

September 10, 2014

Mayor Roxanne Carr issued the following statement about the AltaLink Transmission Lines

Strathcona County is committed to providing information, support, and resource guidance to landowners, who could potentially be affected by the proposed AltaLink Cooking Lake 138KV Transmission Line and Substation Upgrade project.

The preferred alignment that has been proposed by AltaLink is the Highway 14 corridor to South Cooking Lake. This will be the application before the regulator, the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) this fall.

With full support from our current Council members, Strathcona County got involved in the regulatory process on this project at the first opportunity. In February 2014, the County intervened in the Alberta Utilities Commission Hearing on the Alberta Electrical Systems Operator (AESO) Needs Identification Document. This first step in the electrical project was to determine the need for further transmission development.

The Commission decision stated that Strathcona County's concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed project on the Beaver Hills area can and should be addressed in the proceeding regarding the facility application.

I commend Ward 7 Councillor, Bonnie Riddell, who has been available to residents through every step of this process. County administration has also worked hard to provide residents with information and answer questions.

Strathcona County continues to meet with and send County information and concerns to AltaLink regarding: landowner impact, the environment, County infrastructure, agriculture, and area development limitations. The County has stated their preference for the selection of the alternate transmission line route in Leduc County, because of the transmission line potential for further habitat fragmentation within the heart of the Beaver Hills Moraine, a significant landscape feature unique to Central Alberta (and home to Elk Island National Park).

Council will determine its next steps, at the time AltaLink files this project with AUC.

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