made to parties and 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.



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.

We are 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.

Contact us

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

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1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

Attachment 4 – TFO Project Newsletter – *hep Alderson Solar Power Connection* (March 2023)



March 2023

Electric system improvements near you

hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project, and we want your input.

To connect the hep energy Canada Ltd. Alderson Solar Connection Project (hep) to the grid, AltaLink is proposing modifications to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's proposed project is required to connect hep's project, it is a separate project. hep will consult separately on their proposed project. For more information about hep, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- maps of the proposed project
- 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.

DEFINITIONS:

Transmission

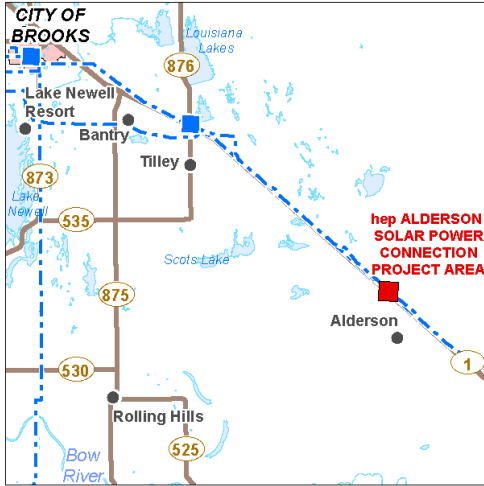
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind, solar, natural gas and more.






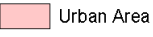
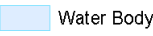
CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453

stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

www.altalink.ca/projects



LEGEND	
	hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project Area
	Existing Substation
	Existing Transmission Line
	Hamlet or Locality
	Road
	Urban Area
	Water Body

Project details

hep's proposed solar connection is located between Cypress County and Newell County in SE-7-16-10-W4, approximately 45 kilometres southeast of the City of Brooks.

AltaLink's proposed project includes modifications to two existing transmission lines in the area.

Proposed modifications to AltaLink's existing 138 kV transmission line (called 100L)

To connect hep's project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing to install one new transmission structure and modify two structures to accommodate it. The new structure will be approximately 19 metres tall and made of wood.

To ensure the safe and reliable operation of the line, AltaLink is proposing to replace and modify existing structures:

- Two H-frame structures will be replaced with two similar structures to increase the height of the structures from 14 metres to approximately 18-20 metres
- Hardware will be replaced on up to 11 structures

These modifications will allow sufficient clearance from the ground or other objects and enable the maximum power flow of the line – the voltage of the line will not increase.

Proposed modifications to AltaLink's existing 240 kV transmission line (called 1034L/1035L)

AltaLink is proposing the following telecommunications updates on its existing 1034L/1035L transmission line:

- Replacing approximately 350 metres of **optical ground wire (OPGW)** between two existing structures and adding new equipment to the structures to accommodate the connection
- Installing approximately two kilometres of **fibre optic cable** between AltaLink's existing Tilley Substation and 1034L/1035L

The fibre optic cable will be located within an existing transmission line **right-of-way** and along a highway right-of-way. Where located on private property, an additional five metres of right-of-way will be required.

In certain locations along the proposed fibre optic cable, a small underground conduit box may be required to facilitate construction and maintenance of the cable. These locations will be determined following detailed engineering and discussions with landowners.

Please see the detailed photo maps included in this package for more details.



The image on the left is an example of the proposed new transmission structure.



The image on the left is an example of the existing H-frame structures and the image on the right is an example of what the replacement H-frame structures and hardware replacements will look like.



The underground conduit box will look similar to the image on the left.

DEFINITION:

Optical ground wire

This equipment provides lightning protection and is part of a telecommunication network that allows AltaLink to monitor, control, protect, and restore the electric system.

Fibre optic cable

AltaLink's fibre optic cables transmit data signals between substations and are part of a larger telecommunications system in Alberta. This telecommunications system allows AltaLink control centres to actively monitor the electric system, ensuring it runs safely and reliably.

Right-of-way

The right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction, maintenance, and safe operation of a transmission line. A ROW refers to the physical space in which a transmission line is located and includes areas on either side of the transmission line structures and the conductors, which are the wires that carry the electricity.

