



Village of Hill Spring
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA - DRAFT
Hill Spring Council Chambers
Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

1. CALL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ACCEPTANCE/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
 - a) 2023.07.18
4. DELEGATION
 - a)
 - b)
5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES
 - a)
6. FINANCIAL REPORTS:
 - a) Cheque Listing for Aug 2023
7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
 - a) Water Treatment Plant Consumption
 - b) Hill Spring Welcome Sign & Map
 - c) Utility Trailer Sale Proposal to AG Society
 - d) ATB GIC Maturing
 - e) Joint Water Commission Glenwood/Hill Spring/Cardston County Proposal
8. ADMINISTRATORS & COUNCIL REPORTS:
 - a) CAO Report
9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) TransAlta response letter
- b) Fire Advisory Notice
- c)
- d)

10. CLOSED MEETING: if needed or when required by council per FOIP Act Division 2 of Part 1 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Municipal Government Act, Section 197)*

11. ADJOURNMENT:

DRAFT

VILLAGE OF HILL SPRING

July 18, 2023

The Village of Hill Spring Regular Council Meeting was held at the Hill Spring Council Chambers on July 18, 2023 commencing at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Mayor Davis, and Councillors Christensen, French, and Nish.

Officials: CAO Greg Robinson.

Absent: Councillor Barfuss.

Public:

CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Davis called the **Regular** Council Meeting to Order at 7:18 p.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

2023.07.084

Councillor Christensen **MOVED** to accept the agenda as presented.

Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2023.06.20 REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

2023.07.085

Councillor French **MOVED** to approve the 2023.06.20 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented.

Carried

DELEGATIONS

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CHEQUE LISTING FOR
JUNE/JULY 2023

2023.07.086

Councillor Nish **MOVED** to accept the cheque listing for June/July 2023.

Carried

BUSINESS ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

LAND USE BYLAW
UPDATE: ORRSC

Council was provided an update from ORRSC about the status on the Land Use Bylaw and the work that is currently being done on it.

911 LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SERVICE AGREEMENT

2023.07.087

Councillor Christensen **MOVED** to approve the Next Generation 9-1-1 Local Government Service Agreement.

Carried

TOWN OF RAYMOND
AGREEMENT

2023.07.088

Councillor Nish **MOVED** to accept the Town of Raymond Joint Services Agreements – Administrative and Financial Support and CAO Agreement.

Carried

TEMPORARY ROAD
CLOSURE

2023.07.089

Mayor Davis **MOVED** to approve a temporary road closure from 4:00pm-10:00pm on July 28, 2023.

Carried

BUDGET UPDATE

2023.07.090

Councillor Christensen **MOVED** to approve the Budget Update as presented.

Carried

BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT
PROPOSAL RRPSSC

2023.07.091

Councillor Christensen **MOVED** to table this matter and to bring it back to an upcoming Council Meeting.

Carried

VILLAGE BULLETIN
BOARD

Council discussed a potential approval process for community members posting on the Village Bulletin Board.

**ADMINISTRATOR AND
COUNCIL REPORTS AND
CORRESPONDANCE**

2023.07.092

Mayor Davis **MOVED** to accept the Administrator Report as presented. **Carried**

2023.07.093

Councillor Nish **MOVED** to accept Correspondence as information. **Carried**

CLOSED MEETING

2023.07.094

Mayor Davis **MOVED** that Council recess the regular meeting and go "In Camera" at 8:37pm. **Carried**

2023.07.095

Councillor Christensen **MOVED** that Council go "Out of Camera" and resume the regular meeting at 9:30pm. **Carried**

ADJOURNMENT

2023.06.083

Councillor Nish **MOVED** to adjourn the July 18, 2023, Council Meeting at 9:33pm. **Carried**

