



October 2021

NEWSLETTER **TO THE COMMUNITY**

54L Transmission Line Rebuild: Canmore



**ELECTRIC
SYSTEM
IMPROVEMENTS
IN YOUR AREA**

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the proposed 54L Transmission Line Rebuild: Canmore and we want your input.



54L Transmission Line Rebuild: Canmore

AltaLink’s existing 54L **transmission** line was constructed in 1943. This transmission line has reached the end of its lifecycle. We are proposing to rebuild this line to ensure that a safe and reliable supply of power is available for years to come, and we want your input.

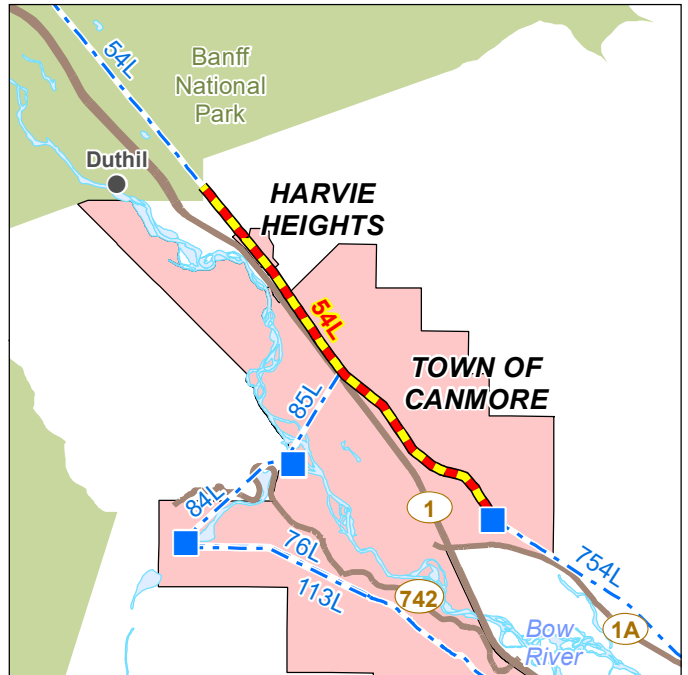
This newsletter will help you understand what we are proposing to do, what the proposed structures may look like and where they may be placed. We have also included maps to show the project area in greater detail.








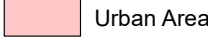


DEFINITION

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.



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|------------|
|  | Existing Substation |  | Road |
|  | Proposed Transmission Line Rebuild |  | Park |
|  | Existing Transmission Line |  | Urban Area |
|  | Hamlet or Locality |  | Water Body |

Project details

The existing 54L transmission line is a single **circuit** 138 **kilovolt (kV)** line that is located in Canmore and Banff National Park.

This proposed project involves rebuilding approximately eight kilometres of the line that runs between the Canmore Substation and the boundary of Banff National Park. Planning for the rebuild of the portion of line in the park is in early stages and not part of this project.

We are proposing to rebuild the line along the same alignment. The existing line will be salvaged. The rebuilt line will be planned and constructed to meet current safety and reliability standards. We do not anticipate any disruption of power to residents while the transmission line is being rebuilt.

DEFINITIONS

Circuit

A circuit is three wires. Transmission line structures can be single or double circuit, and this affects how much electricity the structure carries. Single circuit transmission lines have three wires strung along the structures. A double circuit transmission line has six wires and carries double the amount of electricity.

Kilovolt (kV)

A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts and is commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines. AltaLink's transmission lines range from 69 kV (69,000 volts) to 500 kV (500,000 volts). Light bulbs typically range from 120 to 300 volts.

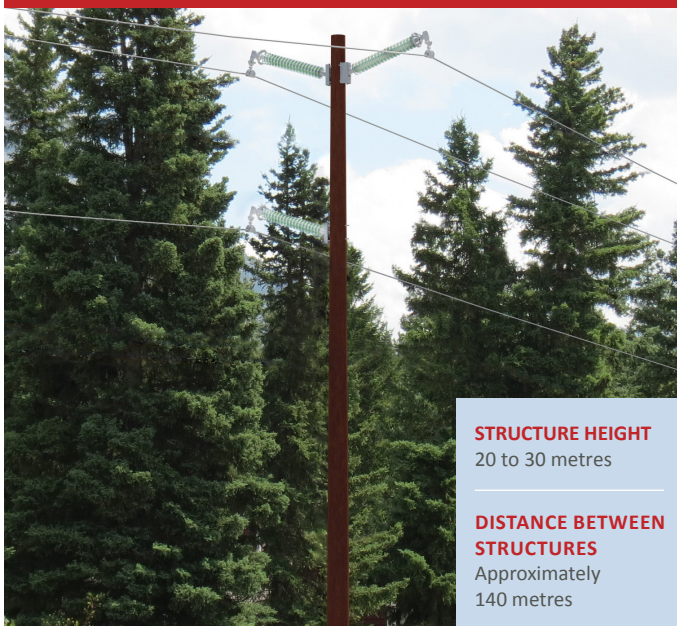
Transmission structures

The existing 54L structures are wood or steel and either monopole or H-frame structures. They are approximately 15 to 20 metres tall and spaced approximately 120 to 200 metres apart.

