

# Southern Alberta Transmission Reinforcement Stakeholder Update – Stage III Cancellation

November 2013



## Stage III Cancellation

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) wishes to provide you with a status update on Stage III of the Southern Alberta Transmission Reinforcement (SATR). SATR, including Stage III, was approved by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in 2009 (Approval No. U2011-115).

SATR Stage III, which was approved to include a new double circuit 240 kV transmission line connecting Ware Junction substation to the Langdon substation, was originally planned to transmit power from southeastern and south central Alberta to the Calgary area. Since SATR's approval in 2009, additional transmission system plans have been developed and approved. As a part of its ongoing planning process, the AESO has reviewed the long-term need for Stage III considering these recent plans. The AESO has determined that the Eastern Alberta Transmission Line, currently under construction, will provide the same functionality that SATR Stage III was planned to provide and that therefore this stage of SATR is no longer needed.

The AESO is providing this information to stakeholders, including landowners, occupants and residents in the area that may be affected by the change in transmission development. The AESO will apply to the AUC in winter 2013/2014 to cancel SATR Stage III and amend Approval No. U2011-115 accordingly. The application will be available at <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/24781.html> at the time of the AESO's application to the AUC.

## The AESO's Planning Process

The AESO's long-term transmission plans are purposefully flexible with system upgrades planned in stages to accommodate changes in transmission infrastructure and existing and forecast demand for transmission access. The cancellation of SATR Stage III has resulted from the AESO's ongoing monitoring of these transmission system conditions.

## Background

In December 2008, the AESO filed the SATR Needs Identification Document (NID) with the AUC to address the need for transmission system reinforcement in southern Alberta. SATR is needed to alleviate existing system constraints and to integrate southern Alberta wind generation with the transmission system. As part of the regulatory process, the AESO consulted on the need for transmission development and its plan to address the need from October 2007 to October 2008. A public hearing was held to consider the SATR 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. For more information on the need for SATR, please visit <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/16869.html>

## 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 the 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 documents.

## For More Information

The AESO believes anyone potentially affected by its transmission plans should have the opportunity to participate in the process and provide input. The AESO appreciates your views on the cancellation of this component of SATR and encourages your comments and participation.

For further information, the SATR NID Approval can be found on the AUC website at:  
<http://www.auc.ab.ca/applications/orders/utility-orders/Utility%20Orders/2011/U2011-115.pdf>

Please contact Megan Harris through [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca) or call our stakeholder relations toll-free line at 1-888-866-2959 if you have any questions or suggestions.

*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 owners 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](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)*