

1. Introduction

From November 2022 to September 2023, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) regarding the *Prominence Solar Project Connection*. The AESO directed the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink), 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/prominence-solar-project-connection-2466/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 29, 2022. 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.

2.1 Stakeholders Notified in the TFO's PIP

The TFO has advised the AESO that its PIP included notification within 800 metres of the proposed transmission line right-of-way, and 100 m of the proposed fiber line as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 of AUC Rule 007.¹

¹ AltaLink has identified its facility application to be of the type: *Overhead transmission line and new substation development – rural or industrial setting* and *Installation of fibre optic facilities where a direct and adverse effect may occur*, as categorized in AUC Rule 007, Appendix A1, Section 5.

The TFO notified a total of approximately 24 Stakeholders, of which 13 were classified as private or individual landowners. The TFO determined that notification of Indigenous groups was not required. The other 11 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

- Alberta Environment and Parks
- Alphonso Energy Ltd.
- Fortis Alberta Inc.
- Lethbridge County
- Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District
- Lethbridge Utility City of Lethbridge
- Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women
- NAV Canada
- Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.
- Telus Communications
- Transport Canada

Attachment 3 includes the TFO's project letter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between November 25, 2022 and February 15, 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/406/prominence-solar-project-connection> on November 25, 2022. The TFO's project letter included the AESO's contact information, a reference to the AESO Need Overview, and an invitation to contact the TFO or the AESO for additional information.

3. Notification of ANAP Consideration

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to consider the need for the *Prominence Solar Project 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/prominence-solar-project-connection-2466/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on September 27, 2023. Copies of the Notification of ANAP Consideration posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 4 and 5, respectively.

4. 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.

5. Concerns and Objections 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.

6. List of Attachments

- Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (November 2022)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (November 29, 2022)
- Attachment 3 – TFO's Project Newsletter (November 25, 2022)
- Attachment 4 - AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (September 2023)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (September 27, 2023)

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (November 2022)

Need for the Prominence Solar Project Connection in the Lethbridge area

PR Development L.P. (PR) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Prominence Solar Project (Facility) in the Lethbridge area. PR'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 172L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In mid 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.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in Lethbridge 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@aesocanada.com
 1-888-866-2959

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

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

Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (November 29, 2022)

November 29, 2022

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter

GRID

Prominence Solar Project Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Lethbridge area

PR Development L.P. (PR) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Prominence Solar Project (Facility) in the Lethbridge area. PR'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 172L 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 > Prominence Solar Project Connection (2466).

Attachment 3 – TFO’s Project Newsletter (November 25, 2022)

Electric system improvements near you

Prominence Solar Project Connection

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

To connect PR Development L.P.'s (PR Development) Prominence Solar Project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system in the area.

Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of PR Development's project, it is a separate project. PR Development will consult separately on their proposed project. For more information about PR Development, 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.

DEFINITIONS:

Transmission

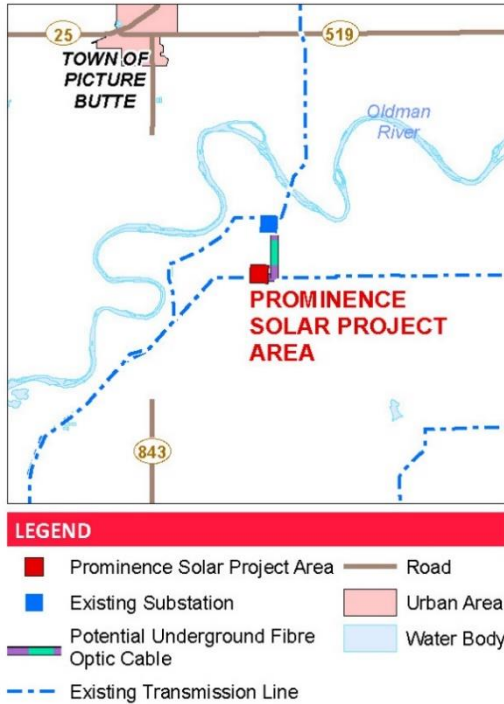
Transmission lines make up Alberta's electric highway, linking the places where power is generated to where power is used. Transmission lines transport large amounts of power over long distances across the province. The transmission system connects diverse sources of power generation including wind,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

CONTACT US

1-877-267-1453

stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

www.altalink.ca/projects



Project details




PR Development's proposed Prominence Solar Project is located in Lethbridge County in SE-14-10-21-W4, approximately six kilometres (km) southeast of the Town of Picture Butte.

