

AESO PIP SUMMARY

1. Introduction

From April 2022 to November 2022, the AESO conducted a Participant Involvement Program (PIP) to assist in preparing for the *Big Sky Solar Project Connection*. The AESO directed the legal owner of transmission facilities (TFO), in this case ATCO Electric Ltd. (ATCO), 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, 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/big-sky-solar-project-connection-2421/> and a notice was published in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on April 12, 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 packages that were 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 for the Proposed ATCO Development included notification within 800 meters of the proposed transmission line, as recommended by the Commission in Appendix A1 in AUC Rule 007.¹

The TFO notified a total of approximately 15 Stakeholders, of which 6 were classified as private or individual landowners. The other 9 notified Stakeholders are listed below:

¹ ATCO 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.

- Alberta Environment and Parks – Fish and Wildlife
- Alberta Government Telephones c/o TELUS Communications Inc.
- AltaGas Services Inc.
- MD of Acadia No. 34
- NAV Canada
- Telus Communications Inc.
- Transport Canada, Civil Aviation/Aerodrome Safety
- Surge Energy Inc.
- Valley South Co-op Ltd.

Attachment 3 includes the TFO's project newsletter, which was included with the AESO Need Overview in the TFO's project-specific information package that was distributed to the Stakeholders described above between April 11, 2022 and May 31, 2022. 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 or the AESO for additional information.

3. Stakeholders Notified by the AESO

The AESO also notified 15 market participants that the AESO determined may have an interest in the Big Sky Solar Project Connection. The AESO identified that, under certain potential system conditions, these market participants may be affected following the connection of the Big Sky Solar Project Connection. A Market Participant Notification Letter, which included the Need Overview, was sent to the notified market participants on October 14, 2022.

The fifteen notified market participants are as follows:

- BER Hand Hills Wind GP Inc.
- Capital Power Generation Services Inc.
- Capstone Infrastructure Corporation
- Concord Drumheller Partnership
- EDP Renewables SH Project LP
- Elemental Energy
- Enel Alberta Wind Inc
- Ghost Pine Wind Farm LP
- GreenGate Power Corporation
- Neoen Renewables Canada Inc.
- Oldman 2 Wind Farm Limited
- Paintearth Wind Project Ltd.
- Pattern Development Lanfine Wind ULC
- TransAlta Corporation
- Wheatland Wind Project Ltd.

A generic version of the Market Participant Notification Letter was posted to the AESO website on October 17, 2022 at <https://www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects/big-sky-solar-project-connection-2421/>. A copy has been included as Attachment 4.

4. Notification of ANAP Consideration

Most recently, the AESO notified Stakeholders of its intention to consider the need for the Big Sky 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/big-sky-solar-project-connection-2421/> and a publishing notice in the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter on November 17, 2022. Copies of the Notification of ANAP Consideration posting and the AESO Stakeholder Newsletter notice have been included as Attachments 5 and 6, respectively.

5. 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.

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 Big Sky Solar Project Connection. The AESO responded to the Stakeholders by providing information about the following:

- the assumptions and results of the AESO's engineering connection assessment including how each Stakeholder's operations might be affected following the connection of the Big Sky Solar Project Connection and other generation facilities in the area;
- how Remedial Action Schemes (RAS's) and the *Real Time Transmission Constraint Management* (TCM) Rule applies to each Stakeholder's operations;
- how and when the TCM Rule is applied; and
- the status of the approved Central East Transfer-out Transmission Development to assist with alleviating constraints in the area; and
- the timing and content of the AESO's forthcoming Notice of ANAP consideration posting.

The AESO also encouraged the Stakeholders to contact the AESO directly with any outstanding questions or concerns.

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.

Apart from the two Stakeholder inquiries described above, 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 (April 2022)
- Attachment 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (April 12, 2022)
- Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – *Big Sky Transmission Project* (April, 2022)
- Attachment 4 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (October 14, 2022)
- Attachment 5 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (November 2022)
- Attachment 6 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (November 17, 2022)

Attachment 1 – AESO Need Overview (April 2022)

Need for the Big Sky Solar Project Connection in the Empress Area

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RESC) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Big Sky Solar Project (Facility) in the Empress area. RESC's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L760 in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- The AESO intends to apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need in late 2022.
- The AESO's needs identification document (NID) application will be available on the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/projects at the time of its application to 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.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its NID.