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

Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents, and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans. We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback.

After our consultation and notification process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and 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 *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	March – April 2023
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	July 2023
Start construction if project is approved	June 2024
Construction completed	October 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

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

ALATALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about the hep Alderson Solar Generation Interconnection, please contact:

hep energy Canada Ltd.

Michele Morley, CPA, CA President

Phone: 403-819-3391

Email: m.morley@hep.global

Website: www.hep.global

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

ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

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 a transmission facility owner 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)

Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

PRIVACY COMMITMENT

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the Personal Information Protection Act. 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.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*
- AESO need overview

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

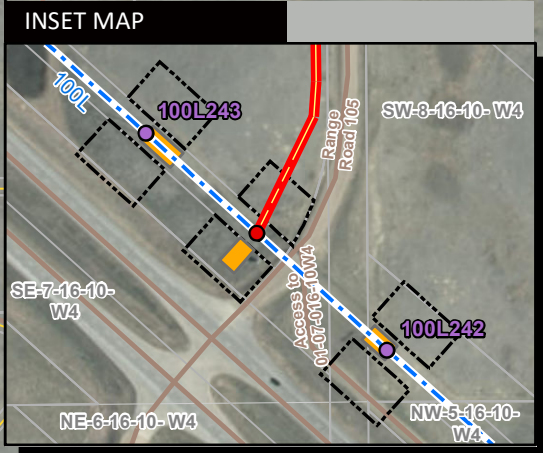
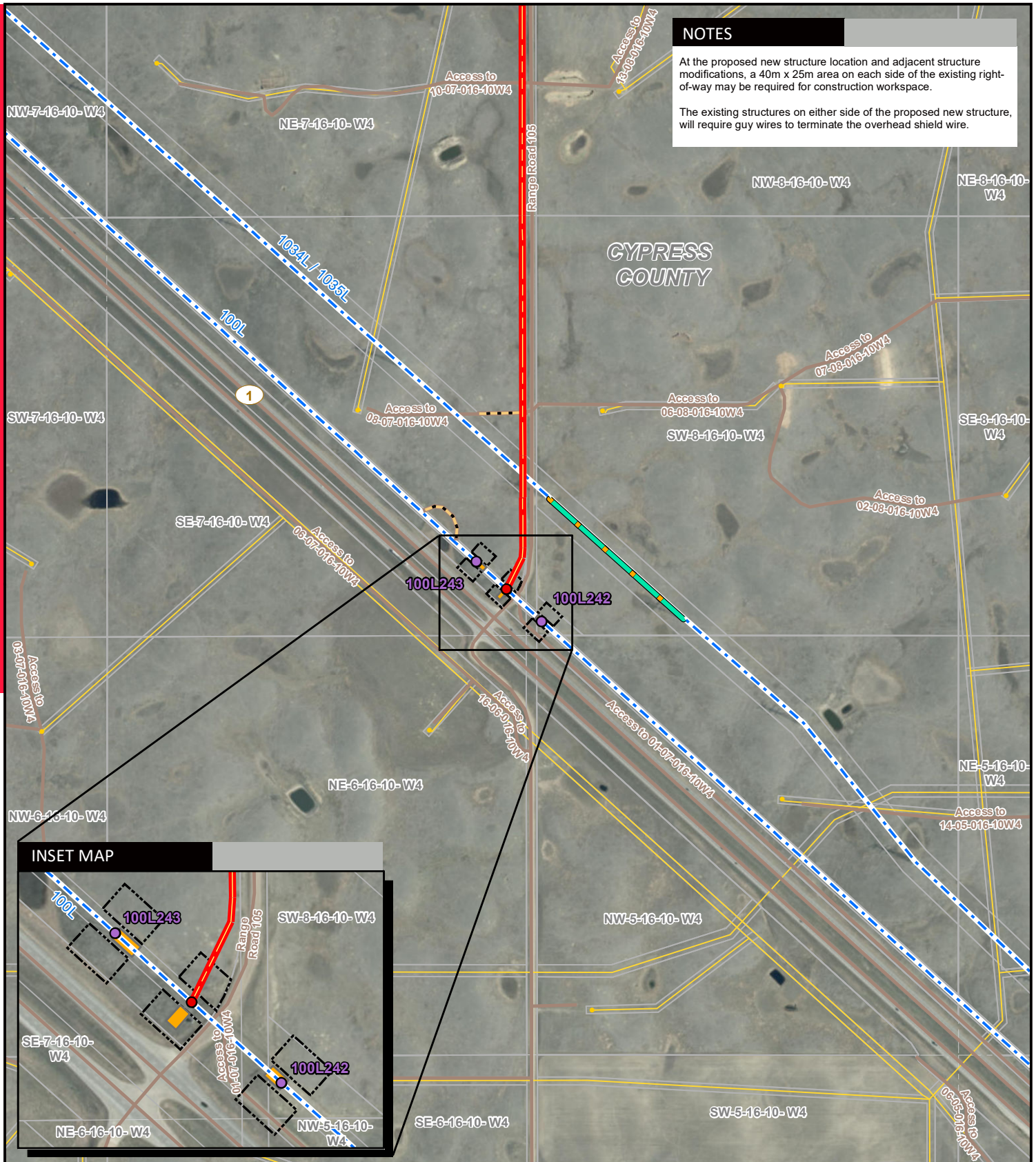