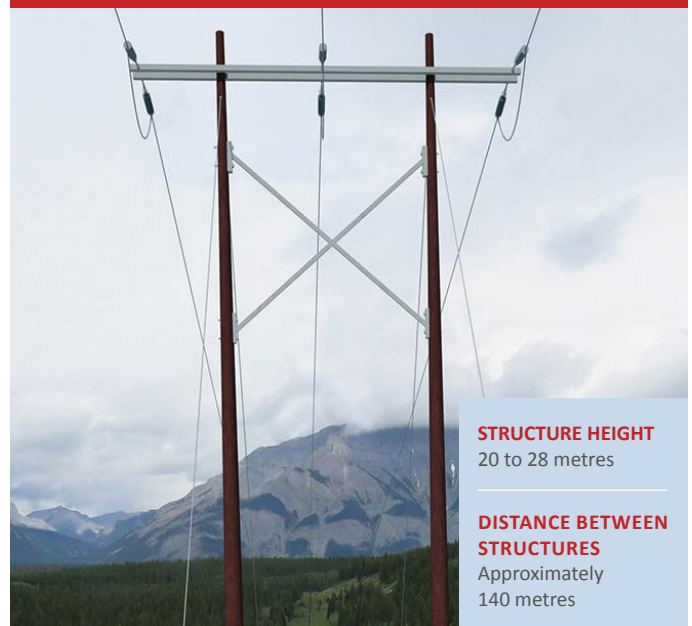
The proposed structures for the rebuilt line:

- will be made of self-weathering steel
- will primarily be monopole structures but H-frame structures may be required in some areas based on the location and engineering requirements
- may require guy wires for corner or angle structures

PROPOSED SINGLE CIRCUIT MONOPOLE



PROPOSED SINGLE CIRCUIT H-FRAME



Please note: All dimensions are approximate and subject to change with detailed engineering.



Temporary transmission line

AltaLink has identified the need for a temporary transmission line (also known as a by-pass) to support the rebuild of the 54L transmission line. The by-pass line is required to maintain the flow of electricity to the Town of Banff while the existing line is being rebuilt. Wooden monopole and H-frame structures are proposed for this temporary line.

It is proposed to be constructed within the existing **right-of-way**, however, brushing of trees and workspace may be required adjacent to portions of the by-pass line to allow for access, construction activities, and for the safe operation of the by-pass line. The by-pass line will be removed after construction of the 54L transmission line rebuild is complete.

DEFINITIONS

Right-of-Way

The right-of-way is a strip of land required for the construction and safe operation of a transmission line. A right-of-way refers to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line. The majority of the right-of-way can still be used by the landowner. Buildings cannot be placed on the right-of-way, but can be built up to the edge of the right-of-way.

Danger trees

A danger tree is a healthy tree that is tall enough to have the potential to fall and make contact with the line.

Hazard trees

A hazard tree is a defective tree that is at imminent risk of falling on the line, and must be immediately removed.

Vegetation management and easements

Safety is our top priority and we have worked with experts at Alberta Wildfire to identify high-risk fire areas within our service territory so we can manage our transmission assets safely and responsibly. Because of this, we are taking proactive measures to reduce risk.

Along the 54L transmission line, **danger trees** and **hazard trees** may need to be removed as required. The removal of trees is intended to reduce the number of outages and the potential fire hazard that could result from tree contacts with the line.

Starting in October, you may see surveying crews in your area marking trees. These markings are meant to provide a visual representation of anticipated vegetation management for the area, if the project is approved. No vegetation management activities outside of the right-of-way will occur unless the project is approved.

There are two easements that we will require in certain areas on the project related to vegetation management activities:

- On Crown land we will require a Vegetation Control Easement (VCE) that allows AltaLink to remove danger trees and hazard trees approximately 20 metres from the edge of the right-of-way, as needed.
- On private property we may require easements of 20 metres from the edge of the right-of-way in locations where we have identified that danger and hazard trees need to be removed. We will contact affected stakeholders to discuss which trees may need to be removed.