ATCO

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Empress 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@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 2 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Need Overview Notice (April 12, 2022)

April 12, 2022

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Big Sky Solar Project Connection – Need for Transmission Development in the Empress area

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RESC) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Big Sky Solar Project (Facility) in the Empress area. RESC's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L760 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 > Projects > Big Sky Solar Project Connection (2421).

Attachment 3 – TFO Project Newsletter – Big Sky Transmission Project (April 2022)

April 11, 2022

RE: Big Sky Transmission Project

We are writing to provide you with information about ATCO Electric Ltd.'s (ATCO) proposed Big Sky Transmission Project (the Project) located in your area. This letter provides Project details, timelines and outlines our public consultation process.

Project Details

The proposed Big Sky Transmission Project will be located approximately 4 kilometres northwest of the hamlet of Acadia Valley, and is required to connect new customer solar generation facilities to the electrical transmission grid. If approved, the Project will include:

- One (1) 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, designated as 7LC760, approximately 65 metres (m) long to connect the customer's substation to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L760 in a T-tap configuration. ATCO will require an 18 m right-of-way for the new transmission line.
- Modifications to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L760 to accommodate the T-tap connection as follows:
 - Addition of two (2) new H-frame structures;
 - Removal of one (1) existing wishbone structure; and
 - Addition of two (2) new disconnect switch structures.
- Temporary workspace areas for construction, please see the Facility Detail Map for details.

Project Timeline

April 2022	Notification to landholders, agencies and other interested parties
October 2022	Facility Application submission to Alberta Utilities Commission
November 2023	If approval is granted, construction activities will commence
December 2023	Construction activities completed

Note: Project timing and details may be adjusted as plans are finalized.

Alberta Electric System Operator

The Alberta Electric System Operator (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 Update 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 ATCO 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. The AESO can be contacted at:

Alberta Electric System Operator
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
1-888-866-2959
www.aeso.ca

Alberta Utilities Commission

ATCO will submit a facility application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) to obtain approval for the Big Sky Transmission Project. For more information about how you can participate in the process, please refer to the enclosed AUC brochure entitled *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*.

Next Steps

In the upcoming weeks, if you are a landholder affected by the changes detailed above, an ATCO representative will be contacting you to discuss them with you.

Please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding this Project. You can provide feedback and share other information by contacting us (toll free) at 1-855-420-5775 or by email at consultation@atcoelectric.com.