www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission

NOTES

At the proposed new structure location and adjacent structure modifications, a 40m x 25m area on each side of the existing right-of-way may be required for construction workspace.

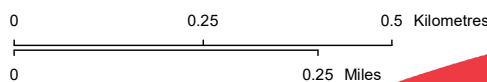
The existing structures on either side of the proposed new structure, will require guy wires to terminate the overhead shield wire.



LEGEND

- Proposed New Structure
- Proposed Structure Modification
- Proposed OPGW Replacement
- Proposed 3rd Party Transmission Line
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Proposed Guy Anchor Easement
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.02.08
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-16



DETAIL PHOTO DP1

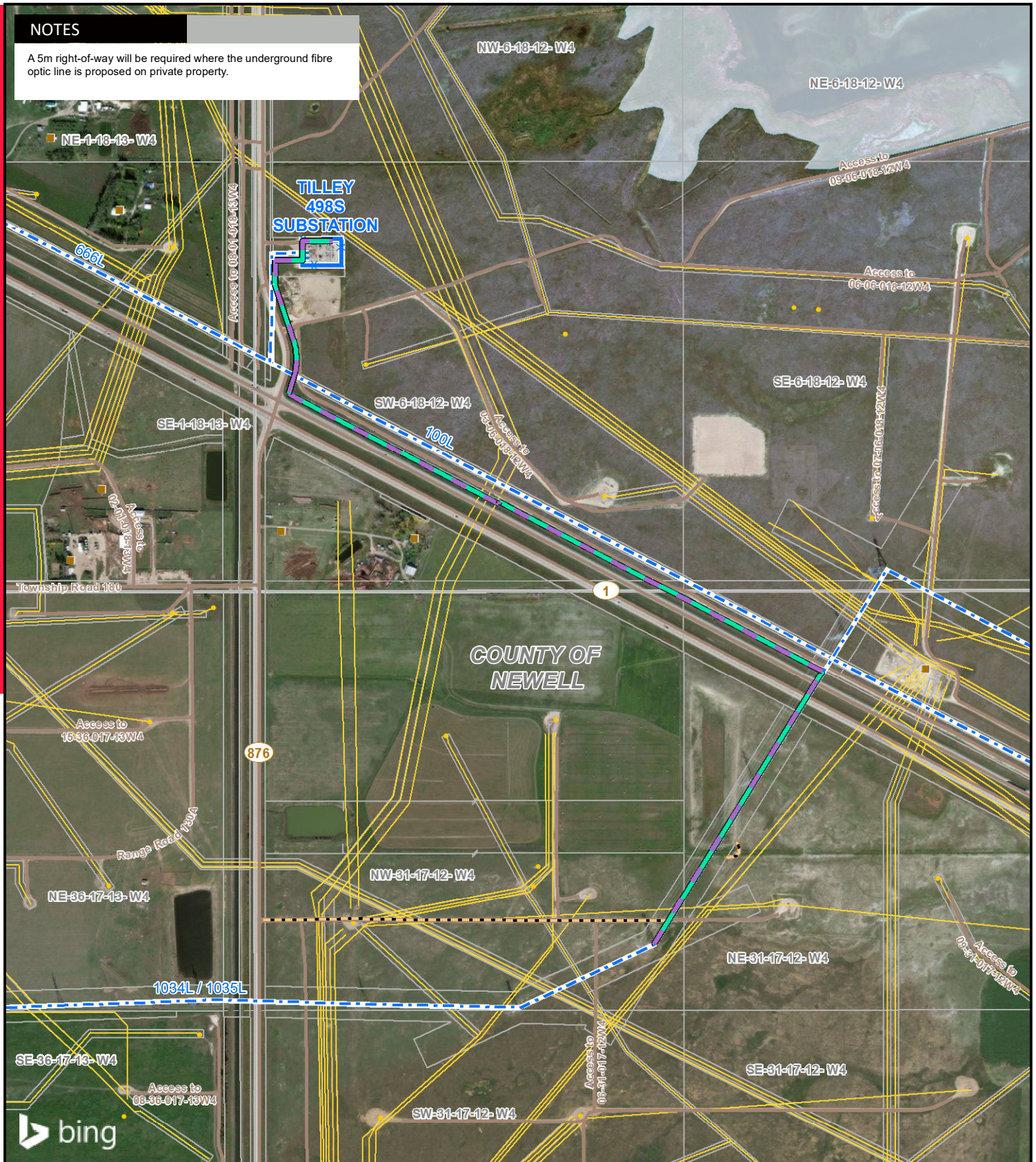


PROPOSED
 hep Alderson Solar Power
 Connection Project

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community
 Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to generate this product or in the product itself, users of these data are advised that errors in the data may be present.

NOTES

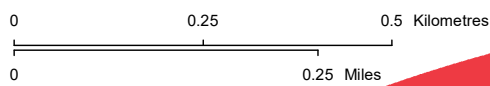
A 5m right-of-way will be required where the underground fibre optic line is proposed on private property.



LEGEND

- Proposed Underground Fibre Optic Cable
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- Existing Substation Fenceline
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Pipeline
- Road
- Water Body
- Residence
- Wellsite

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.01.05
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-16



