



SABR Energy Consulting Inc.
PO Box 72007, Glenmore Landing PO
Calgary, Alberta T2V 5H9

Project Update: Intent to Construct New Electrical Transmission Line August 13, 2025

About The Project

Neoen Renewables Canada Inc. (Neoen) is proposing to construct a new, single-circuit 240-kilovolt (kV) electrical transmission line, referred to as “**the Project**,” to connect the proposed Sweetgrass Solar with Storage Project to the Alberta Interconnected Electric System (AIES) via AltaLink’s existing 240kV transmission line 1038L. The new transmission line will be designated “1174L.”

Sweetgrass Solar with Storage consists of a 396-megawatt alternating current (MWac) solar facility and a 150-megawatt (MW) battery energy storage system (BESS) proposed for development on private lands approximately 4.5 km east of the Hamlet of Granum. A decision on the Sweetgrass Solar with Storage application is currently under review by the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC).

The Project will connect the proposed Sweetgrass 1160S substation (240kV), located at SW 26-010-26 W4M, AltaLink’s existing 1038L 240kV transmission line through AltaLink’s planned Willow Creek 1132S substation (240kV), located on the west side of Highway 2, south of Claresholm.

AltaLink will engage stakeholders regarding the connection work associated with the Project, including the proposed Willow Creek 1132S switching substation and any required upgrade work, and will submit a separate facilities application to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) for this scope of work.

Once the proposed 1174L transmission line is in service, and following a temporary period of joint operation, ownership will be transferred to AltaLink. AltaLink will then assume full responsibility for the operation, ownership and maintenance of the line.

Project Update

In March 2025, Neoen held a community open house where three preliminary routes for the proposed transmission line were shared. Since then, Neoen has further evaluated the preliminary routes and carefully considered community feedback, resulting in a refined routing plan that includes: **Route A, a variation of Route A (Route A – Variation)**, and a modified version of the previously proposed **Route C**. These routes are identified on the enclosed map (Figure 1).

Additionally, Neoen has identified recommended transmission structure types, conductor types, and foundation design to support the transmission line and ensure long-term reliability.

As part of the Project's permitting process, Neoen plans to submit a Facility Application to the AUC in December 2025. This application will include the proposed route options, as well as the recommended structure types, conductor specifications, and foundation designs to the AUC for consideration. The AUC is responsible for reviewing the application and determining whether the proposed transmission development is in the public interest. As part of this review, the AUC may approve one of the proposed routes, request modifications, or reject all of the proposed routes.

Proposed Routes

Since the first project notice, Neoen has refined the routing options for the Project, based on ongoing routing studies and functional specification requirements. These considerations include, but are not limited to, environmental impacts, existing land use, surrounding infrastructure, proximity to residential buildings, community feedback, and construction viability.

As a result, some routes have been adjusted or removed. Neoen is now proposing the following three route options for consideration:

- **Route A** – 13.6 km in length [Yellow]
- **Route A - Variation** – 13.7 km in length [Red]
- **Route C** – 17.1 km in length [Blue]

All three route options are located on private land. Each route includes major crossings, including road crossings and a river crossing.

Project Details

Composition of the transmission line and structures based on the proposed routes:

- Structure height will range from 27 to 38 m, depending on the span length, ground profile, and any special conditions, such as clearances for farm equipment and highway crossings.
- Typical structure separation will be 200 m, depending on terrain profile and siting constraints.
- Approximately 15 m of right-of-way (ROW) is required on either side of the line, excluding ground anchors.
- Ground anchors may be installed to support the structures.
- Structures are required within both road allowance and private property for each route.
- The 240 kV overheads line must meet or exceed the minimum required strengths outlined by the AESO.
- The selected structure type for the Project is **steel monopole**. Steel monopoles offer several benefits, including aesthetic appeal, ease of construction, limited environmental impacts. Other structure types may be required at certain locations, such as river crossings.

- Structures will be directly embedded into concrete foundations for most locations. Concrete foundations will be up-to 2 m in diameter, and up to 7.6 m deep for typical structures. **Direct embedment** is recommended as the foundation type for the Project. Direct embedment is the common approach for steel monopole structures, and the native soil characteristics for the proposed routes. Other foundation types may be necessary for river or highway crossings, or specific ground conditions.