Sincerely,

<originally signed by>

Stephanie Hannem

Planner, Lands

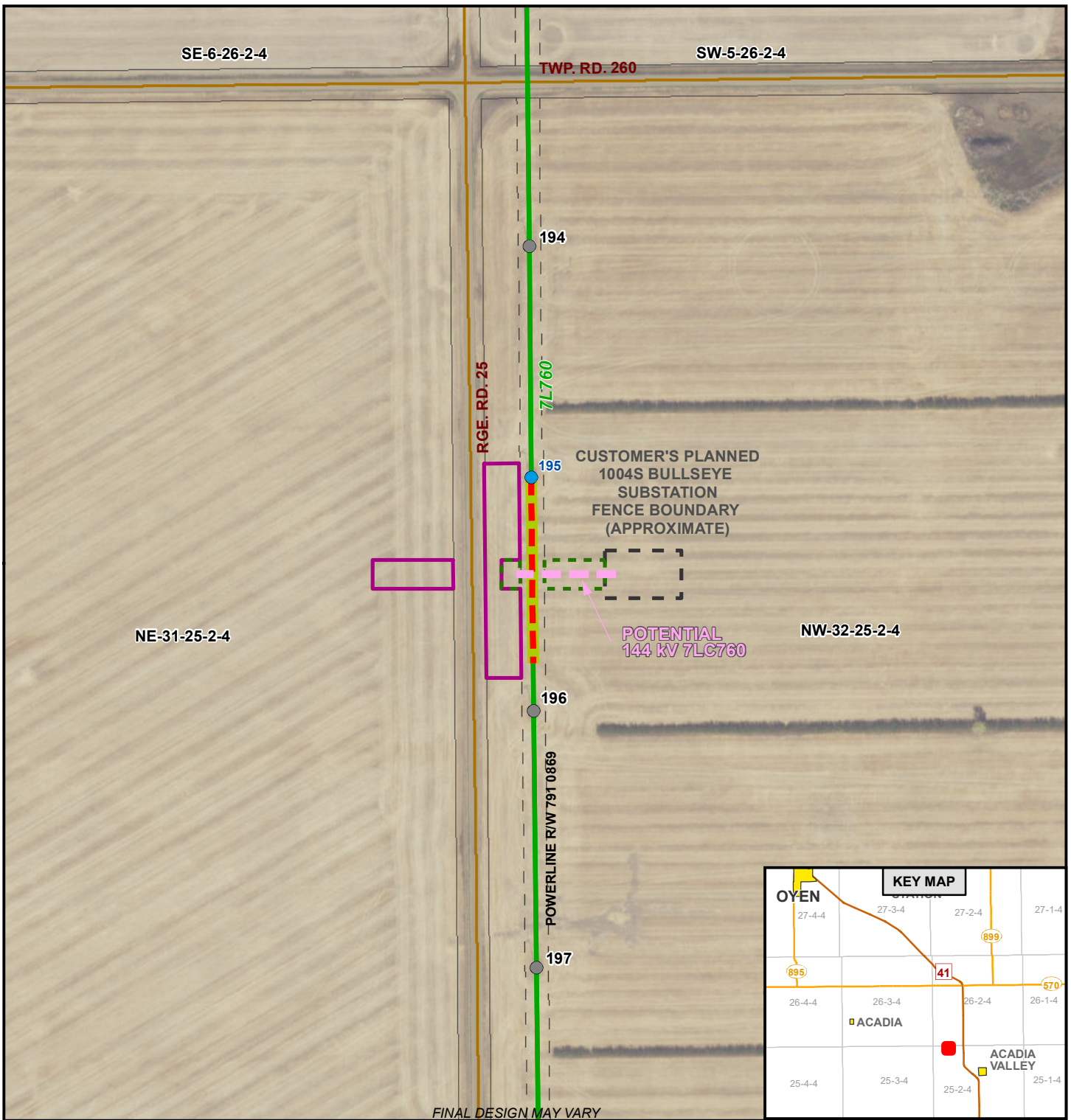
ATCO Electric Ltd.

Toll Free: 1-855-420-5775

E-mail: consultation@atcoelectric.com

Enclosures:

- Facility Detail Map
- Typical Structure Drawing
- AESO Need Overview
- Alberta Utilities Commission Brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*
- Reply Form and postage-paid envelope



- Existing Transmission Structure To Be Removed
- Existing Transmission Structure Unaltered
- Potential 144 kV Transmission Line Route
- Existing 144 kV Transmission Line To Be Altered
- Existing 144 kV Transmission Line
- Potential Right of Way
- Potential Temporary Workspace

0 50 100 Metres
0 120 240 Feet

ATCO

Big Sky Transmission Project

FACILITY DETAIL MAP

NOTES:
- Only facilities in the vicinity of the project are shown.