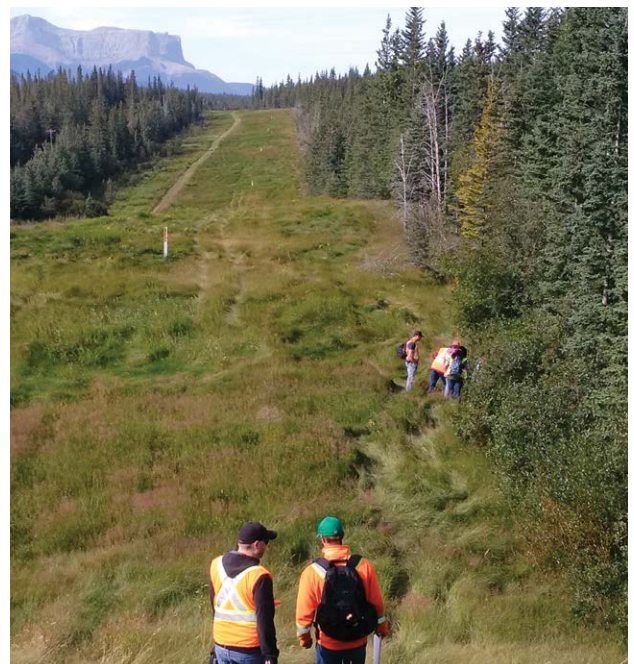
AltaLink offers fair market value for land easements at the time of acquisition which will be discussed on an individual basis with the landowner.



Access trails and construction workspace

To facilitate rebuilding the transmission line, access trails, access gates and construction workspace will be required. The proposed access trails can be seen on the maps included in the package. Where possible, we've tried to use existing trails that avoid steep ground, wet areas and other potential impacts. If you are aware of features that we haven't identified, please let us know.

Construction workspace, in addition to the transmission line right-of-way, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. The requirements for this construction workspace vary depending on the location. AltaLink may also need construction workspace areas up to 80 metres long for conductor stringing behind some corner structures. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace and access trails.



Ongoing Survey work

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS

From now through November, AltaLink will be conducting seasonal environmental surveys along the potential routes for the proposed transmission line development. Ground based surveys on private land will only occur after landowner permission is received. When conducting all surveys, we work to minimize disruption to residences, area users, and wildlife.

GEOTECHNICAL SURVEYS

AltaLink will be conducting geotechnical drilling to perform soil investigation at various locations within the project area as required. Where these activities require access to private property, an AltaLink representative will be in contact with you to request that access.

Other projects in the area

AltaLink is working on another project in the area to make sure your lights come on at the flick of the switch.

PROJECT NAME

113L Transmission Line Rebuild

DESCRIPTION

This project involves rebuilding approximately 23 kilometres of the overhead portion of the 113L line between the Spray Substation to the Kananaskis River.

STATUS

Application has been filed



How to provide your input



AltaLink is closely monitoring the spread of COVID-19. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public while ensuring that we can continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans.

Stakeholder input is important to us. You can provide your input in any of the following ways.

VIRTUAL EVENT

AltaLink has made the decision to not hold in-person events for the project at this time.

We will be hosting a virtual information session to answer your questions and provide more information.

Members of our consultation, environment, electrical effects and siting teams will be available to discuss the project during the session.

EVENT INFORMATION

November 3, 2021 | 6 - 7 p.m.

Register at: www.altalink.ca/projects/about-altalink-transmission-projects.cfm

PARTICIPATE IN A ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATION

At this time, we are limiting in-person meetings and will be conducting the majority of meetings via telephone or electronic methods, however as the situation regarding COVID-19 changes we will re-assess this approach.

We will contact all occupants, residents and landowners who are on or directly adjacent to the proposed transmission line route options to gather input through one-on-one consultations. During the one-on-one process we will document the information you provide and respond to any questions or concerns you may have about the project. AltaLink is committed to sharing information about its projects and working with the public to gather and respond to stakeholder input and concerns. A summary of stakeholder comments will be incorporated into the application we submit to the [Alberta Utilities Commission \(AUC\)](#).

CONTACT US DIRECTLY

You can contact us by telephone, email, mail or through our website. Our contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

Additionally, you can provide input at any time through our online feedback portal, found here: www.altalink.ca/projects/project-feedback.cfm.

DEFINITION

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC, and the AUC reviews them in a public process.



Next steps

After our consultation process is complete, we will file a Facility Application with the AUC and it will be reviewed 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*.

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:

visit: www.altalink.ca/emf

email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca

phone: 1-866-451-7817 (toll-free)

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notify and consult with stakeholders

October 2021 to April 2022

File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

May 2022

Start construction if project is approved

June 2023

Complete construction

December 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.

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 email at privacy@altalink.ca or phone at **1-877-267-6760**.

CONTACT US

To learn more about the proposed project, please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

Email: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

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.

To learn more about the application and review process, please contact:

ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)

780-427-4903 (toll-free 310-0000 before the number)

Email: consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services. AltaLink submits applications for new transmission projects to the AUC and the AUC reviews them in a public process.

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- COVID-19 update
- AUC brochure:
Participating in the AUC's independent review process

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

1. Visit altalink.ca/projects
2. Search for the project title
3. Click **Subscribe to updates**

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