Access and Right-of-Way Agreements

All the proposed routes cross privately-owned land. Neoen will work collaboratively with landowners to secure the necessary utility right-of-way agreements for construction and operation of the transmission line. Additional land will be required for temporary work spaces and off-right-of-way access during construction.

Planning Process

The Project is subject to the AUC’s Rule 007: *Applications for Power Plants, Substations, Transmission Lines, Industrial System Designations, Hydro Developments and Gas Utility Pipelines*. Rule 007 requires that an owner proposing to build a transmission facility submit an application, called a “Facilities Application”, to the AUC in order to obtain a permit to construct the facility and a license to operate it.

Neoen expects to submit a Facilities Application to the AUC in December 2025. The AUC will review the application and either approve it (with or without conditions) or deny it.

Landowners and occupants within an 800 m radius of the Project will have the opportunity to participate in the AUC’s review of the application. The AUC will notify stakeholders after the Facilities Application has been submitted. Individuals outside the 800 m radius may also be eligible to participate in the AUC process if they can demonstrate that they are directly and adversely affected.

Project Schedule

Milestone	Planned Start Date	Planned Completion Date
Engineering	May 2026	June 2027
Construction Mobilization	October 2027	November 2027
Site and ROW Prep	November 2027	December 2027
Construction	December 2027	May 2028
Commissioning	May 2028	May 2028
Transmission Line In-Service Date	May 2028	June 2028



To learn more about the AUC process and how you can participate, please refer to the brochure included in this package titled Public Involvement in a Proposed Utility Development, or to learn more about the AUC application and review process, please contact:

Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC)
(780) 427-4903 or Toll-Free by dialing 310-000 before the number
consumer-relations@auc.ab.ca

Public Consultation

Neoen is committed to meaningful consultation with the community, stakeholders, and Rightsholders. While we are proactively consulting with landowners or occupants within a 100-metre radius of the Project, you are invited to share your feedback on the proposed routes.

Feedback received by **September 23, 2025** will be included in a consultation record that will form part of Neoen's Facilities Application.

Neoen will host a second community open house this fall at the **Granum School** (324 Dufferin St., Granum, AB T0L 1A0). This is a drop-in event, there will be no formal presentation.

A separate notice with full details of the Open House will be shared shortly.

Neoen has retained SABR Energy Consulting Inc. to facilitate consultation for this Project. Feedback is invited by phone, e-mail, mail or in-person (by request) to:

Samantha Brown
(587) 434-7547
sbrown@sabreenergyconsulting.com
Box 3, Suite 530, 150 9th Avenue SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 3H9

About Neoen

Founded in 2008, Neoen is one of the world's leading independent producers of exclusively renewable energy, including solar and onshore wind power, and energy storage solutions. Neoen has more than 8.9 GW of power and storage in operation or under construction across 15 countries.

Neoen's flagship operations are France's most powerful solar farm (300 MWp) in Cestas, Finland's largest wind farm (404 MW) in Mutkalampi, one of the world's most competitive solar plants in Mexico (El Llano, 375 MWp), and two of the world's most powerful large-scale storage plants, Hornsdale Power Reserve (150 MW/193.5 MWh storage capacity) and the Victorian Big Battery (300 MW/450 MWh), both in Australia.



In June 2024, Neoen opened its first plant Canada, Fox Coulee, a 93 MWp solar farm located in Starland County, Alberta. In May 2024, Neoen was awarded a 20-year contract for a 380MW/4-hour capacity battery energy storage system in Ontario by the province's Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO).

For more information, visit www.neoen.com.

About the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO)

The Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) is an independent, quasi-judicial agency established by the Government of Alberta, 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.

They regulate investor-owned natural gas, electric and water utilities and certain municipally owned electric utilities to ensure that customers receive safe and reliable service at reasonable rates. The AUC ensures that electric facilities are built, operated and decommissioned in an efficient and environmentally responsible way.

The AUC also provides regulatory oversight of issues related to the development and operation of the wholesale electricity market in Alberta as well as the retail gas and electricity markets in the province.

For more information visit www.auc.ab.ca or refer to the enclosed brochure.

About AltaLink

AltaLink is a regulated electricity transmission provider in Alberta and is responsible for any modifications required to its existing 240 kV transmission line 1038L, as well as to the existing Windy Flats 138S, SC1 266S, Foothills 237S and Janet 74S substations. Additionally, AltaLink will design and construct the planned Willow Creek 1132S switching substation and will carry out the required modifications to 1038L transmission line.