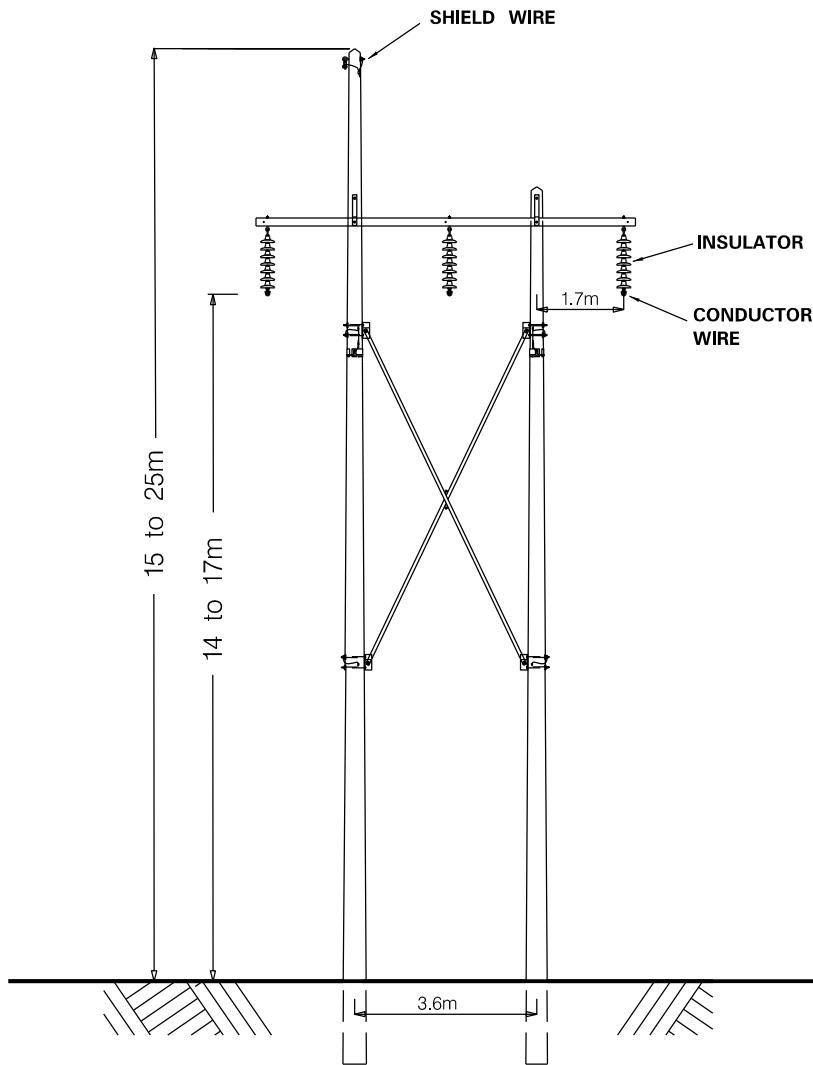
CREDIT NOTES
Alberta Data Partnerships, Government of Alberta, Valtus Imagery Services 2015

This map is the property of ATCO. This map is not intended to be used in place of Alberta One Call.

April 2022
RS-7LC760- N1 - 02

Always practice extreme caution when near power lines!

Typical Single Circuit 144 kV "TW-523 H-Frame" Wood Pole Deadend



Approximate Dimensions	
Max.Height.....	25m
Max.Width.....	7m
Distance Between Structures.....	90 – 150m



Big Sky Transmission Project

TYPICAL STRUCTURE
"TW-523" H-FRAME

March 2022

RS- T-W-523-144 kV SC

Details may change with final designs and locations

Drawn by: TO

Approved by: DB

File Name: 7LC760_TypicalStructure_TW523

Need for the Big Sky Solar Project Connection in the Empress Area

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CONTACT US

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Phone: 403-539-2450

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

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)

The AUC supports ongoing efforts to reach an agreeable outcome for the applicant and all 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 there continues to be 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. The AUC holds public hearings where registered parties can participate and where any member of the public can listen to the hearing. It is a formal, evidence-based hearing that operates similar to a court proceeding.

The public hearing process allows persons who have been granted standing and continue to have unresolved concerns about the application the opportunity to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members.

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 is considered to be 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. 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 application 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 dissatisfied participant 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 dissatisfied participant 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.



Contact us

Phone: 403-592-4500
Toll-free: 310-4282 or
1-833-511-4282 (outside Alberta)
Email: info@auc.ab.ca

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

The Alberta Utilities Commission is 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.

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

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

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 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.

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.

Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC

Prior to filing an application with the AUC for the approval of a proposed utility development project, the applicant is required to engage in a participant involvement program in the area of 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 a public involvement plan in its application that includes information about the public consultation program and identifying any unresolved objections and concerns about the project.

Step 3: Public notice

The AUC generally issues a notice by mail 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 collected 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 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 understand the application 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.

Subject to some limited exceptions, all information and materials provided as part of an AUC proceeding will become part of the public record and will be available through the eFiling System. The AUC's treatment of some types of information as confidential is rare and only available under limited circumstances to ensure that the AUC's process is open and transparent.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the 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 and is how to provide your input to the AUC and monitor the 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.