DETAIL PHOTO DP2

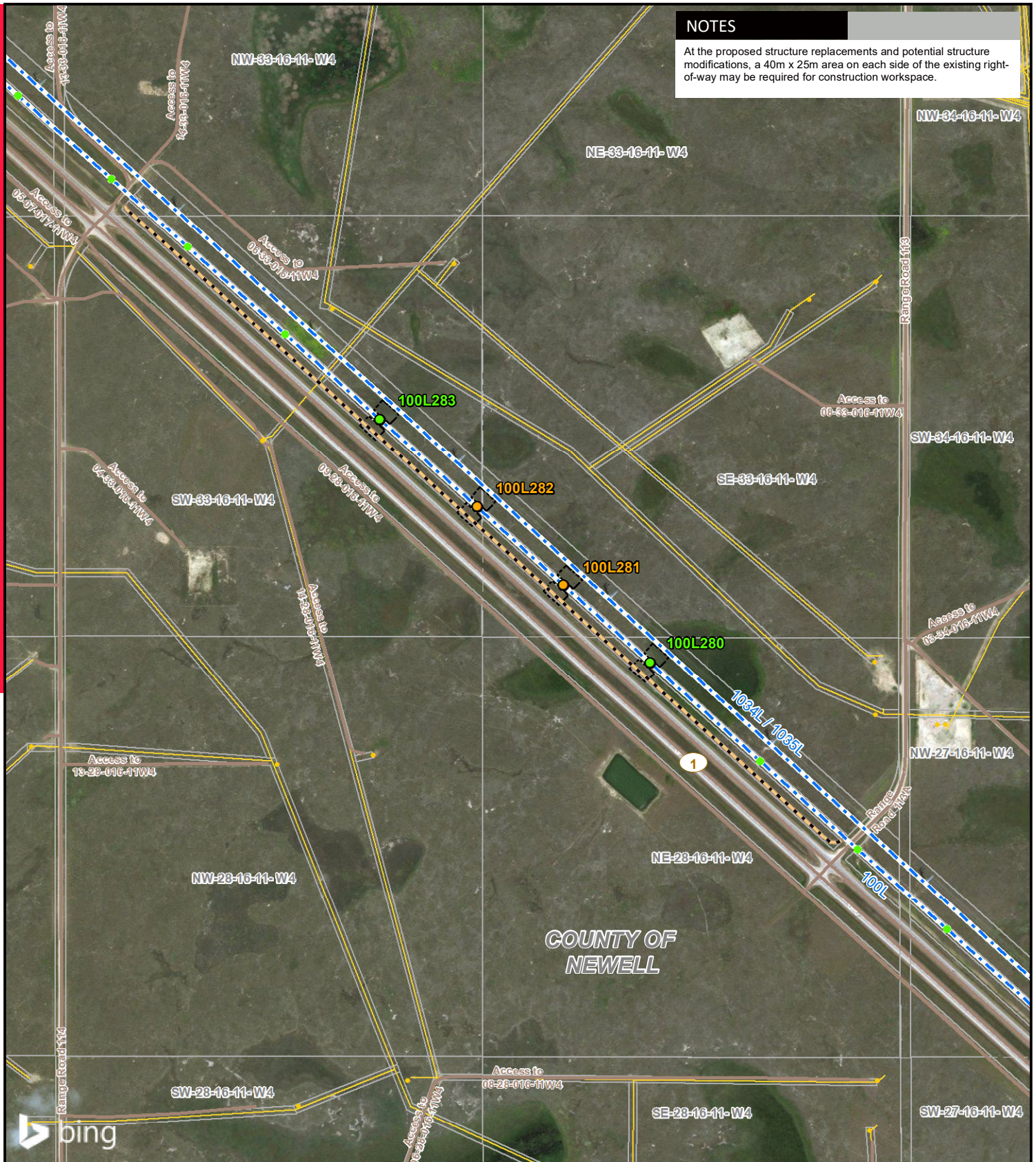


PROPOSED
 hep Alderson Solar Power
 Connection Project

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NOTES

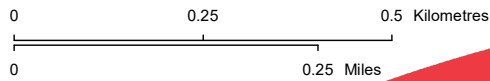
At the proposed structure replacements and potential structure modifications, a 40m x 25m area on each side of the existing right-of-way may be required for construction workspace.



LEGEND

- Potential Structure Modification
- Proposed Structure Replacement
- Existing Structure
- Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.01.06
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-16