Mayor Dwight Davis

CAO Greg Robinson

Village Of Hill Spring

Cheque Listing For Council

2023-Aug-11
12:32:39PM

Cheque #	Cheque Date	Vendor Name	General Ledger	Invoice #	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount	Cheque Amount
20230144	2023-07-05	ANDERSON, DAVID AND DAF	3-00-00-00-00-210	202307051	PAYMENT CREDIT BALANCE PAID	128.44	128.44
20230145	2023-07-05	ALBERTA MUNICIPAL SERV	2-23-00-00-00-540	23-1048656	PAYMENT POWER/GAS	80.39	186.68
			2-41-00-00-00-540	23-1048656	POWER/GAS	42.92	
			2-12-00-00-00-540	23-1048656	POWER/GAS	63.37	
20230146	2023-07-05	AMSC INSURANCE SERVICE	2-12-00-00-00-274	42013	PAYMENT INSURANCE	12,589.00	12,589.00
20230147	2023-07-05	BARN STORE	2-31-00-00-00-527	JUNE 2023	PAYMENT FUEL	79.82	79.82
20230148	2023-07-05	BECK'S EXCAVATING & TRU	2-41-00-00-00-252	3154	PAYMENT REP WATER LEAK ON 1 ST NW	399.00	399.00
20230149	2023-07-05	BENCHMARK ASSESSMENT	2-12-00-00-00-300	2749	PAYMENT ASSESSOR FEES	1,233.75	1,233.75
20230150	2023-07-05	CANOE PROCUREMENT GR	2-12-00-00-00-290	170094	PAYMENT OFFICE SUPPLS	270.95	624.43
			2-12-00-00-00-510	AB172432	OFFICE SUPPLIES	353.48	
20230151	2023-07-05	CARDSTON COUNTY	2-23-00-00-00-110	22857	PAYMENT DEM CONTRACT	66.70	2,733.37
			2-41-00-00-00-250	22860	WATER OP FEES	2,666.67	
20230152	2023-07-05	CLEARTECH	2-41-00-00-00-252	1072787	PAYMENT WATER CHEMICALS	193.30	193.30
20230153	2023-07-05	MICRO AGE	2-12-00-00-00-510	23123	PAYMENT OFFICE EXCHANGE	79.80	79.80
20230154	2023-07-05	OLDMAN RIVER REGION SE	2-12-00-00-00-270	13363	PAYMENT ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD F	225.00	225.00
20230155	2023-07-05	PASSEY ELECTRIC	2-12-00-00-00-270	230178	PAYMENT POST OFFICE OUTLET	216.41	216.41
20230156	2023-07-05	SILVER AUTOMOTIVE	2-32-00-00-00-260	23596050	PAYMENT JERRY CAN	55.61	55.61
20230157	2023-07-05	XPLORE	2-41-00-00-00-270	48437218	PAYMENT INTERNET	105.94	105.94
20230158	2023-07-05	REMPLE, MARIA	2-74-00-00-00-250	JUNE 2023	PAYMENT CLEANING	228.00	228.00
20230159	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					
20230160	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					
20230161	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					
20230162	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					
20230163	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					
20230164	2023-07-31	PAYROLL					

Total 21,087.12

*** End of Report ***





LOGAN PASS

WATERTON LAKES NATIONAL PARK

CROWSNEST PASS

U.S.A.

HILL SPRING
SO MUCH TO SEE FROM HERE

CARDSTON

PINCHER CREEK

HISTORIC

FORT MACLEOD

SOUTHWESTERN ALBERTA PLACES OF INTEREST

- Visitor Information
- Campgrounds
- Accommodations
- Museums
- Pavement
- Gravel

EAST

NORTH

Hill Spring

VISITOR INFORMATION



Sign by
Royce Royce







I want to...



1st St W

1st Ave N



Main St

1st Ave N

1st St E



July 31/23

To Village of Hill Spring,

On Behalf of the Hill Spring
Ag Society I offer to buy
trailer with ramps for
the price of \$6000.00 as is

Thanks.

Robert Wyden

BARBARA McNEIL

B.Sc.Ag.; Masters in Public Administration

Chartered Mediator Adjudicator Qualified Arbitrator

www.barbaramcneil.com

PROFILE

Experienced mediator, facilitator, adjudicator, and dispute resolution trainer. Integrity Commissioner, code of conduct investigator, and ombudsman certification. Thirty-year career working with people to reach resolution on complex and often controversial issues in municipal, workplace, regulatory, energy development, and land management matters. Recognized leader, educator, and mentor in alternative dispute resolution. Past President of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (ADRIA).

EXPERIENCE

Barbara McNeil & Associates: 1991 – 2023. Project list available, subject to confidentiality

- Mediation and facilitation for workplace, municipal, energy development, and land issues
- Code of Conduct resolution and workplace investigation
- Facilitation of strategic planning, governance issues, and team development
- Extensive experience working in rural and urban communities throughout Alberta
- Facilitation of public projects involving discussion and resolution of contentious issues
- Instructor of interest-based mediation, negotiation, and conflict management since 1993. (University of Calgary, JIBC, ADRIA, and private clients)
- Design, development, and leadership of stakeholder engagement projects
- Design of organizational mediation programs integrating appropriate dispute resolution within existing regulatory frameworks (Energy Utilities Board)

Alberta Land and Property Rights Tribunal: Part time tribunal member for adjudication and mediation of municipal and surface rights issues. Appointed 2022.

2013 – 2017: Full-time Hearing Commissioner, Alberta Energy Regulator

Responsibilities: Design and lead alternative dispute resolution processes to resolve contentious applications and appeals of energy resource activities. Hearing panel chair or member on tribunal decision making for energy resource applications and appeals.

BOARD AND TRIBUNAL WORK

- President: Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (ADRIA). 2019 to 2023
 - Chair: Banff Development Appeal Board. 2011 – 2017
 - Alberta Municipal Government Board member: 1993 – 1996
-

BARBARA McNEIL
BOX 3723 BANFF, ALBERTA T1L 1E3
403.850.4227
bma@barbaramcneil.com

- Federal Farm Debt Mediation Board: Board member and mediator. 1986 – 1998
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Staffing Tribunal: 2003 – 2004
- Alberta Cattle Commission Delegate, 1983- 1986

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Alberta (currently serving as past president).
- Chartered Mediator since 1998.
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute of Canada

