

# Electric system improvements near you

## Greencells Estuary Solar Project Connection

You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the Greencells Estuary Solar Project Connection and we want your input.

To connect the Greencells Indygen Alberta Ltd. (Greencells) project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its **transmission** system. AltaLink's proposed project is located in Cypress County, in the vicinity of the Hamlet of McNeil.

Greencells has applied to the Alberta Utilities Commission for their proposed solar power facility. Although AltaLink's project is required to facilitate the connection of the Greencells project, it is a separate project. For more information about Greencells, see their contact information on the back of this newsletter.

We are providing you with:

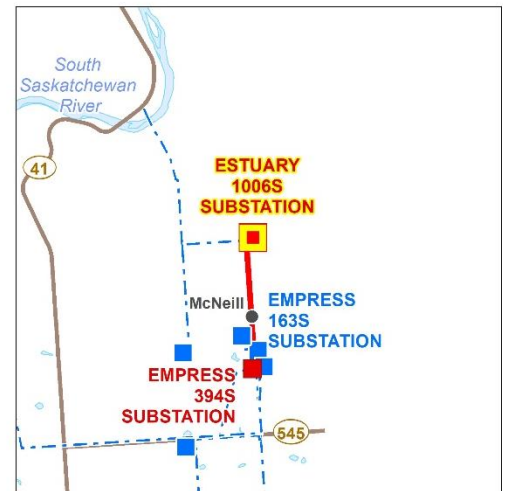
- project details
- maps of the proposed project
- information about how you can provide your input
- project schedule

**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 including wind, high-efficiency coal, natural gas and more.

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](http://www.altalink.ca).



**LEGEND**

- Proposed Modification of Existing Substation
- Proposed Greencells' Estuary Substation Target Area
- Existing Substation
- Proposed Transmission Line
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- Hamlet or Locality
- Road
- Water Body

**CONTACT US**

1-877-267-1453  
[stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)  
[www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)






## Project details

To connect the Greencells project to the grid, AltaLink's proposed project includes building new transmission lines, relocating and modifying existing transmission lines and expanding the existing Empress 394S **Substation**. The details are outlined below and can be seen on the detail photo map and strip maps included in this package.

- **Building a new transmission line:** Building approximately four kilometres of new 138 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will connect Greencells proposed Estuary Substation to AltaLink's existing Empress 394S Substation.
  - Optical ground wire (OPGW) will need to be installed on 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
- **Upgrading an existing transmission line:** Relocating approximately 575 metres (m) of the 760L transmission line approximately 70 m to the west, where it will be combined with a portion of the new transmission line into one double **circuit** line
  - Approximately 575 m of the 760L line will be salvaged once the relocation is complete
  - To connect the relocated line to the existing Empress 163S Substation, approximately 65 m of new 138 kV single circuit transmission line will be built
- **Adding or replacing structures along existing transmission lines in the area**
  - Adding one new H-Frame structure on the existing 760L transmission line (west of Greencell's proposed Estuary Substation)
  - Replacing two structures on the existing 760L transmission line west of the Empress 394S Substation with two similar structures that will have guy wires
  - Replacing one existing monopole structure on the 869L transmission line with a new H-frame structure (west of the existing Empress 163S Substation)
  - Removing one structure on the 669L transmission line on the east side of Range Road 11 and adding two similar structures that will have guy wires

## Proposed transmission structures

	Proposed structures for the new transmission lines		Proposed structure additions/replacements along existing transmission lines
	Single circuit monopole	Double circuit monopole	H-frame
			
<b>Type</b>	Wood or steel		Wood or steel
<b>Height</b>	Between 20 and 35 m		Between 20 and 35 m
<b>Location</b>	Within road allowance		Located within the existing <b>right-of-way</b>
<b>Right-of-way</b>	Approximately 20 m when located on private property and 10 m on road allowance		
<b>Guy wires</b>	May be required in certain locations		Not required

## Substation expansion

AltaLink is proposing to install a new 138 kV **circuit breaker** and associated equipment to the Empress Substation. To accommodate the new equipment, the substation fence line will need to expand by approximately 20 x 45 metres to the north.



*Empress 394S Substation*



*138 kV circuit breaker*

## Construction workspace

Construction workspace, in addition to the transmission line right-of-way, is required for the safe construction of the transmission line. Construction workspace is shown on the strip maps included in this package. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding potential construction workspace.

### DEFINITIONS:

#### **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.

#### **Circuit**

A circuit is a group of wires that electricity flows through. The wires are strung along power line structures. Transmission line structures can be described as single or double circuit. In a single circuit transmission line, three single or bundled wires are strung along the transmission structures. A double circuit transmission line has six single or bundled wires strung along the structures.

#### **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.

#### **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.

## Providing your input

We will contact landowners, residents and occupants near the proposed project to gather input and address questions or concerns. Our priority is maintaining the health and safety of our employees, contractors, and the general public, while ensuring that we are able to continue to operate our system and keep the lights on for Albertans. We will follow any requested COVID-19 safety protocols for in-person meetings and accommodate your preferred meeting options, including over the phone, virtual or in-person. You can also provide input through our online feedback portal, found here: [www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback](http://www.altalink.ca/projectfeedback).

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	February to May 2023
File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)	June 2023
Start construction if project is approved	September 2023
Construction completed	September 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 if required as the project progresses.*

## Contact us

*To learn more about the proposed project please contact:*

### **ALTALINK**

1-877-267-1453 (toll free)

E-mail: [stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca](mailto:stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca)

Website: [www.altalink.ca/projects](http://www.altalink.ca/projects)

*To learn more about Greencells proposed project please contact:*

### **Greencells Indygen Alberta Ltd.**

David Ashton, Director, Indygen Utility Ltd

E-mail: [david@indygen.co.uk](mailto:david@indygen.co.uk)

Phone: +44 (0) 794-381-2649

*To learn more about Alberta's electric system and the need for the project, please contact:*

### **ALBERTA ELECTRIC SYSTEM OPERATOR**

1-888-866-2959 (toll-free)

E-mail: [stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca](mailto:stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca)

Website: [www.aeso.ca](http://www.aeso.ca)

The 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 included with this package or visit [www.aeso.ca](http://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 a transmission facility owner 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.

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

### **ALBERTA UTILITIES COMMISSION (AUC)**

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

E-mail: [consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca](mailto:consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca)

### **PRIVACY COMMITMENT**

AltaLink is committed to protecting your privacy. Collected personal information will be protected under AltaLink's Privacy Policy and the Personal Information Protection Act. 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](http://www.altalink.ca/privacy) or contact us directly via e-mail [privacy@altalink.ca](mailto:privacy@altalink.ca) or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

## INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE:

- Project maps
- Information about Electric and Magnetic Fields
- AESO Need Overview
- AUC brochure: *Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications*

## SUBSCRIBE TO THIS PROJECT

- 1) Visit: [altalink.ca/projects](http://altalink.ca/projects)
- 2) Search for the project title
- 3) Click **Subscribe to Updates**

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