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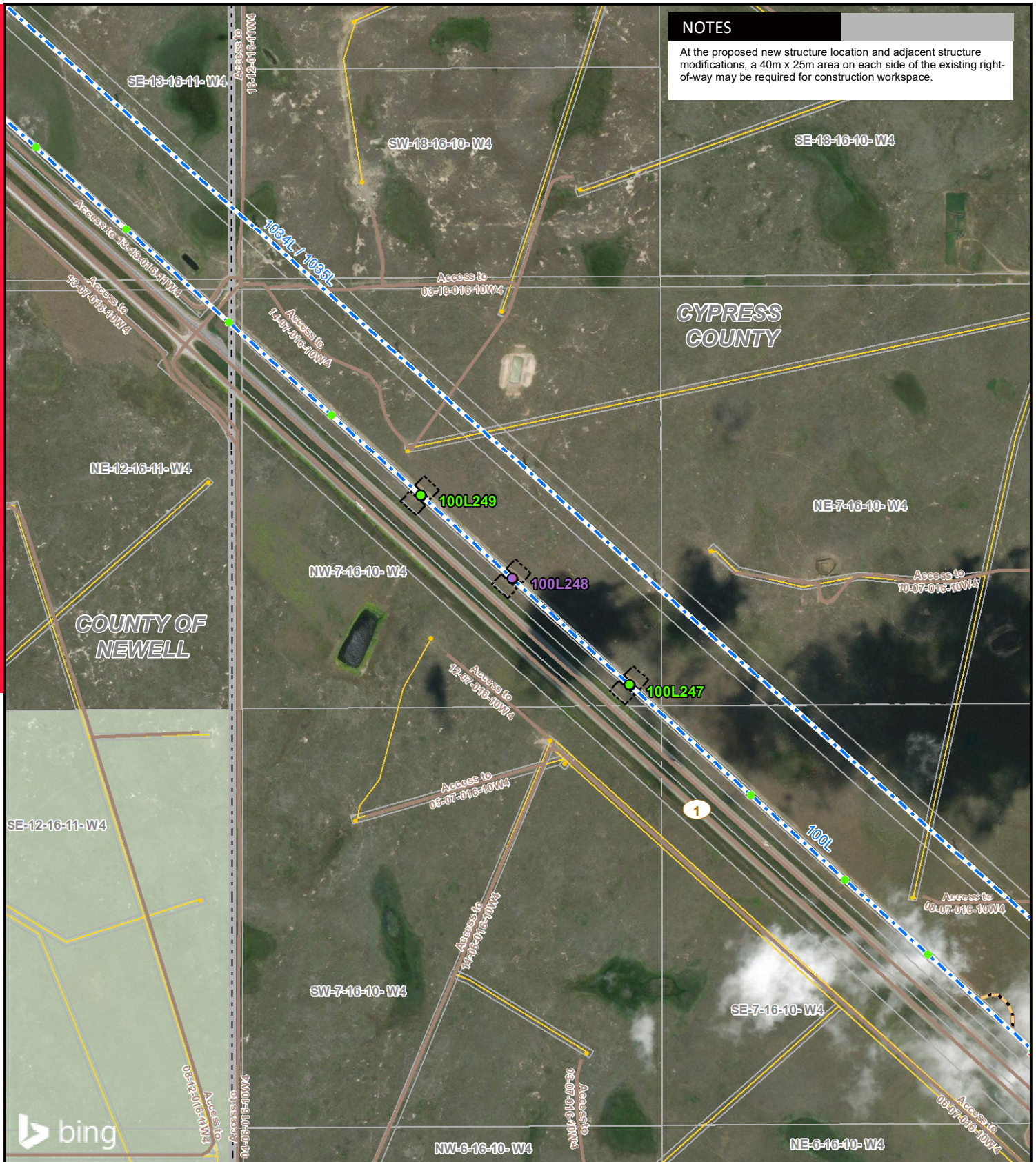
DETAIL PHOTO DP3



PROPOSED
 hep Alderson Solar Power
 Connection Project

NOTES

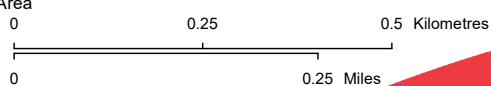
At the proposed new structure location and adjacent structure modifications, a 40m x 25m area on each side of the existing right-of-way may be required for construction workspace.



LEGEND

- Potential Structure Modification
- Proposed Structure Modification
- Existing Structure
- Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Municipal or County Boundary
- Pipeline
- Road
- Environmentally Significant Area

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.00.01
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-22



DETAIL PHOTO DP4



PROPOSED

hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

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NOTES

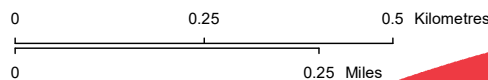
At the proposed new structure location and adjacent structure modifications, a 40m x 25m area on each side of the existing right-of-way may be required for construction workspace.



LEGEND

- Potential Structure Modification
- Proposed Structure Modification
- Existing Structure
- Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Railway
- Road

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.00.01
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-22