EDUCATION

- Certificate in Workplace Investigation. Rubin Tomlinson 2022
- Certificate in Administrative Justice: Foundation of Administrative Justice. 2013
- Certificate in Conflict Resolution: Justice Institute of British Columbia. 1998
- Master’s in Public Administration: Carleton University, Ottawa.
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture: University of Manitoba.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Advanced Workplace Investigation Techniques. Rubin Thomlinson 2020
- Conducting Workplace Assessments. Rubin Thomlinson 2020
- Workplace Investigations. Assessing Credibility. Conducting Sexual Harassment and Violence Investigations: Rubin Thomlinson. 2019
- Workplace Fairness Assessment Analyst: Workplace Fairness Institute: 2019
- Ombudsman Certificate: Osgoode Law School. York University 2018
- Arbitration Certificate: Alberta Arbitration Society 2016
- Crisis Communication and Public Decision Making: IAP2 2016
- Effective Writing in the Workplace. University of Calgary 2016
- Advanced Training: Decision Making and Writing, Evidence and Effective Hearings. Foundations of Administrative Justice: 2015
- Managing Successful Settlement Conferences, 2014
- Advanced Mediation Training: Justice Institute of BC 2014
- Fundamentals of Governance, Queens School of Business 2009

BARBARA McNEIL

CHARTERED MEDIATOR

ADJUDICATOR

INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

August 3, 2023

Cynthia Vizzutti
Chief Administrative Officer
Village of Glenwood
Alberta

Dear Cynthia,

Thank you for the phone conversation last week describing the plan to create a Water Commission for the Village of Glenwood, the Village of Hillspring, and Cardston County, and for asking me to mediate/facilitate the discussions for the communities. I'm honoured.

Suggested initial work plan.

- I'll arrange for a joint online meeting with the CAO's of Glenwood, Hillspring, and Cardston. The purpose is to get their input into the broad goals for the project, to plan for the first few sessions and scheduling, and to establish clear scope and expectations for me.
- Based on those discussions, I'll prepare a more comprehensive plan for the project.
- As the project progresses. I'll prepare and mediate all the necessary sessions for the municipal representatives and prepare summary notes from each session.
- I'll meet as necessary with municipal administrators to ensure the project is on track and meeting goals.

Proposed fee:

- To prepare for and facilitate the mediation sessions, provide necessary materials and compile and submit summary notes: \$250/ hour
- Return travel time from Banff to meeting location \$100/hour
- Mileage is billed at municipal rates and receipts provided for travel expenses.

It's difficult for me to predict right now the amount of time that will be needed for this project. Please know that I respect budgets and I am happy to discuss this fee with you.

BARBARA McNEIL
BOX 3723 BANFF, ALBERTA T1L 1E3
403.850.4227
bma@barbaramcneil.com

BARBARA McNEIL

CHARTERED MEDIATOR

ADJUDICATOR

INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

I look forward to the opportunity of working with you, your fellow administrators, and the municipal representatives who will be appointed to the project.

Kind regards,



Barbara McNeil

CAO Report

COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 15, 2023

The following report is designed to provide Council with an update on the activities and projects of the Village. The report is not intended to provide an all encompassing review of Village activities. The intent is to provide Council with a brief update on some of the more note worthy activities and events.

Water Looping Project

Met with Derrick Beck to discuss timelines and pre work needed prior to start of work. Now that water table is low, work can begin. Will be meeting on Aug 21st to go over execution plan to begin informing residents of how this project will impact the community.

Playground (Community Hall)

We had one minor issue with a child using the merry-go-round apparatus and have now taped it off to have decommissioned and dismantled. Unfortunately it is no longer safe to use. Will look at options for council to consider into fall planning as this will have a capital budget impact if it is replaced.

Safety Review

I reviewed the village shop and will be coming to council with some required changes and upgrades to ensure safety and proper handling of fuel and chemicals is in place. I do not believe there is an immediate risk, but we will need to look at fire a cabinet, general cleaning and organizing of materials.

Water Consumption

July was a very challenging month for our water plant. Demand was exceptionally high. Without homes metered, we have no way to ensure that we do not exceed what the plant is capable of providing. We have come quite near the limit. This is largely due to users having limitless access to treated water that is being used inappropriately for lawns, gardens and livestock. Despite all residents having access to raw irrigation water, some it seems refuse to use this. This jeopardizes the quality of our water production, might exceed our water license use (which could result in big fines) and creates unnecessary wear and tear on our water plant thus, shortening its potential life span. We must take this seriously and look at solutions that will deter this type of abuse of our water access.

Lightning Damage

As many of the residents know, lightning struck near our water treatment plant on the weekend of July 30th. This act of nature has caused significant damage to some of our systems at the plant. Backup equipment was immediately put in place to ensure continued operation of the plant, and ensuring quality of potable water. The cost of repair could exceed \$30K - \$40K. We are still working on getting cost estimates in and working on replacing all impacted systems. This will be done over the period of a month or as replacement equipment is found.