To connect PR Development's project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing to:

- modify the existing 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line (called 172L) by:
 - removing one existing structure
 - adding two structures called line switches and one monopole structure (see more in the table below)
- construct approximately 80 metres (m) of new single circuit 138 kV transmission line
- install approximately two km of buried **fibre optic cable** between PR Development's proposed Elder Substation and AltaLink's existing Picture Butte Substation

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

Proposed transmission structures

	New structures on the existing 172L transmission line		New transmission line
	Line switch	Monopole	H-frame
			
Type	Steel H-frame	Steel or wood monopole	Steel or wood H-frame
Height	Between 15 and 20 m	Between 20 and 25 m	Between 20 and 25 m
Location	Within road allowance and on land leased by PR Development	Within road allowance	On land leased by PR Development

DEFINITION:

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.

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*.

Anticipated project schedule

Notify and consult with stakeholders	November to December 2022
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	July 2023
Start construction if project is approved	January 2024
Construction completed	April 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:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

Email: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

To learn more about the Prominence Solar project, please contact:

PR DEVELOPMENT L.P.

Samantha Brown

SABR Energy Consulting Inc., on behalf of Potentia Resources

587-434-7547

Email: sbrown@sabreenergyconsulting.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

Email: 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)

Email: 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.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project map
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process*
- 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

Where the underground fibre optic cable is located on private property, a 5m right of way will be required.

Where the underground fibre optic cable is proposed within Township Road 102, the intent is to be located 1m within the north side of the road allowance. Where the underground fibre optic cable is proposed within Range Road 211, the intent is to be located 1m within the east side of the road allowance.

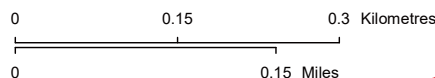
The proposed structure locations are approximate and may move upon further engineering.



LEGEND

- Proposed Structure
- Proposed Modification of Existing Structure
- Proposed Salvage of Existing Structure
- Proposed Transmission Line
- Proposed Underground Fibre Optic Cable
- Existing Transmission Line
- 12m Right of Way Boundary
- 20m Right of Way Boundary
- Access Trail
- Proposed Customer Substation
- Existing Substation Fenceline
- Construction Workspace
- Residence
- Wellsite
- Pipeline
- Road
- Environmentally Significant Area

NO: 35032855 - 6201
 DRAWN: SG - AL
 FILE NO.: XXXXXXX
 REVISION: 0.01.04
 AL FOLDER: Prominence Solar Project Connection
DATE: 2022-11-14



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 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.

DETAIL PHOTO DP1



PROPOSED

Prominence Solar Project Connection

Need for the Prominence Solar Project Connection in the Lethbridge area

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 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 4 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (September 2023)

Prominence Solar Project Connection (2466)

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Prominence Solar Project Connection (Project) for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after October 12, 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:

- total project cost is estimated to be approximately \$4.5M with approximately \$4.3M classified as participant-related and \$0.2M classified as system-related;
- 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
- TFO Cost Estimate
- AESO PIP Summary

Attachment 5 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (September 27, 2023)

September 27, 2023

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter

GRID

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process Notice of Consideration | Prominence Solar Project Connection

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Prominence Solar Project Connection for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP Rule) on or after October 12, 2023. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

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- 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 > Transmission Projects > Prominence Project Connection (2466) to see relevant supporting documents.