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DETAIL PHOTO DP5

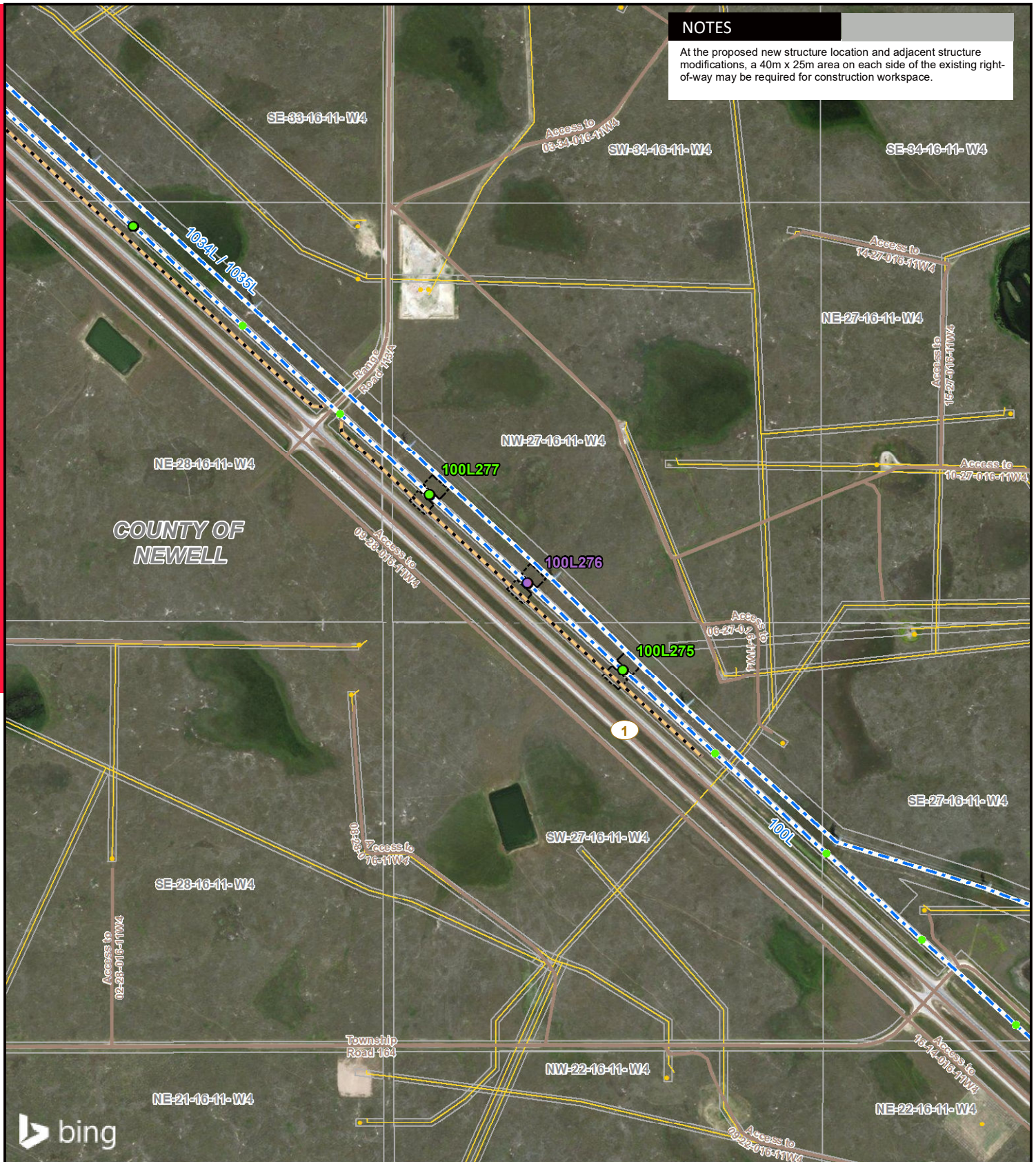


PROPOSED

hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

NOTES

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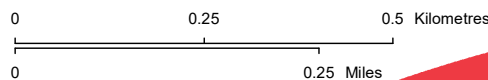


LEGEND

- Potential Structure Modification
- Proposed Structure Modification
- Existing Structure
- Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.00.01
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection

DATE: 2023-02-22



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DETAIL PHOTO DP6



PROPOSED

hep Alderson Solar Power Connection Project

NOTES

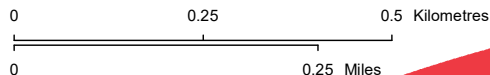
At the proposed new structure location and adjacent structure modifications, a 40m x 25m area on each side of the existing right-of-way may be required for construction workspace.



