ALTALINK
A BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY ENERGY COMPANY

ELECTRIC SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS IN YOUR AREA

September 2023

NEWSLETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Berland River Transmission Connection

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the proposed Berland River Transmission Connection and we want your input.

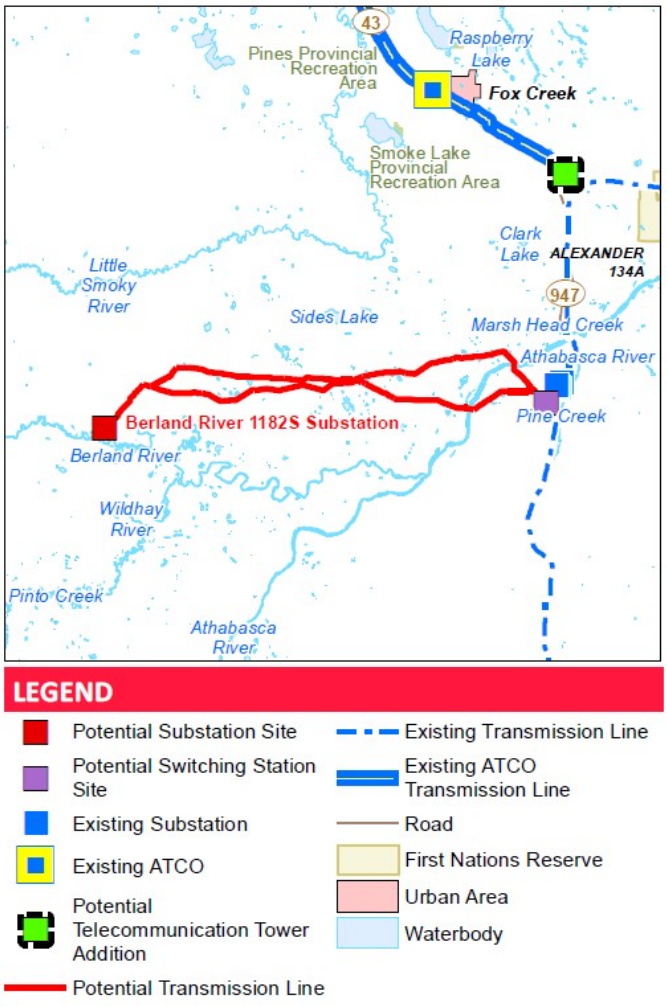
Berland River Transmission Connection

To connect the TC Energy Berland River Project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system in the area. AltaLink's proposed project is located approximately 25 kilometres (km) south of the Town of Fox Creek.

Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of TC Energy's project, it is a separate project. For more information about TC Energy, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

- project details
- maps of the proposed project
- information about how you can provide your input
- the project schedule



DEFINITIONS

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.

Substation
Substations are the connection points between power lines of varying voltages and contain equipment that controls and protects the flow of power. Substations include transformers that step down and step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines or distributed to your community through distribution lines.

Transformer
Transformers step down the voltage in a substation so power can be distributed safely to your community through distribution lines. Transformers also step up the voltage so power can be transmitted through transmission lines.

Control building
Control buildings house electrical equipment such as controls, batteries and meters and ensure electrical equipment is protected.

Circuit Breaker
Circuit breakers are electrical switches inside a substation that protect substation equipment. Circuit breakers help ensure the safety and reliability of the electric system.

Project details

To connect the TC Energy project to the grid, AltaLink's proposed project includes:

- building a new substation
- building approximately 55-60 km of new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line
- building a new 138 kV switching station
- installing new telecommunications equipment

Proposed new Berland Substation

AltaLink is proposing to build a new **substation** (to be called Berland River) located near the TC Energy project site at NW-30-58-23-W5 and SW-30-58-23-W5.

The substation will have a 138/25 kV **transformer**, **control building**, **circuit breakers** and associated equipment. It will have a fenced area of approximately 60 x 60 metres (m).

Proposed new 138 kV transmission line

AltaLink is proposing to build approximately 55-60 km of transmission line that will connect AltaLink's new Berland River Substation to an existing transmission line in the area (called 685L).

Optical ground wire (OPGW) will be installed on the entire length of the new transmission line. This equipment provides lightning protection and is part of a telecommunication network that allows AltaLink to monitor, control, protect, and restore the electric system.