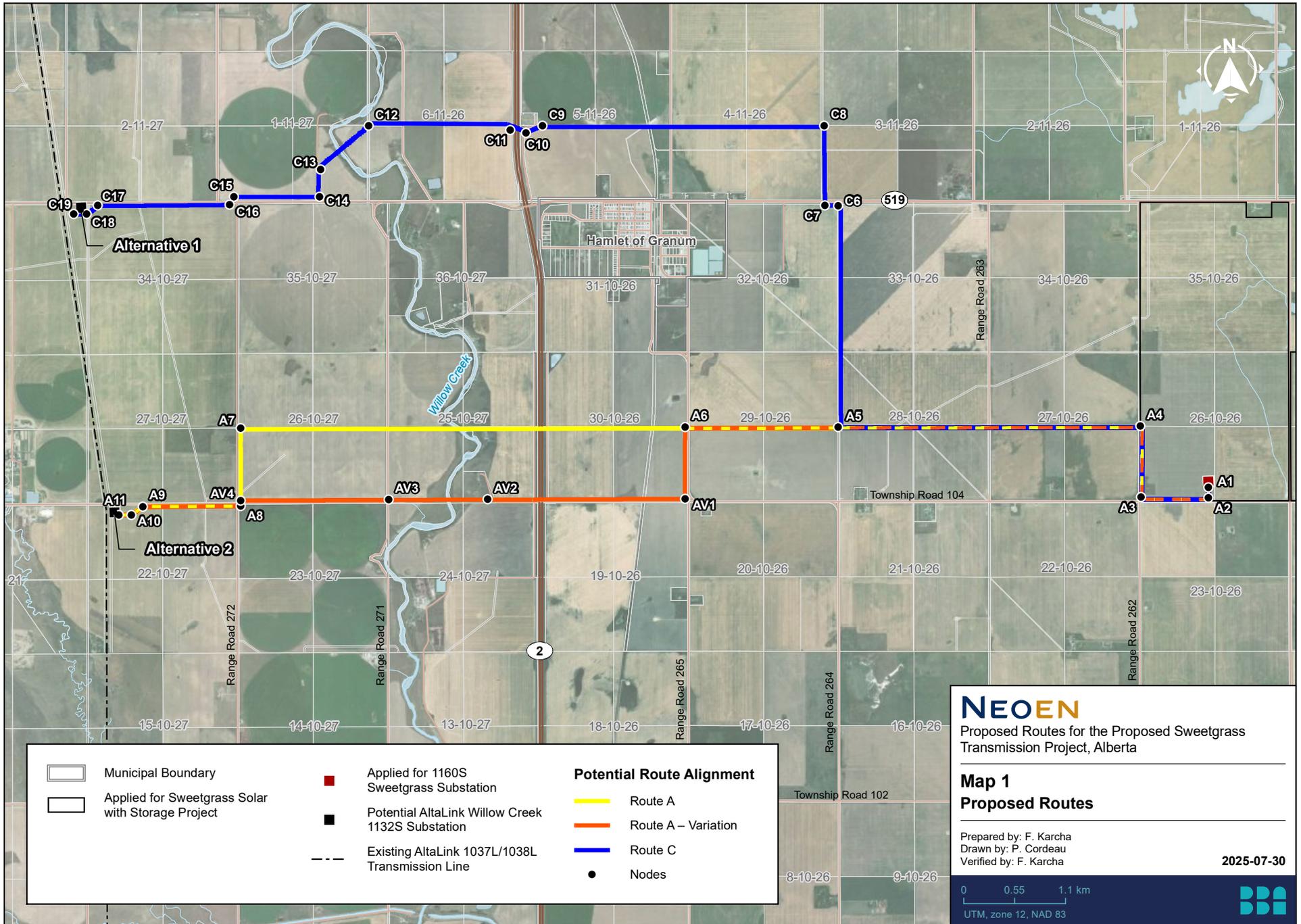
AltaLink will also install new or modify/upgrade the existing communications systems as needed to meet the Project's operational, control, protection and SCADA requirements. AltaLink's scope is separate from the transmission line that Neoen is proposing to construct. Details will be communicated directly by AltaLink.

To learn more about the connection to the existing 1038L transmission line owned by AltaLink, please contact:

AltaLink Management Ltd.