10035 – 105 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 1C8

SHAPE THE CONVERSATION

BIG SKY TRANSMISSION PROJECT REPLY FORM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Company/Organization Name (if applicable):

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please help us identify new contacts

You were contacted about this project because ATCO identified you or your company/organization as having a land interest in the vicinity of the project. Is there anyone else associated with your property, such as other owners, renters or occupants, who we should also contact? If so, please provide the name(s), contact information and their land interest.

I would like to receive all future correspondence about this project by Email (If this is your preference, please check the box)

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT PRIVACY: *The information on this form is being collected to identify concerns with proposed changes to and/or the siting of power transmission facilities, and to comply with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) rules regarding the submission of transmission facilities applications. This information may be provided to electric facility owners, Alberta's Surface Rights Board, and the Alberta Electric System Operator. Your comments and personal information may also be publicly accessible through the AUC website, should it be submitted to the AUC as part of a transmission facility application – subject to Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. **If you wish to keep your information confidential, you must make a request to the AUC (403-592-4376).** If you have questions or concerns about your information or how it may be used or disclosed as part of this process, please contact us (see contact information below).*

Please let us know by checking a box below if either statement applies to you:

I do not have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

I have concerns with the Project based on the information provided

Please share any comments or concerns that you have about the Project:

HOW TO SUBMIT: Please use the enclosed envelope to return by mail or fax to 780-420-5030. If you would like more information about the project, please contact us toll free 1-855-420-5775 or by Email: consultation@atcoelectric.com.

Attachment 4 – AESO Market Participant Notification Letter (October 14, 2022)

October 14, 2022

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 Big Sky Solar Project Connection in the Empress area**

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) would like to advise you that Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RESC) has applied for transmission system access to connect its Big Sky Solar Project (planned 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 planned 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 planned Facility.¹ The connection assessment identified the potential for thermal criteria violations when a single transmission facility is out of service (Category B) following the connection of the planned Facility. To mitigate these potential Category B system performance issues, existing, modified, and new remedial action schemes may be used. The total megawatts tied to the RAS 134 and RAS 201 exceeds the Maximum Severe Single Contingency (MSSC) limit; therefore, pre-contingency curtailment of projects assigned to the RASs may be required under the Category A condition, to prevent generation curtailment above the MSSC limit during Category B conditions.

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.

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

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 planned Facility to the AIES.

To support the AESO's consideration of the Big Sky Solar Project Connection under the Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, the engineering connection assessment will be posted on the AESO website at:

¹ The studies were performed assuming the Rate STS, *Supply Transmission Service*, contract capacity of 140 MW.

<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 Big Sky Solar Project Connection in the Empress area*

Need for the Big Sky Solar Project Connection in the Empress Area

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- 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@aes0.ca
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Attachment 5 – AESO Public Notification of ANAP Consideration Posting (November 2022)

Big Sky Solar Project Connection (2421)

Abbreviated Needs Approval Process: Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Big Sky Solar Project Connection (Project) for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process*, (ANAP Rule) on or after December 2, 2022. 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 \$4.6M with approximately \$4.0M classified as participant-related and \$0.6M 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
- Cost Estimates
- AESO PIP Summary

Attachment 6 – AESO Stakeholder Newsletter Notice of ANAP Consideration (November 17, 2022)

November 17, 2022

AESO Stakeholder Newsletter



Big Sky Solar Project Connection – Abbreviated Needs Approval Process Notice of Consideration

The AESO intends to consider the need for the Big Sky Solar Project Connection for approval under Section 501.3 of the ISO rules, Abbreviated Needs Approval Process, (ANAP Rule) on or after December 2, 2022. If stakeholders have any questions or concerns, please contact the AESO before this date.

Renewable Energy Systems Canada Inc. (RESC) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Big Sky Solar Project (Facility) in the Empress area. RESC's request can be met by the following solution:

- Add one 144 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 144 kV transmission line 7L760 in a T-tap configuration.
- 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 > Big Sky Solar Project Connection (2421) to see relevant supporting documents.