

Project Overview

This package is intended to provide you with information about electric transmission line relocation work associated with the Mildred Lake East Mine Extension Project (the Project). The Project will provide Syncrude Canada Ltd. (Syncrude) with a replacement bitumen supply that will sustain Syncrude's production capacity. This package provides important information and outlines our public consultation process associated with the electric transmission line relocation work.

Suncor Energy (Syncrude) Operating Inc. (SESOI) as the operator of the Project and on behalf of the owner, Syncrude, is planning to relocate and salvage existing electric transmission lines to accommodate the Project. These existing electric transmission lines are located within Syncrude's existing Mildred Lake industrial complex approximately 40 km north of Fort McMurray, Alberta.

Definitions

Circuit: A circuit is a group or collection of wires known as conductors through which electricity flows. Transmission lines can be single or double circuit. A single circuit line has three conductors while a double circuit line has six. A transmission line may also have one or two shield wires on the top of the structures to protect the line from lightning.

Kilovolt (kV): A kilovolt is equal to one thousand volts. This unit of measurement is most commonly used when describing transmission and distribution lines.

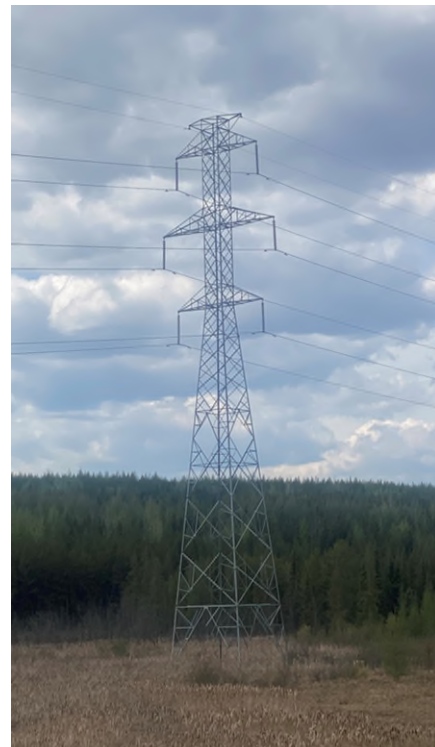
Right of way: A right-of-way is the use of a strip of land acquired for the construction and operation of a transmission line. The term right-of-way is also used to refer to the physical space a transmission line encompasses including areas on either side of the line.

Optical ground wire: is an optical fiber composite overhead ground wire and is a type of cable that is used in overhead power lines. Such cable combines the functions of grounding and communications. The optical ground wire cable is run on the top of high-voltage electric transmission structures.

Technical Details

To accommodate the Project, SESOI is relocating and salvaging two types of electric transmission lines. The first includes approximately 10km of two existing single circuit 260kV transmission lines, 201-PLT260-1 and 201-PLT260-2; and the second includes approximately 5km of two existing single circuit 72kV transmission lines, ML 3 and ML 4. The location of the transmission line salvage and proposed location of the relocated transmission lines are illustrated on the attached Project map.

The relocated 260kV transmission lines 201-PLT260-1 and 201-PLT260-2 will be built with double-circuit structures consisting of steel material. Optical ground wire will be installed on top of the structures in place of overhead shield wire. The right-of-way (ROW) will be 35 metres (m) wide except where the 201-PLT260-1 and 201-PLT260-2 lines cross Highway 63 and in that location the ROW will be reduced to 30 m. The structure height is between 39 m to 49 m, and the distance between structures will range from 175 m to 380 m. Double circuit steel structures with wider bases, or guy wires and anchors may be required where the line ends or bends, at corners and to go over and around obstacles. A picture of a typical double-circuit structure is shown to the right.



SESOI has taken several factors into consideration when developing the proposed electric transmission route, including environmental, social and economic effects. Minimum vertical and horizontal clearance will meet the requirements of provincial safety regulations for highway crossings and proximity to mine pit limit.