1-877-267-1453 (toll-free)

stakeholderrelations@altalink.ca



	Municipal Boundary		Applied for 1160S Sweetgrass Substation	Potential Route Alignment	
	Applied for Sweetgrass Solar with Storage Project		Potential AltaLink Willow Creek 1132S Substation		Route A
			Existing AltaLink 1037L/1038L Transmission Line		Route A – Variation
					Route C
					Nodes

NEOEN
 Proposed Routes for the Proposed Sweetgrass Transmission Project, Alberta

**Map 1
 Proposed Routes**

Prepared by: F. Karcha
 Drawn by: P. Cordeau
 Verified by: F. Karcha

2025-07-30

0 0.55 1.1 km
 UTM, zone 12, NAD 83





SE32-010-26-W4M

SW33-010-26-W4M

SE33-010-26-W4M

SW34-010-26-W4M

SE34-010-26-W4M

NW35-010-26-W4M

NE35-010-26-W4M

EXISTING DISTRIBUTION LINE

NE29-010-26-W4M

NW28-010-26-W4M

NE28-010-26-W4M

NW27-010-26-W4M

NE27-010-26-W4M

NW26-010-26-W4M

NE26-010-26-W4M

UNDEVELOPED ROAD ALLOWANCE

EXISTING DISTRIBUTION LINE

EXISTING DISTRIBUTION LINE

APPLIED FOR SWEETGRASS SOLAR WITH STORAGE PROJECT

PIPELINE CROSSING

SE29-010-26-W4M

SW28-010-26-W4M

SE28-010-26-W4M

SW27-010-26-W4M

SE27-010-26-W4M

SW26-010-26-W4M

SE26-010-26-W4M

ACCESS ROAD

ACCESS ROAD

APPLIED FOR SWEETGRASS 1160S SUBSTATION

APPLIED FOR SWEETGRASS SOLAR WITH STORAGE PROJECT

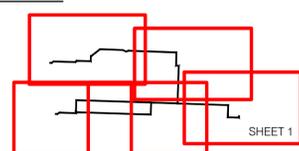
NOTES:

- 1. COORDINATE SYSTEM: PROJECTION UTM ZONE 18N
- 2. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE SHOWN IN METERS (m) UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
- 3. STRUCTURE LOCATIONS AND QUANTITIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE DURING DETAILED DESIGN.

LEGEND:

- STEEL POLE
- EXISTING TRANSMISSION LINE
- - - PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY
- ROUTE - A
- ROAD
- PIPELINE
- SWEETGRASS SOLAR WITH STORAGE PROJECT BOUNDARY
- ROUTE A - VARIATION
- ATCO GAS LINES
- EXISTING DISTRIBUTION LINE
- HIGHWAY
- ▨ TEMPORARY WORKSPACE
- ▨ CADASTRAL BOUNDARY
- ▨ OFF RIGHT-OF-WAY ACCESS
- △ KILOMETRE MARKER
- ▨ SUBSTATION FENCE BOUNDARY
- ROUTE C

KEY MAP:



SHEET 1

DRAWING No.	DESCRIPTION	REV	DESCRIPTION	PREPARED BY	CHECKED BY	DATE
		00	FOR INFORMATION	A. JAIN	F. KARCHA	2025-08-08
REFERENCE DRAWINGS			REVISIONS			

SEAL:



PROJECT: SWEETGRASS TRANSMISSION CONNECTION

TITLE: FACILITY DETAIL MAP PROPOSED ROUTES

DESIGNED BY: A. JAIN

DRAFTED BY: N. BEWIDES

PREPARED BY: A. JAIN

CHECKED BY: F. KARCHA

SCALE: 1:7500

DATE: 2025-08-08

DRAWING No.: 7757016-000000-4L-D09-0001

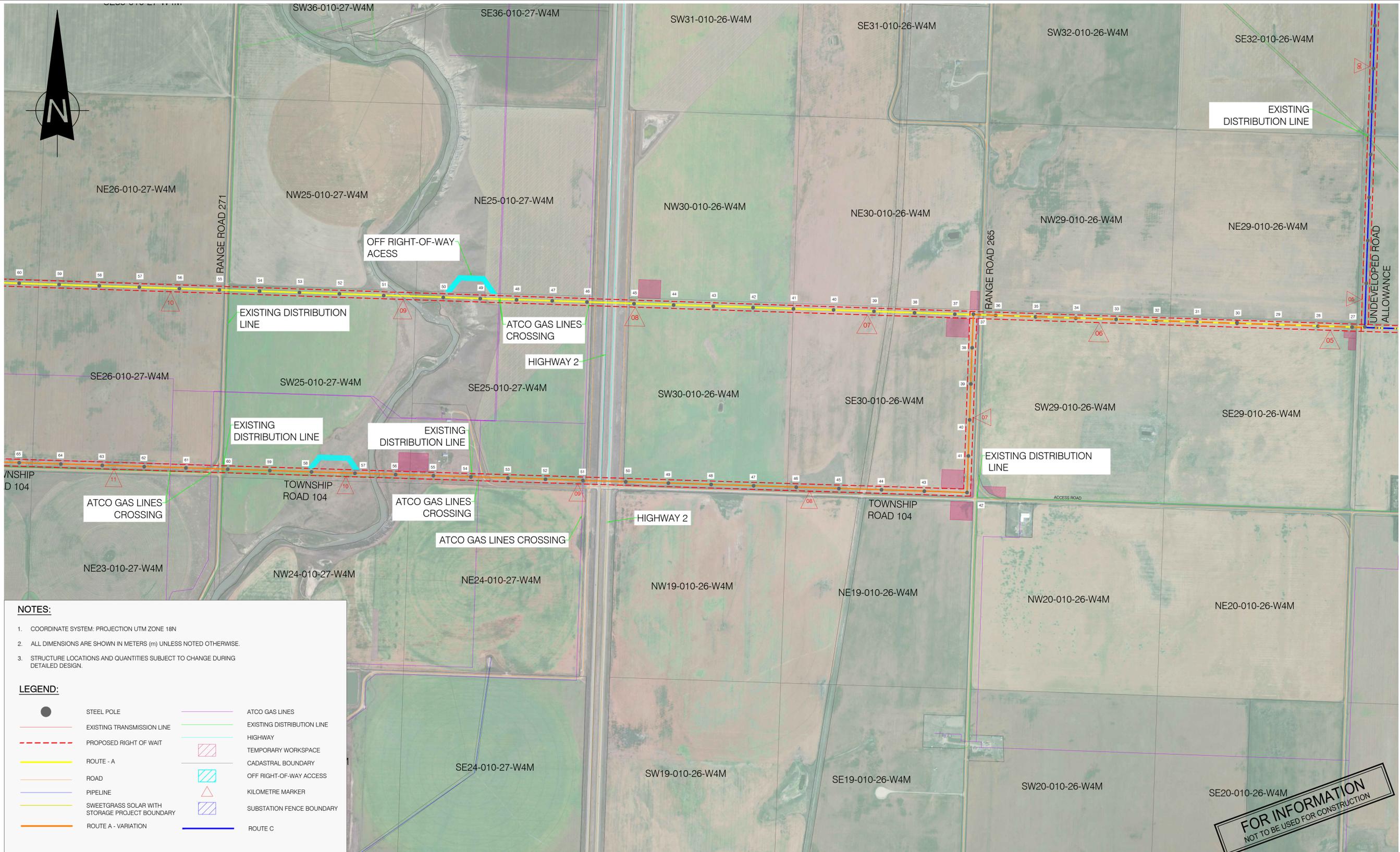
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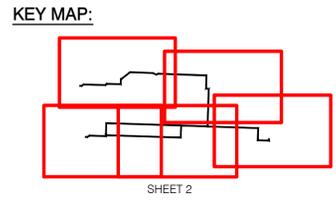


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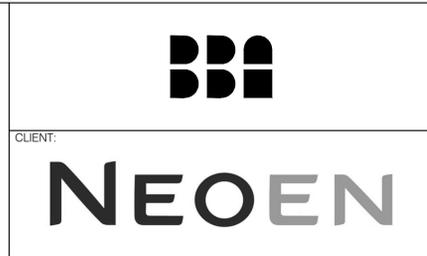
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- - -	PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY	—	HIGHWAY
—	ROUTE - A	▨	TEMPORARY WORKSPACE
—	ROAD	▨	CADASTRAL BOUNDARY
—	PIPELINE	▨	OFF RIGHT-OF-WAY ACCESS
—	SWEETGRASS SOLAR WITH STORAGE PROJECT BOUNDARY	△	KILOMETRE MARKER
—	ROUTE A - VARIATION	▨	SUBSTATION FENCE BOUNDARY
		—	ROUTE C



