## Electric system improvements near you





You are receiving this newsletter because you are near the RES Nova Solar Power Connection, and we want your input.

We began consulting with stakeholders on this proposed project in February 2022 and submitted an application for the project to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in October 2022. The project is located in Wheatland County, approximately four kilometres southwest of Carseland.

In July 2023, the AUC denied Renewable Energy System Canada's (RES) original project application, which means that AltaLink's original application was also denied.

After further stakeholder consultation, RES is making changes to their application and will refile it with the AUC. AltaLink will also refile our application to connect RES's Nova Solar Power Project to the grid. The scope and details of AltaLink's original project have not changed.

To connect RES's Nova Solar Power project to the grid, AltaLink is proposing changes to its transmission system.

Although AltaLink's project is required to connect RES's project, it is a separate project. RES will consult separately on their proposed project. For more information about RES's project, see their contact information included in this newsletter.



## ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

## JUNE 2024

Notify and consult with stakeholders

JUNE-JULY 2024 File application with Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)

JULY 2025 Start construction if project is approved AUGUST 2026 Construction completed

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.





**Top photo**: An example of the existing structures on the 924L/927L transmission line. **Bottom photo**: An example of what the new telecommunications tower will look like.

#### DEFINITIONS:

**Right-of-way** | *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.* 

## **Project details**

RES is constructing a new transmission line to connect their approved **substation** and new solar power facility to the grid.

To accommodate the connection, AltaLink is proposing to modify our existing 924L/927L transmission line.

The transmission line modifications will be determined after additional engineering has been completed, but may include replacing or modifying an existing structure or adding a new structure to the transmission line. If a new structure is needed, it will be a steel lattice structure, similar to the existing structures and with a similar height of approximately 42 metres.

The location of the proposed structure work is shown on the Detail Photo Map (DP1) included in this package.

## **Telecommunications tower**

Along with the proposed structure work, AltaLink is proposing to install a new **telecommunications tower** to help maintain the safety and reliability of the electric system in the area.

The proposed telecommunications tower will:

- be located within RES's new substation in NW-3-22-26 W4M
- be a self-supported steel structure
- be approximately 29 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

The location of the telecommunications tower is shown on the Detail Photo Map (DP2) included in this package.

## Access trails and construction workspace

Access trails and construction workspace, in addition to the existing transmission line **right-of-way**, are required for this project. AltaLink will consult with all affected landowners regarding the access trails and construction workspace. Proposed access trails and construction workspace are included on the maps in this package.

Telecommunications tower

Telecommunications towers support equipment that transmits 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.

## **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.* 

INCLUDED IN THIS INFORMATION PACKAGE: Project maps





#### **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 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.

#### **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 or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

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. • AUC brochure: Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility

## **Contact us**

To learn more about the proposed project please contact:

ALTALINK

1-877-267-1453 (toll free) E-mail: stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca

#### To subscribe to this project:

visit www.altalink.ca/projects, search for the project title, and click 'subscribe to updates'

For more information about how AltaLink protects your personal information: visit our website at www.altalink.ca/privacy-legal or contact us directly via e-mail privacy@ altalink.ca or phone at 1-877-267-6760.

To learn more about the Renewable Energy System Canada (RES) project, please contact:

#### Matt Whiteman, RES

Development Manager, Canada D: 438-266-1934 | C: 438-376-7086 matt.whiteman@res-group.com

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) Email: stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca Website: www.altalink.ca/projects

The AESO is an independent, not-forprofit 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. 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.

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## **Electric and Magnetic Fields and Radio Frequency Information**

## **Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF)**

AltaLink recognizes that people have concerns about exposure to Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) and we take those concerns very seriously. Everyone in our society is exposed to 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 have been conducting and reviewing research about EMF for more than 40 years. Based on this research, these organizations have not recommended the general public take steps to limit their everyday exposure to EMF from high voltage transmission lines.

## If you have any questions about EMF please contact us.

Website: www.altalink.ca/safety-and-preparedness/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 pointto-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

www.facebook.com/altalinktransmission