Temporary workspace will be required during the demolition of the existing, and construction of the new, electric transmission lines. Temporary workspace will be located entirely within Syncrude's Mineral Surface Lease.

We are engaging early with stakeholders to gather feedback on the 260kV transmission line route and structure types outlined above.

Application Process

After the public consultation process is complete, we will file an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the salvage and relocation of the 260kV transmission lines, 201-PLT260-1 and 201-PLT260-2. The AUC will review the application through a process in which stakeholders can participate.

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*.

The Schedule

Consult with stakeholders	Q3 – Q4, 2024
File Application with AUC	Q1, 2025
Commence Construction	Q1, 2026
Construction Completion	Q1, 2028

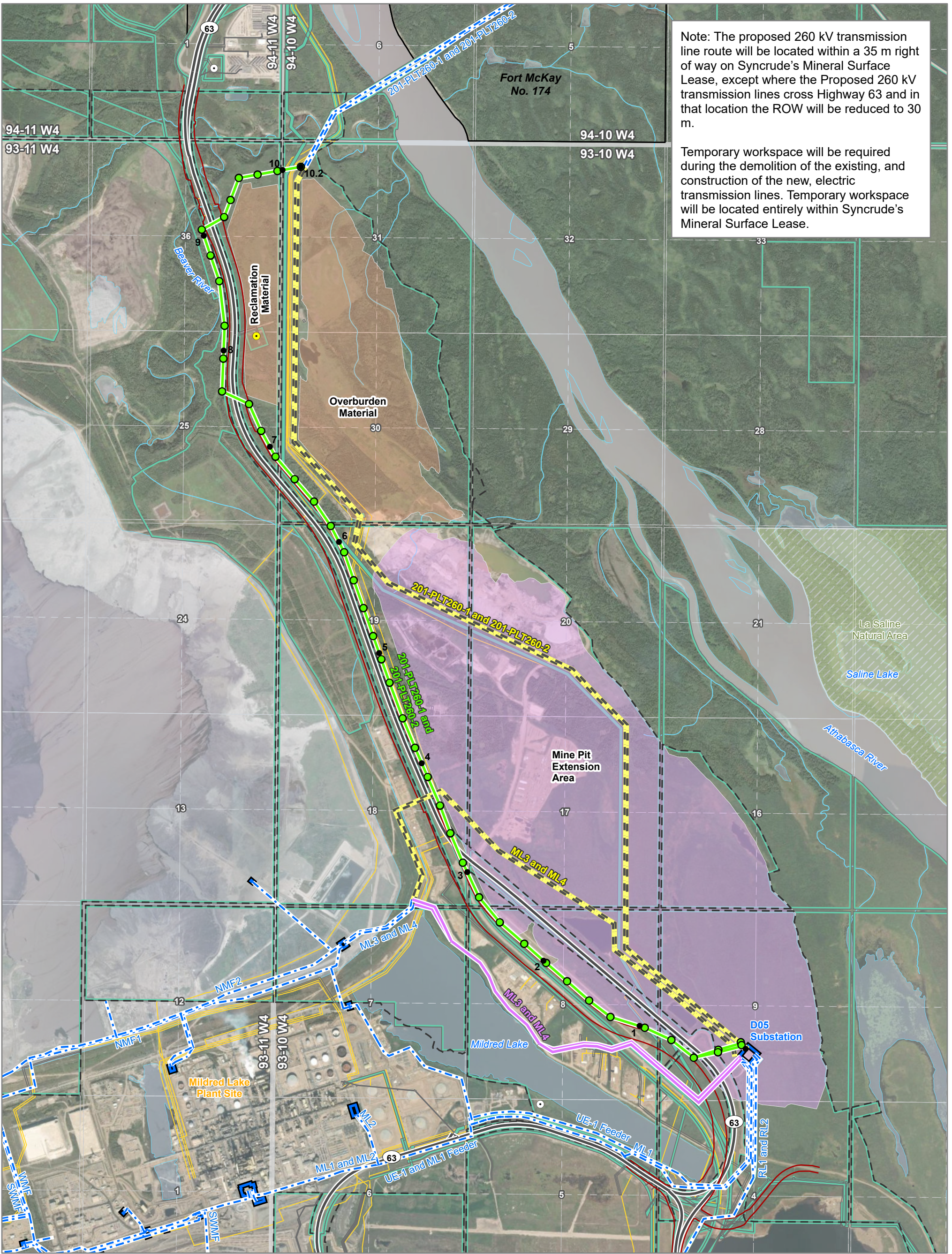
Providing Your Input

You can also contact us by telephone or email using the contact information provided below.

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Suncor Energy (Synocrude) Operating Inc. on behalf of the owner, Synocrude Canada Ltd.



Note: The proposed 260 kV transmission line route will be located within a 35 m right of way on Syncrude's Mineral Surface Lease, except where the Proposed 260 kV transmission lines cross Highway 63 and in that location the ROW will be reduced to 30 m.

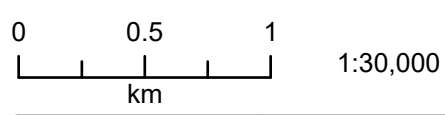
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Mildred Lake East Mine Extension Project

Electric Transmission Line Relocation Project Overview Map

- Kilometre Point
- Proposed Transmission Structure
- Proposed 260 kV Transmission Line Route
- Proposed 72 kV Transmission Line Route
- Syncrude Transmission Line to be Salvaged
- Mineral Surface Lease
- Mine Pit Extension Area
- Stockpile
- Existing Communications Tower
- Communications Tower To Be Relocated
- - - Existing Syncrude Transmission Line
- Highway 63 Right-of-Way
- Pipeline
- Road
- Watercourse
- Crown Land Disposition
- Existing Syncrude Substation
- First Nation Reserve
- Water Body
- Park and Protected Area



Produced For: Suncor | Map Creator: W. Barr | Map Date: August 19, 2024 | Map #: SUN23176-005 Rev. 4
This document is created solely for the use of Suncor. Maskwa Environmental Consulting Ltd. assumes no liability to any other third party for any representations contained in this drawing. Although there is no reason to believe that there are any errors associated with the data used to create this map product, users of this data are advised that errors may be present. Scale of the map is 1:30,000, when printed at 11" by 17". Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N Path: \\Maskwa-fs01\dfs\GIS\client\Suncor\SUN23176_MildredLake\003_Mapping\20240408_MailoutMap\



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