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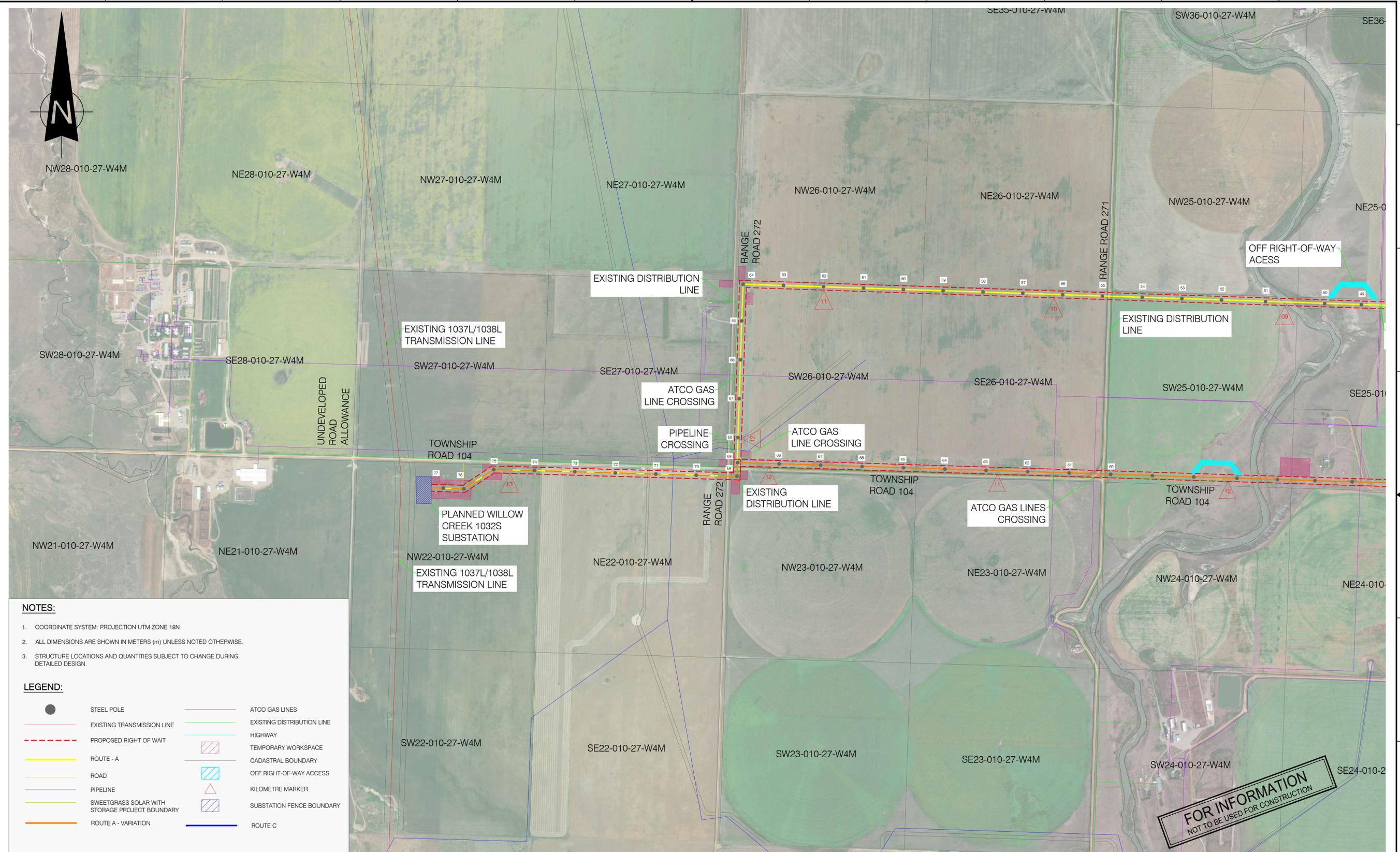
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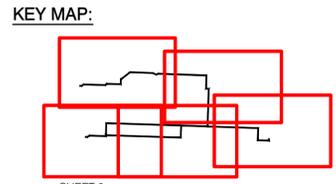


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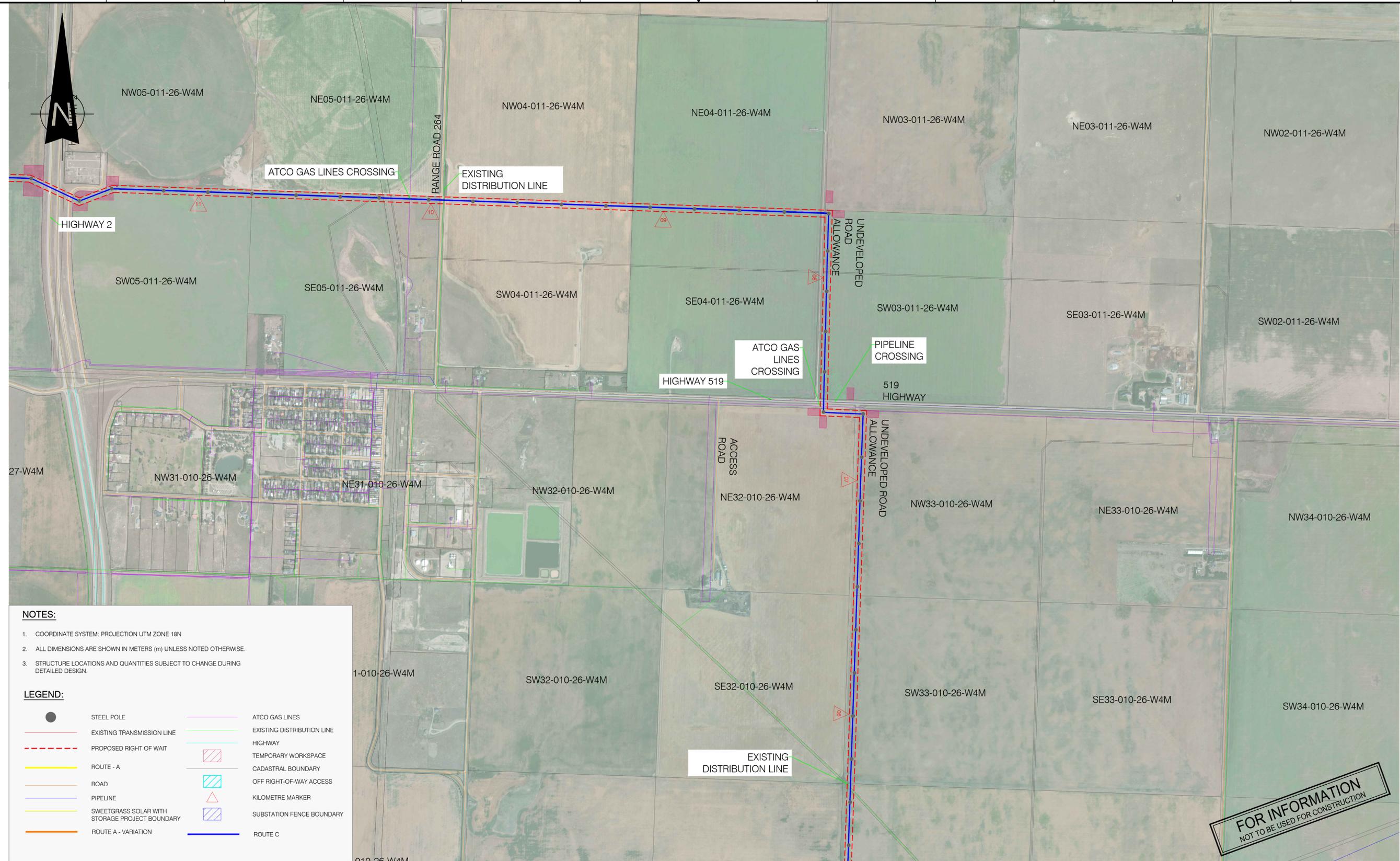
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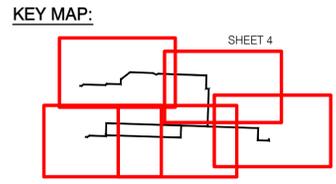
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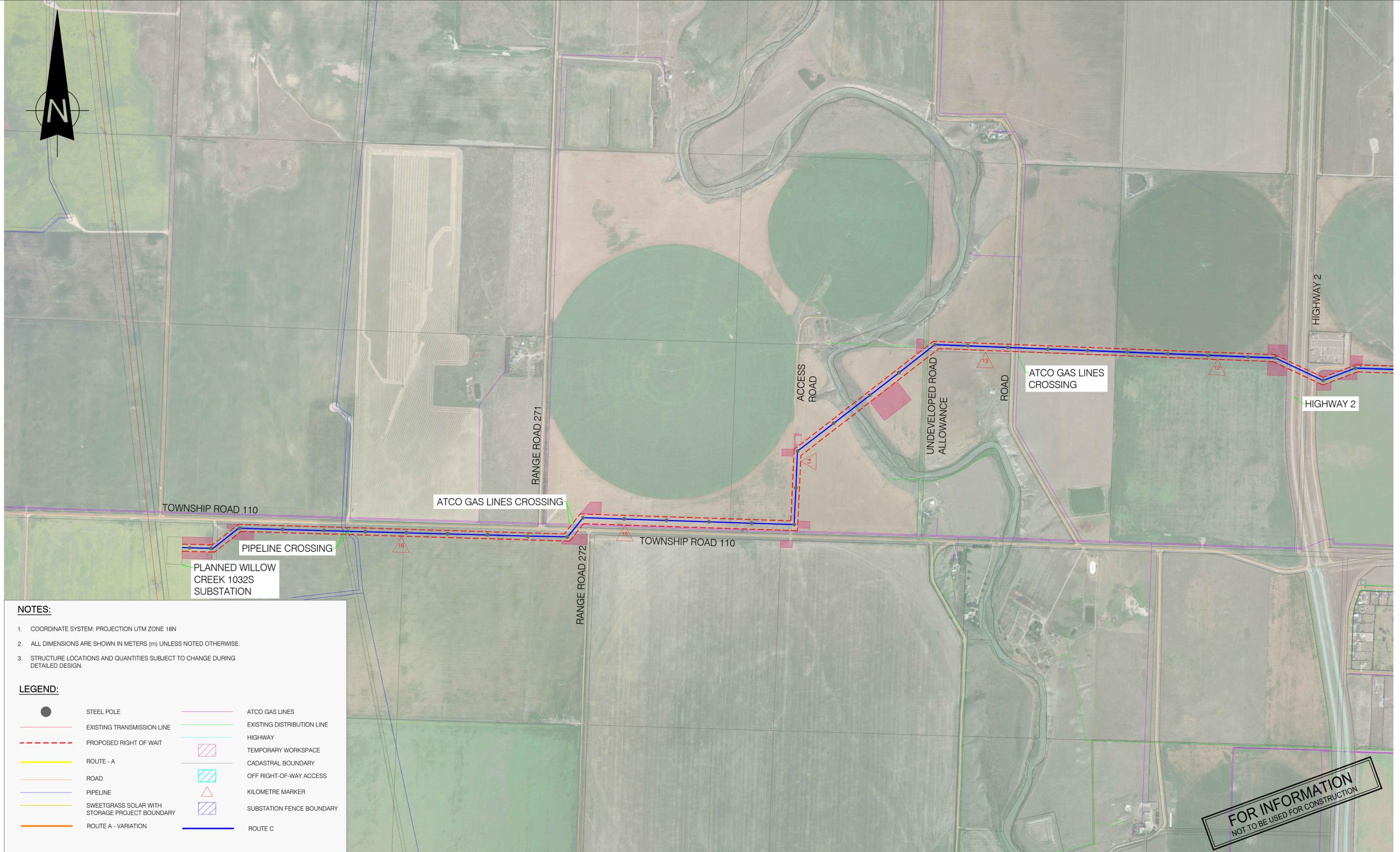
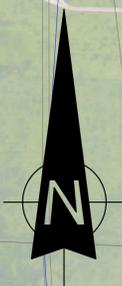
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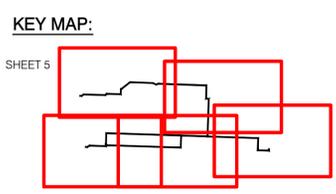
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	ROUTE - A		TEMPORARY WORKSPACE
	ROAD		CADASTRAL BOUNDARY
	PIPELINE		OFF RIGHT-OF-WAY ACCESS
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Participating in the AUC's independent review process to consider facility applications

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

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