The new Berland River Substation will look similar to the photo above

Proposed new transmission structures

The proposed structures on the new transmission line will be primarily H-Frame structures and will:

- be between 14-25 m tall
- be either wood or steel
- require approximately 35 m of **right-of-way**
- require approximately 60 m of right-of-way when crossing the Athabasca River

Proposed H-Frame structures

Proposed new 138 kV switching station

A new 138 kV **switching station** will be required near the connection point with 685L. The existing 685L will be connected to the new switching station with two short segments of transmission line in a 60 m wide right-of-way. The switching station will:

- have a fenced area of approximately 50 x 50 m
- be located in SE-9-59-18 W5M

The new switching station will look similar to the photo above

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. Buildings cannot be placed on the right-of-way, but can be built up to the edge of the right-of-way.

Switching station

Switching stations connect two or more transmission lines so power can be re-routed and transported across the province to where it's needed.

Proposed telecommunications equipment

As part of this project, AltaLink is proposing to install a new telecommunications tower and fibre optic cable. AltaLink uses this equipment to transmit data to our system control centre. This allows us to monitor the operation of the electric system and ensure we provide safe and reliable power to our customers.

Fibre optic cable

The proposed new fibre optic cable will be buried underground between the new switching station at 685L and an existing substation in the area (called Benbow). The fibre optic cable will be approximately three km long.

In locations where the fibre optic cable cannot be buried, we will use OPGW instead.

Telecommunications tower

The proposed telecommunications tower will be located at the existing Fox Creek Substation in NE-34-61-18-W5. The telecommunications tower will:

- be a self-supporting steel structure
- be approximately 40-50 m tall (including the antenna and lightning rod) and have a triangular base
- comply with Transport Canada's requirements regarding painting and lighting
- not be accessible to the public, as the structure will be inside the fenced area of an operating substation and only support AltaLink equipment at this time

AltaLink is proposing to expand the fenceline of the Fox Creek substation by approximately 9 x 9 m to accommodate the new telecommunications tower.

The locations of the new substation, proposed connection point options, fibre optic cable, and telecommunications tower are shown on the maps included in this package.

The existing Fox Creek Substation

The new telecommunications tower will look similar to the photo above

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.
Website: www.altalink.ca/emf
Email: emfdialogue@altalink.ca
Toll-free phone number: 1-866-451-7817

Radio Frequency (RF)

Telecommunication towers use Radio Frequency (RF) signals to transmit and receive information. The point-to-point signals travel along a focused path at low power levels and are well below recommended safety limits. Licensed radio links on a telecommunications tower will not impact any other licensed telecommunication frequencies used by cellular phones, over-the-air television, satellite, radio, or GPS.

The telecommunication tower described in this notification will be installed and operated on an ongoing basis to be in compliance with Health Canada's Safety Code 6, which defines safe levels of RF exposure. To ensure the structural adequacy of the tower, the design and installation will follow industry standards and sound engineering practices.

For general information relating to telecommunications systems, please contact:
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

1-800-267-9401 (toll free in Canada)
Website: www.ic.gc.ca/towers

Our Commitment to Sustainability

If the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) approves this project, you may see or hear construction crews in the area. We have set strict standards by which we operate, including restricting work hours to reduce the impacts to local residents and businesses, ensuring safe construction practices and following environmental protection measures and appropriate environmental legislation. AltaLink believes that the environmental effects of this project will be negligible. This project is not located on federal lands, therefore Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 does not apply. AltaLink's safety standards and practices are developed to meet or exceed government guidelines and codes to ensure that our facilities meet the requirements for public, employee and neighbouring facility safety.

Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns.

After our consultation and notification process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC ensures the fair and responsible delivery of Alberta's utility services and will review the application 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 to consider facility applications.*

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

Notify and consult with stakeholders
September 2023 to June 2024

File application with Alberta Utilities Commision (AUC)
July 2024

Start construction if project is approved
January 2025

Complete construction
December 2025

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 TC Energy project, please contact:

TC Energy
1-855-895-8754
E-mail: public_affairs_ca@tcenergy.com
Website: TCEnergy.com

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

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- **Project maps**
- **AUC brochure:** *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

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

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