

**Amendment to the Southern Alberta Transmission Reinforcement
Needs Identification Document Approval
Windy Flats 138S Substation
Transmission Development Information for Stakeholders**



Why am I receiving this information?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) advises you of its intention to file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to amend the Southern Alberta Transmission System Reinforcement Needs Identification Document (SATR NID) Approval No. U2011-115.

The amendment will seek approval from the AUC to replace the previously approved upgrades to the Peigan 59S substation with construction of a new 240/138 kV Windy Flats 138S substation. The AESO is providing this information as an update to landowners, occupants, residents and other stakeholders in the Fort MacLeod area that may be affected by the proposed transmission development. The AESO previously provided information to stakeholders regarding the amendment in November 2010.

Background

In December 2008, the AESO filed the 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. 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).

Why is an amendment to the SATR NID Approval required?

The SATR NID Approval includes upgrades to the existing Peigan 59S substation that the AESO recommended to accommodate a planned 240 kV double circuit transmission line between Peigan 59S substation and south Calgary.

In the course of developing its engineering and design for this project, AltaLink advised the AESO that siting considerations and the timeline to accommodate the new 240 kV double circuit line can be better met by building a new 240/138 kV substation, to be called Windy Flats 138S, rather than expanding the existing Peigan 59S substation. The Peigan 59S substation will continue to provide transmission service in the area.

When will the AESO file its amendment?

The AESO intends to file its amendment to the SATR NID Approval in fall 2011. The amendment will be available at <http://www.aeso.ca/transmission/16869.html> at the time of the AESO's application to the

AUC. For more information on the need for transmission development in southern Alberta, 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 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 Fort Macleod area. 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 the need for transmission system development and your comments are encouraged. If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the need for the proposed transmission system development in the Fort Macleod area or the AESO's application regarding this need, 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