LEGEND

- Potential Structure Modification
- Proposed Structure Modification
- Existing Structure
- Existing Transmission Line
- 8m Wide Access Trail
- Construction Workspace
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road
- Environmentally Significant Area
- Water Body

NO: 35023529 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.00.01
 AL FOLDER: HEP Solar Generation Interconnection
DATE: 2023-02-22



DETAIL PHOTO DP7



PROPOSED
 hep Alderson Solar Power
 Connection Project

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Need for the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area

Hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (hep) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed hep Alderson Solar Power Project (Facility) in the Hamlet of Suffield area. hep'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 100L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process* (ANAP Rule), or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with 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.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

hep

- 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 100L.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Hamlet of Suffield 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 100L modification.
- 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@aes0.ca
1-888-866-2959

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

www.aeso.ca | [@theaes0](https://twitter.com/theaes0)

Attachment 5 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (August 16, 2023)

August 16, 2023

Notified Market Participant Corporate Legal Name
Address Line 1.
Address Line 2.
City, Province, Postal Code.

Dear **Notified Market Participant Primary Contact:**

Re: **Need for the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (hep) has applied for transmission system access to connect its Alderson Solar Power Project (proposed Facility) to the Alberta interconnected electric system (AIES) in the AESO South Planning Region.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that the AESO has identified that, under credible worse case forecast conditions, the **[Effective Generation Facility Name] ([Effective Generation Facility Asset ID])** may be curtailed following the connection of the proposed Facility.

Connection Assessment Findings

An engineering connection assessment was carried out by the AESO to assess the transmission system performance following the connection of the proposed Facility.¹ The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations on the 138 kV transmission lines 172L, 610L, 612L, and 760L, as well as the 240 kV transmission lines 924L and 927L following the connection of the proposed Facility, under credible worse case forecast conditions, with all transmission facilities in service (Category A). The Vauxhall Area Transmission Development Project² will alleviate the thermal criteria violations on 610L under Category A conditions. Should the AESO determine that mitigation is required to address the other potential thermal criteria violations under Category A conditions, the AESO may develop operational procedures or other mitigation measures.

Thermal criteria violations were also identified when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the proposed Facility. To mitigate the potential Category B system performance issues, existing remedial action schemes (RASs) will be used. In addition, a new RAS 209 for 138 kV transmission line 100L will be required, which curtails the proposed Facility upon activation.

The AESO may also 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.

¹ The studies were performed assuming the Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 100 MW.

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

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

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

For Further Information

The AESO Need Overview document is attached for your information. The AESO Need Overview describes the AESO’s proposed transmission development to connect the proposed Facility to the AIES.

To support the AESO’s consideration of the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, the engineering connection assessment will be posted on the AESO website at: <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/>. Stakeholders will be notified when this occurs via 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 Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area*

Need for the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection in the Hamlet of Suffield area

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PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 100L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process* (ANAP Rule), or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with the AUC.

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hep

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- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

ALTALINK

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- 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 100L modification.
- 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

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aes0.ca
1-888-866-2959

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

www.aeso.ca | [@theaes0](https://twitter.com/theaes0)

Attachment 6 – AESO Public Notification of NID Filing Website Posting (November 2023)

Alderson Solar Power Project Connection (1828)

Notice of Filing

The AESO intends to file the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection Needs Identification Document (NID) application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) on or after November 16, 2023.

Attachment 7 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter NID Filing Notice (November 1, 2023)



GRID

Alderson Solar Power Project Connection | Notice of Needs Identification Document (NID) Filing

hep Canada SPV 1 Ltd. (hep) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Alderson Solar Power Project (facility) in the Hamlet of Suffield area. The following solution can meet hep's request:

- Add one 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the facility to the existing 138 kV transmission line 100L in a T-tap configuration
- Increase the line rating of the 138 kV transmission line 100L between the facility T-tap point and the existing Tilley 498S substation
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments

The AESO intends to file the Alderson Solar Power Project Connection NID application with the Alberta Utilities Commission on or after November 16, 2023.

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 > Transmission-Projects > Alderson Solar Power Project Connection (1828) to see all the relevant documents, including the NID application once filed with the AUC.