

FACTS ABOUT EASTERN ALBERTA DC TRANSMISSION LINE

The Project

- A 500 kV, high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission line between the Gibbons-Redwater area northeast of Edmonton and the Brooks area southeast of Calgary
- Two converter stations: one at each end of the line
- Preferred route: approx. 487 km long

Project Need

The Alberta Electric System Operator has identified the need for this line in its Long-term Transmission System Plan. This line is needed to increase reliability and capacity and improve the efficiency of the Alberta electricity system.

Project Cost

\$1.6 Billion (plus interest during construction)

Cost to Rate Payers

Every \$1B in new transmission infrastructure represents an additional \$1/month on a residential customer's bill.

Timeline	
May to Dec. 2010	Consultation with landowners and interested parties along all route options
Dec. 2010 to Jan. 2011	Selection of preferred route and alternative route segments
Feb. to Mar. 2011	Consultation with landowners and interested parties on preferred route and alternative route segments
Mar. 2011	File Facility Application with AUC
Early 2012	If approved, start construction
Mid to Late 2014	Facilities in service

Communication to Landowners

May 2010 - 6500 packages were mailed to landowners and interested parties on or near the preliminary route options

June to July 2010 - 1400 attended the 14 open houses

June to Aug. 2010 - 3600 one-on-one consultations were conducted

Sept. 2010 - 6900 Project Updates were mailed to landowners and interested parties

Nov. 2010 - 1400 updated project information packages were mailed to landowners and interested parties on or near additional preliminary route options

Jan. 2011 - Approximately 7000 landowners and interested parties were mailed a preferred route announcement

Feb. 2011 - Approximately 2500 landowners and interested parties on the proposed routes were mailed a Project Update

Feb. to Mar. 2011 - About 2500 one-on-ones were conducted with landowners and interested parties on the preferred & alternate routes

Towers (Steel Lattice)



Height

39 metres (129 feet)

Width (arm span)

27 to 29 metres (89 to 95 feet)

Base

10 to 13 metres square

(33 to 43 feet)

Distance between Towers

365 metres (1200 feet)

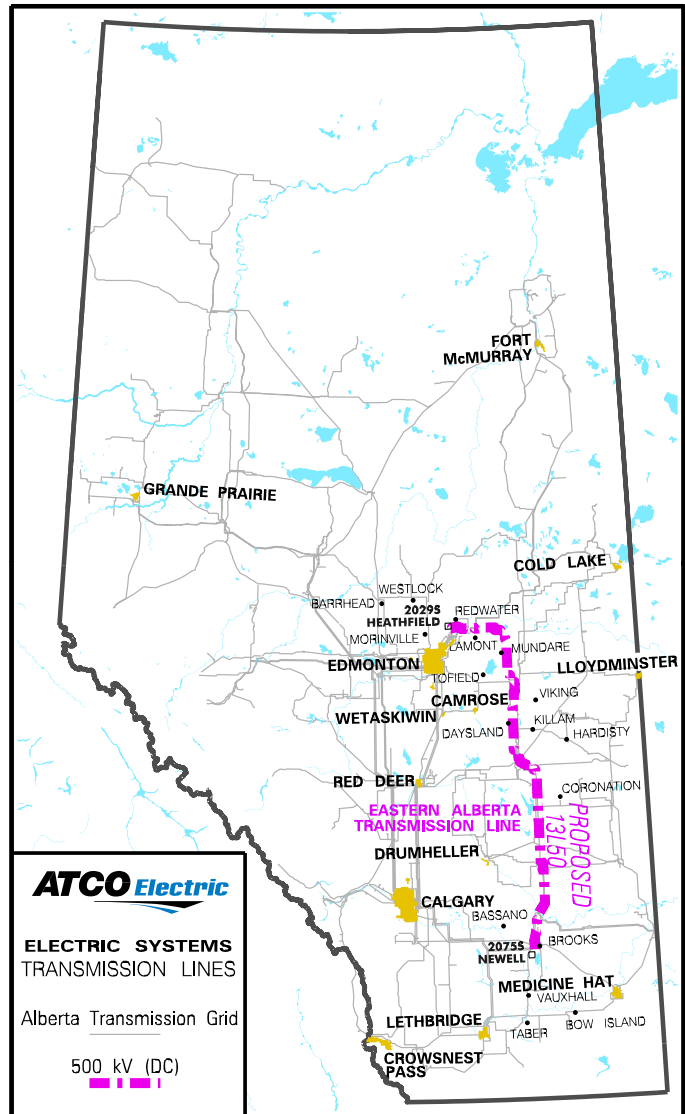
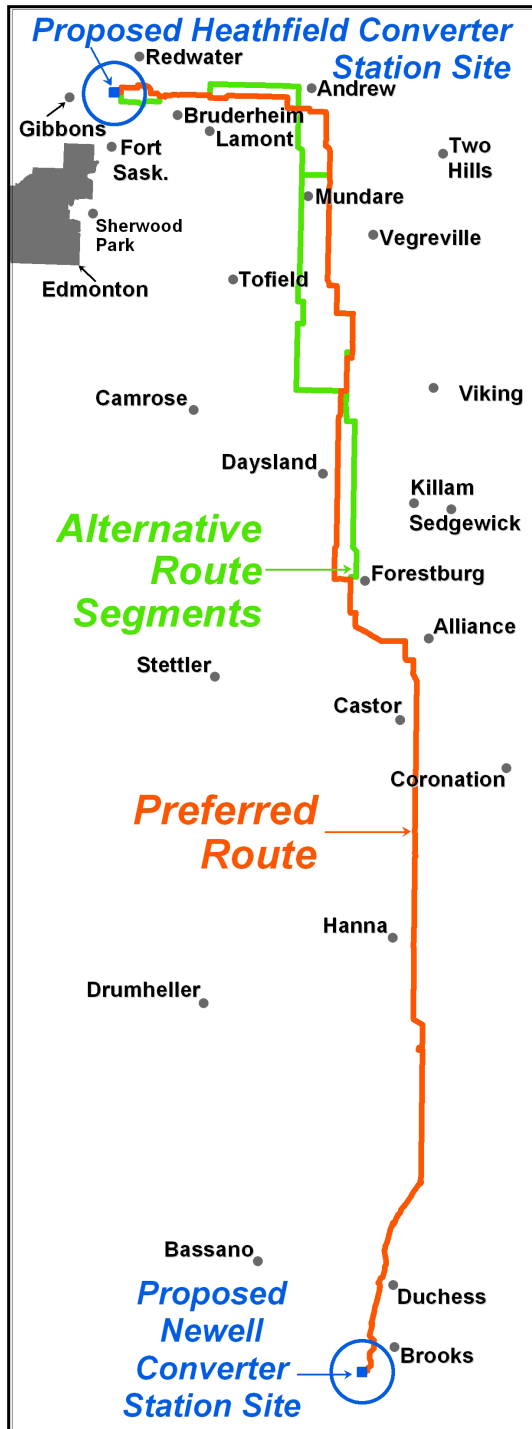
Converter Stations

- A converter station is required at each end of the line to convert power from alternating current (AC) to direct current (DC) and from DC to AC, so it can be used on Alberta's electricity grid.
- The station is approximately 500 metres square
- The Heathfield, (NE) station will be located near AltaLink's planned Heartland substation in the Gibbons-Redwater area; the Newell, (SE) station will be located near AltaLink's existing West Brooks substation in the Brooks area.
- About 2 km of 500kV AC lines in the northeast and about 4 km of 240kV lines in the southeast are required to connect the converter stations to the existing transmission system.

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Map of Preferred and Alternative Route Segments



For more information on the project please contact:

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