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 AUC 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.
- The need for and siting of natural gas utility pipelines.

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.

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

Application review process

Step 1: Public consultation prior to applying to the AUC



An applicant seeking approval of a proposed utility development project is required to engage in a participant involvement program prior to filing an application with the AUC. The public involvement program involves consultation with persons whose rights may be directly and adversely affected by 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 the results of a public involvement program in its application that includes information about how applicants consulted and notified stakeholders and Indigenous groups and identifies any unresolved objections and concerns about the project.

Step 3: Public notice



When the AUC receives an application it is assigned a proceeding number and the AUC generally mails a notice of application 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 filed electronically 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 concerned 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 ask the applicant questions on the public record 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.

AUC eFiling System

The eFiling System is the online 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. The system is also used to submit your concerns and provide input to the AUC and can be used to monitor 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.

Step 5: Consultation and negotiation (if applicable)



The AUC supports efforts to reach a mutually agreeable outcome among the applicant and 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 a person with standing continues to have 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. When the AUC holds a public hearing, registered parties are given the opportunity to express their views directly to a panel of Commission members. Any member of the public can listen to an in-person or virtual oral hearing. An oral public hearing operates similar to a court proceeding.

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 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. It is also subject to the AUC's published scale of costs.

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 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 participant in a proceeding 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 participant in a proceeding can also ask the AUC to review its decision. An application to review a decision must be filed within 30 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.

We are 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.



Contact us

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