Main Water Valve Meter Replacement

On Aug 10, the water plant had to be take off line temporarily to replace the main water valve meter. Crews from Cardston Couty, Cando and DMT were on site to assist in the difficult task. While we had anticipated only 3 hours of impact to water service, we were off line for approximately 6 hours. Water services were restored at approximately 4:45pm. We did lose some pressure in the system however not to significant as to need a boil water order. Having only been notified by our water operator less than 24hours in advance, the repair was urgent and necessary. The office immediately came up with a plan to inform as many residents as possible to ensure home water was not used during the time of repair. We called every number we had on the Hill Spring call list, we sent out notices to every business. We posted signs on our door and at the post office. As well I drove around and tried to inform as many residents as possible of those I knew might not see our message on our website. This took the entire afternoon.

More repairs will be needed to replace damaged equipment however this will hopefully not necessitate this extreme measure again.

Tough Country Fibre Deployment

I met with Paul McLean from Tough Country to discuss the next phases of fibre integration in Hill Spring. They mentioned that they are trying to co-ordinate other jobs as this requires many external companies to install this type of product. Tough Country is installing fibre in other communities, and he is co-ordinating all these together to keep costs as low as possible. Will be awaiting timelines, but they hope to have this done in the spring.

TransAlta Corporation

Riplinger Wind LP Transmission Line Project

Stage 1: June 2023

What is the Riplinger Wind LP Transmission Line Project?

TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) is proposing to build a 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from the proposed TransAlta Riplinger Wind Power Project to a connection point located in the Municipal District of Pincher Creek (the "Project"). The transmission line will be about 45 km long and become part of the Alberta Integrated Electrical System (AIES).

Who is TransAlta?

Headquartered in Calgary, TransAlta owns, operates and develops a diverse fleet of electrical generation assets in Canada, the United States and Australia. We've been committed to providing clean, low-cost and sustainable electricity to power local communities for over a century. We are a publicly traded company on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

We believe it is important for local communities to benefit from our projects and operations and welcome all suggestions on how we can contribute to and support the community.

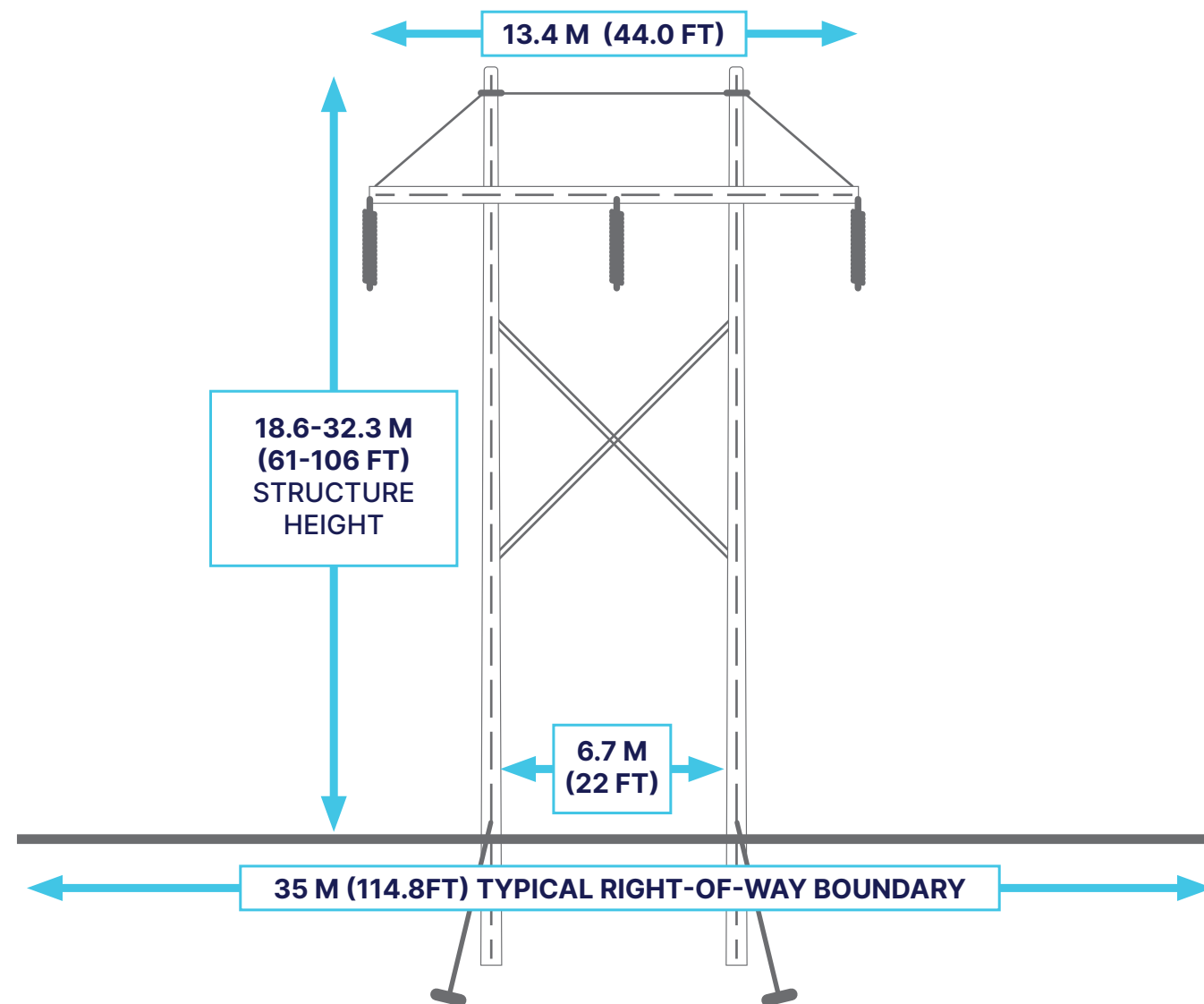
What will the Project include?

- + Overhead transmission wires
- + Transmission structures
- + Telecommunication wires
- + Permanent easements
- + Temporary workspace
- + Access roads
- + Laydown areas

What will the Project look like?

Final structure types have not been determined and will be shared with the community once finalized. Structure placement will be based on engineering constraints and conversations with community members.

The Project will primarily consist of "H-Frame" structures, similar to the diagram. Most of the structures will be spaced approximately 200 m (656 ft) apart. Other structures will be required at highway crossings, river or creek crossings, longer spans, corners, and switching structures at the connection point. Switching structures are used to isolate transmission lines to do maintenance, or in the event of an emergency.



What is the route selection process?

The route selection process considers a number of factors to try to find the route with the lowest overall perceived impact. This includes understanding potential impacts or features that may be unique to the Project area.

By going through this route selection process, we will identify preferred and alternate route(s) for the Project. Your feedback will be considered and included in our Project application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC). The AUC considers public feedback in their review and approvals process.

Factors that are considered when selecting the potential route for a transmission line:



Once preferred and alternate route(s) are selected, they will be presented to the public for further commentary. Following review, feedback will be considered and presented to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in a facility application for their review and approval.

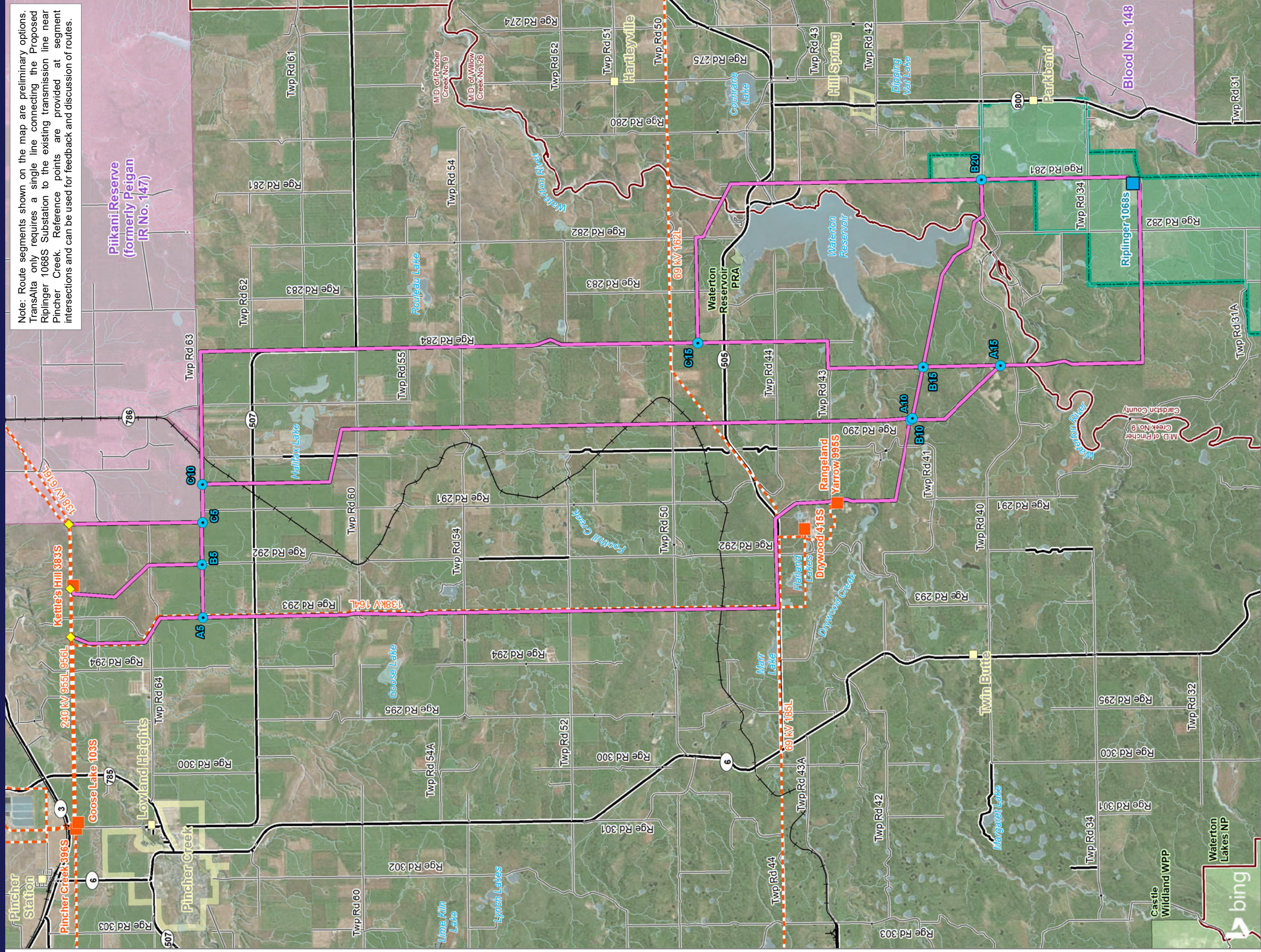
Where will this Project be located?

The proposed transmission line will connect the proposed Riplinger 1086S substation which is part of TransAlta's Riplinger Wind Power Project northwest of Cardston to the existing 240 kV transmission line (956L) in the Municipal District of Pincher Creek. The project will be located on private land. This Project is required to connect the TransAlta Riplinger Wind Power Project to the AIES.

Has the final route been selected?

No. We are still in the early stages of designing the Project and are looking at different options before making any decisions.

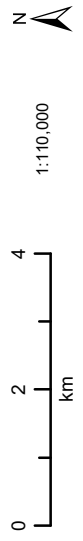
Note: Route segments shown on the map are preliminary options. TransAlta only requires a single line connecting the Proposed Riplinger 1068S Substation to the existing transmission line near Pincher Creek. Reference points are provided at segment intersections and can be used for feedback and discussion of routes.



Riplinger Wind L.P. by its General Partner, Riplinger Wind Inc.

TransAlta Riplinger MPC
Wind Transmission Project

- Proposed Riplinger 1068S Substation
- ◆ Proposed Transmission Line Point of Interconnection
- Reference Point
- Proposed Route Segment
- Existing Substation
- - - Existing Transmission Line
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Railway
- Watercourse
- Community
- First Nations Reserve
- MD or County Boundary
- Park or Protected Area
- Riplinger Wind Power Project Boundary
- Water Body



Proposed Route Segments

Produced For: Riplinger Wind L.P.
Map Date: June 15, 2023
Map #: TAC21080-003 Rev.0
The maps of this project were prepared by the Consultant and its staff. The Consultant assumes no liability for 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 the map product, users of this data are advised that errors may be present. Scale of this map is 1:110,000, when printed at 11" x 17". Coordinate System: NAD 1983 10TM AEP Forest Path. S:\Client\transalta\rip\rip002_mapping\ec220623_rivermain.dwg

What is the Riplinger Wind Power Project?

The Riplinger Wind Power Project is a proposed 300-megawatt wind development located approximately 30 km southeast of Pincher Creek on approximately 14,000 acres of privately-owned land in Cardston County.

We expect this Project to have 47 turbines all on private land.

For more information Power Project please visit:
transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/riplinger/



Are there other groups involved with the Project?

Yes, this Project is eligible to be developed and constructed under the Market Participant Choice (MPC) option; this means the Project will be permitted and constructed by TransAlta. Once the line is in-service, TransAlta will transfer the Project to AltaLink who will assume role of Transmission Facility Owner (TFO) and operator of the transmission line.

Who is the Alberta Utilities Commission?

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency of the province of Alberta. The AUC is responsible to ensure that the delivery of Alberta's utility service takes place in a manner that is fair, responsible and in the public interest.

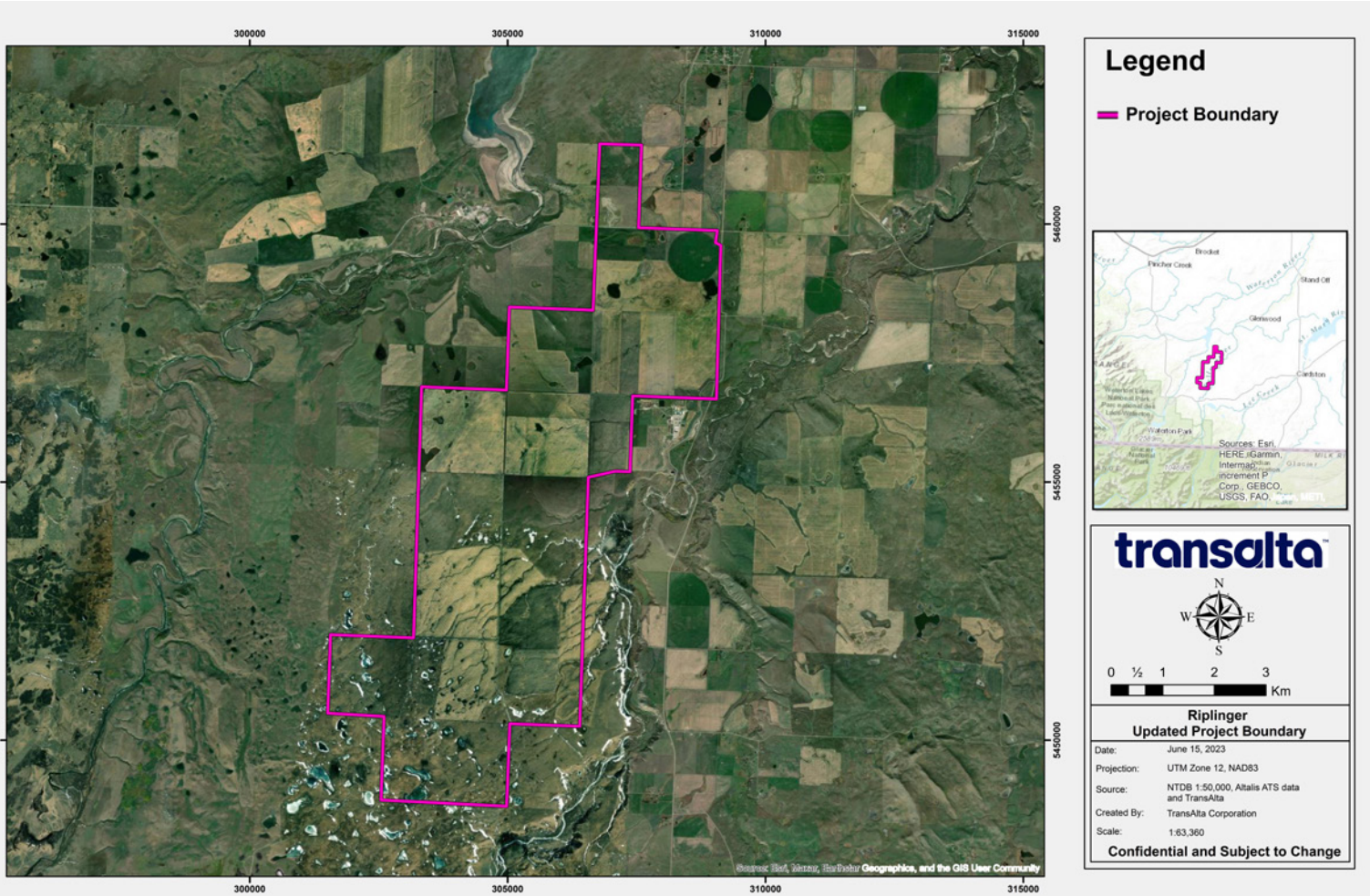
The AUC will make the final decision on this Project. TransAlta will submit preferred and alternate(s) routes to the AUC in a facility application in Fall of 2023.

Further information on the AUC, its review process and how to get involved can be found on the AUC's website at <https://www.auc.ab.ca/>.

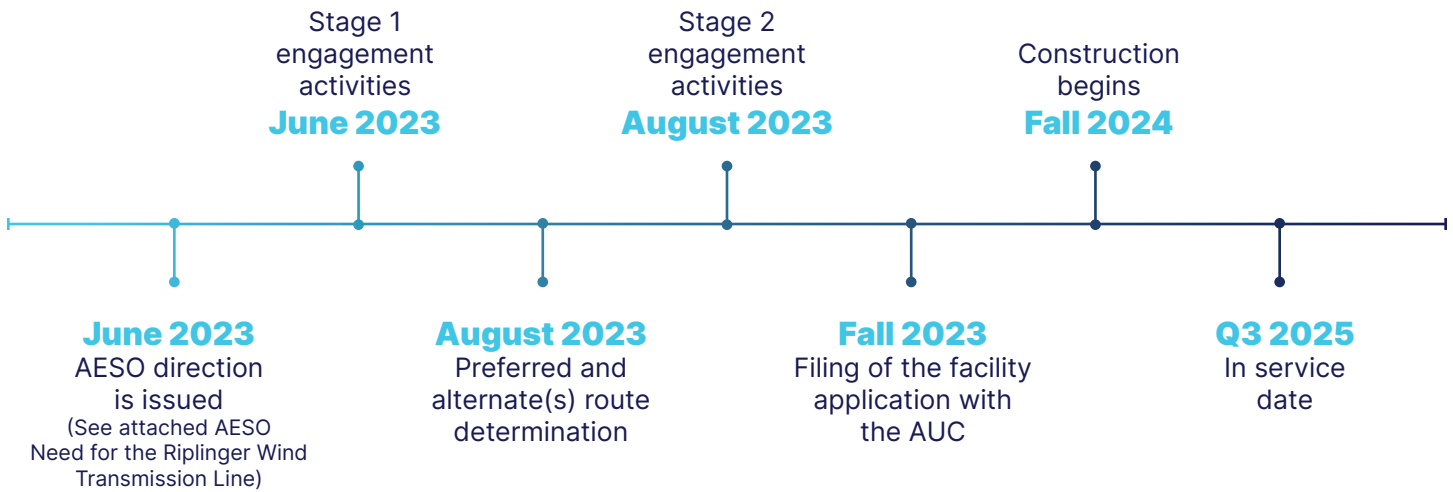
Who is the Alberta Electric System Operator?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (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. 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.

- + 1-888-866-2959
- + stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
- + www.aeso.ca



What is the Project timeline?*



*Subject to change

Questions or Comments?

We welcome and appreciate your feedback on the Project. We use feedback from interested parties in designing our projects so that we can seek to mitigate potential impacts.

- + Phone: 1-888-893-4980
- + Email: riplingertransmission@maskwaenv.com
- + Website: transalta.com/about-us/our-operations/projects-in-development/riplinger/



Need for the Riplinger Wind Project Connection in the Pincher Creek area

TransAlta Corporation (TransAlta) has applied to the AESO for transmission system access to connect its proposed Riplinger Wind Project (Facility) in the Pincher Creek area. TransAlta's request can be met by the following solution:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- Add one 240 kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Facility to the existing 240 kV transmission line 956L in a T-tap configuration.
- Add or modify associated equipment as required for the above transmission developments.

NEXT STEPS

- In late 2023, the AESO may consider the need for this project for approval under section 501.3 of the ISO rules, *Abbreviated Needs Approval Process (ANAP Rule)*, or apply to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for approval of the need.
- The AESO will notify stakeholders via the AESO's website at www.aeso.ca/grid/transmission-projects prior to the project being considered under the ANAP Rule or prior to filing a needs identification document (NID) application with the AUC.

The following organizations have key roles and responsibilities in providing access to the transmission system:

THE AESO

- Must plan the transmission system and enable access to it for generators and other qualified customers.
- Can approve eligible projects through the ANAP Rule and for non-eligible projects, the AESO will prepare and submit a NID to the AUC for approval.

TRANSALTA

- Has requested transmission system access to connect the Facility.
- Is responsible for detailed siting and routing and constructing the new 240 kV transmission line to connect to the Facility to the transmission line 956L.
- Must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities application.

ALTALINK

- Is the transmission facility owner in the Pincher Creek area.
- Is responsible for operating and maintaining the new 240 kV transmission line, and constructing, operating and maintaining the transmission facilities associated with the transmission line 956L modification.
- Is regulated by the AUC and must apply to the AUC for approval of its transmission facilities applications.

WHO IS THE AESO?

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) plans and operates Alberta's electricity grid and wholesale electricity market safely, reliably and in the public interest of all Albertans. We are a not-for-profit organization with no financial interest or investment of any kind in the power industry.

We appreciate your views, both on the need for transmission system development and proposed transmission plans. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us directly.

CONTACT US

Alberta Electric System Operator

AESO Stakeholder Relations
stakeholder.relations@aeso.ca
 1-888-866-2959

2500, 330-5th Avenue SW
 Calgary, AB T2P 0L4
 Phone: 403-539-2450

www.aeso.ca | [@theaeso](https://twitter.com/theaeso)



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 60 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

Phone: 310-4AUC
1-833-511-4282 (outside Alberta)
info@auc.ab.ca
www.auc.ab.ca


Eau Claire Tower
1400, 600 Third Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta T2P 0G5

RE: Letter from Hill Spring Council re: Riplinger Transalta Project

TransAlta Riplinger Transmission <riplingertransmission@maskwaenv.com>

Thu 8/10/2023 1:49 PM

To:CAO <cao@hillspring.ca>

 1 attachments (3 MB)

Newsletter_NID_AUCBrochure.pdf;

Hello,

We have received the letter opposing the Riplinger Wind Project sent by Village of Hill Spring Council to the AUC on August 2, 2023. Maskwa Environmental is supporting TransAlta to complete the environmental assessment, stakeholder consultation, engineering, and regulatory requirements for the submission of the **Riplinger Transmission Line Project** to the AUC.

The letter identifies concerns related to the proposed transmission line routing. The transmission Project is in the early stages, and although preliminary route options have been proposed, these can be modified and are by no means final. We are currently collecting feedback from parties in proximity to the proposed routes and aiming to understand potential impacts to the environmental features, agricultural operations, residential proximity, and other factors. The information gathered at this preliminary stage is considered as we work to determine preferred and alternate routes that will be presented back to the community for feedback later this year, prior to the submission of a facilities application to the AUC.

I have attached a copy of the brochure mailed out in June 2023 which includes information about the project, including a map of potential routing options for the transmission line. Our siting specialists would be happy to meet with Village of Hill Spring officials to discuss the project, answer any questions about how the routes are determined and document feedback on the proposed route options at any time.

Alternatively, please reach out at your convenience with any questions or with any information you'd like to share related to the proposed routes. We can be reached at riplingertransmission@maskwaenv.com or 1-888-893-4980.

Thank you,

Annemarie Marshall

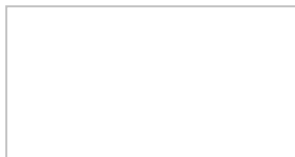
Engagement Specialist

1-888-893-4980 | 403-215-4185

From: CAO <cao@hillspring.ca>**Sent:** Wednesday, 9 August 2023 11:24 AM**Subject:** Letter from Hill Spring Council re: Riplinger Transalta Project**EXTERNAL EMAIL:**

This email originated from outside TransAlta. Do not click on links or open attachments, unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report suspicious emails to IT Security.

Attached is an approved letter from Hill Spring Council that was approved at our June 20th Council Meeting. This letter is based on the considerable feedback from our local residents. If you have any questions please let me know.



Greg Robinson

Chief Administrative Officer, Village of Hill Spring

(403) 626-3876 | www.hillspring.ca | CAO@hillspring.ca

[11 E 2nd Ave, PO Box 40, South Hill Spring, AB T0K 1E0](#)

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