

Update to the Southern Alberta Transmission Reinforcement
Proposed Development Area
Transmission Development Information for Stakeholders



PLEASE NOTE: In early May you may have received a similar document describing a potential development area expansion in the Magrath, Cardston and Pincher Creek areas. That document was sent to you in error. The AESO apologizes for any confusion this error has caused.

Why am I receiving this information?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) advises you of a change to the potential development area for the proposed transmission line development from the Picture Butte 120S substation to the Journault 260S substation approved as part of the Southern Alberta Transmission System Reinforcement (SATR) in Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) Approval No. U2011-115. The AESO is providing this information to landowners, occupants, residents and other stakeholders in the Glenwood and Lethbridge planning areas who may be directly affected.

The AESO will file information with the AUC in summer 2012 regarding the need to change the potential development area of the proposed transmission line development.

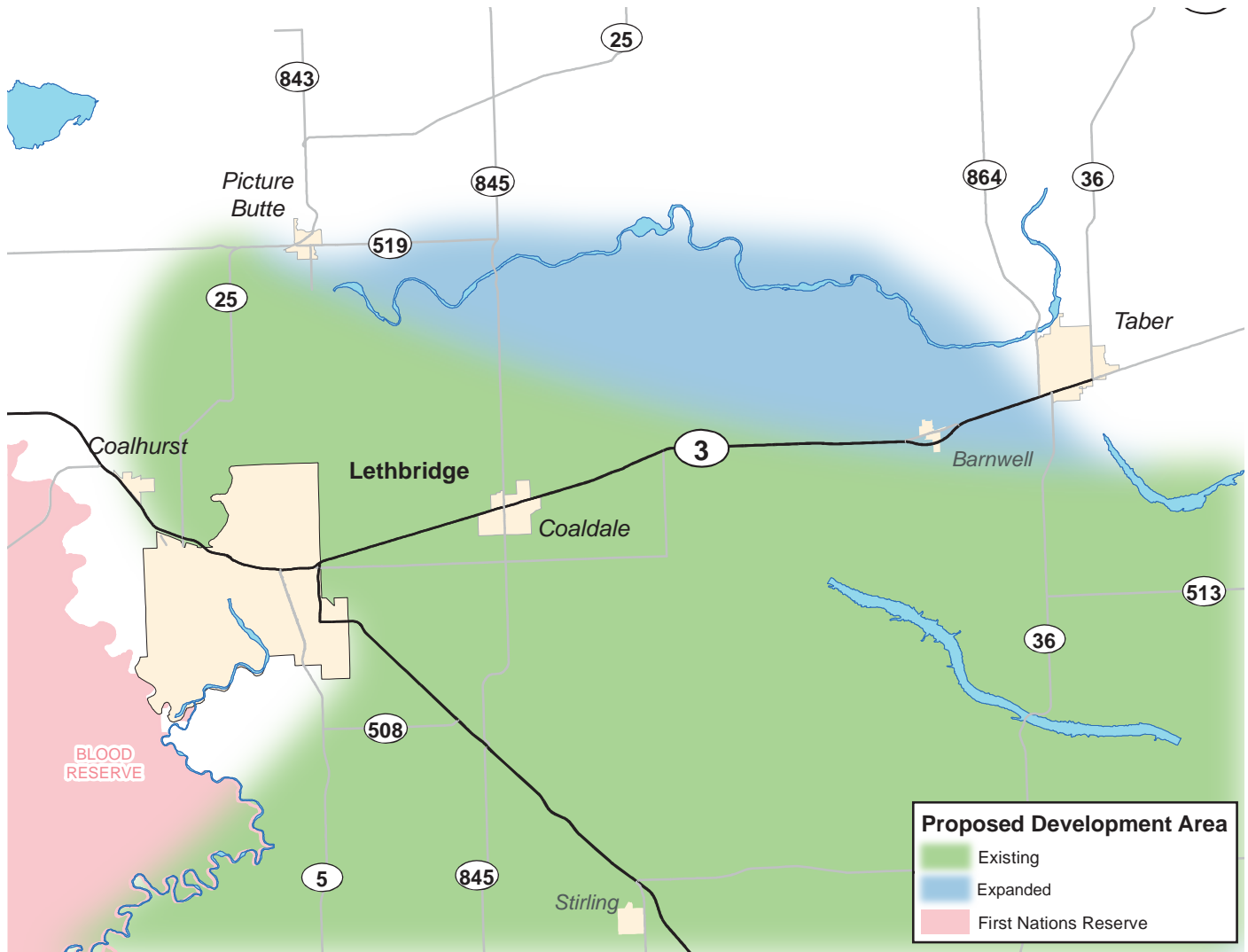
Background

In December 2008, the AESO filed the SATR Needs Identification Document (SATR NID) with the AUC to address the need for transmission system reinforcement in southern Alberta. The transmission system in this region is at capacity and reinforcement is primarily needed to integrate proposed wind power developments in the area. The AESO discussed this need with our stakeholders, including potentially affected landowners, throughout 2008. The information provided by the AESO to stakeholders included maps of the potential SATR development area. A public hearing was held to consider the NID application in June 2009.

The AUC approved the SATR NID in September 2009 in Decision 2009-126 and further approved certain amendments in Decision 2011-102 and Approval No. U2011-115 (SATR NID Approval). For more information on the need for SATR, please visit <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/16869.html>

Why is a change to the potential development area required?

The SATR NID Approval includes the development of a new 240 kV double circuit transmission line with one side strung between Picture Butte 120S substation (previously referred to as "MATL") and Journault 260S substation (previously referred to as "Sub C"). As part of its route determination process, AltaLink Management Ltd. (AltaLink) identified areas with potential for low impact routes that extend outside of the AESO's original potential development area. The AESO wishes to advise stakeholders, including potentially affected landowners, of the area where this transmission development may be built. A map showing the original and expanded potential development areas is provided below.



Who is the AESO?

Alberta's transmission system, sometimes referred to as the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES), is planned and operated by the AESO. The transmission system comprises the high-voltage lines, towers and equipment (generally 69 kV and above) that transmit electricity from generators to lower voltage systems that distribute electricity to cities, towns, rural areas and large industrial customers.

The AESO's role is to maintain safe, reliable and economic operation of the AIES. The AESO's planning responsibility includes determining the need for transmission system development and the manner in which that need is met. The AESO is also mandated to facilitate the interconnection of qualified market participants to the AIES. The AESO is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its needs identification document (NID).

How is AltaLink involved?

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

Further Information

The AESO appreciates your views on transmission system development and your comments are encouraged. The AESO will be hosting the following information session to discuss this change to the potential development area:

Coaldale
June 21 – 4-8 p.m.
Coaldale Community Centre
1217 – 20 Avenue

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the proposed changes to the potential development area, please contact:

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The AESO is committed to protecting your personal privacy in accordance with Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act. Any personal information collected by the AESO with regard to this project may be used to provide you with further information about the project, may be disclosed to the Alberta Utilities Commission (and as a result, may become public), and may also be disclosed to AltaLink as the legal owner of transmission facilities in your area. If you have any questions about how the AESO will use and disclose your personal information, please contact us at 1-888-866-2959 or at stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca