



# News Release

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## **ATCO ELECTRIC FIRST CANADIAN COMPANY TO TAKE HOME INTERNATIONAL EDISON AWARD**

Alberta transmission line project honored for “leadership and innovation”

EDMONTON, Alberta -- The electricity industry’s most prestigious international award worldwide has been presented to ATCO Electric for its leadership and innovation in the construction of the Dover to Whitefish transmission line in 2004, the Washington based Edison Electric Institute announced today.

ATCO Electric is the first Canadian company to win the Edison Award, now in its 77<sup>th</sup> year.

The \$99 million project, completed in just 10 months – instead of the normal two years – allows the export of more steam-generated electricity from Alberta’s oil sands to serve southern Alberta markets. This cost-efficient, environmentally-friendly source of power is created at cogeneration plants owned and operated by oil sands companies in northern Alberta. The line also improves electrical power system reliability in northeast Alberta.

With more than half of the 240-kilovolt transmission line crossing ecologically-important muskeg, the project demonstrated leadership in wildlife habitat and environmental protection. Throughout the project, ATCO Electric also placed the highest priority on protecting traditional Aboriginal lands, and on sharing project benefits with Aboriginal Peoples – key factors in the judges’ decision.

“The innovative thinking and hard work of the ATCO people led to this massive project’s completion on budget and in record time while demonstrating progressive environmental leadership and strong relationships with our Aboriginal partners,” said Sett Policicchio, President, ATCO Electric.

The international Edison Award honors distinguished leadership, innovation and contribution to the advancement of the electric industry for the benefit of all. A committee of American industry trade publication editors and a panel of past and current chairmen of the Washington-based Edison Electric Institute selected the finalists and ultimate winner.

The project, stretching from Dover, northwest of Fort McMurray, to Whitefish, east of Fort Saskatchewan, included 350 kilometres of 240-kilovolt transmission line, construction of three new substations, and expansion of an existing substation.

Edison Electric Institute President Tom Kuhn said the panel was “very impressed with (ATCO Electric’s) speed and quality of the work, the innovative engineering, and especially the great attention paid to the environment and the Aboriginal Peoples.”

The other three finalists included EPCOR Utilities, Korea Western Power Company and Korea East-West Power Generation Company. Scottish Power captured the award in 2004.

ATCO Electric, part of the ATCO Group of Companies, delivers electric energy to customers throughout northern and east-central Alberta. ATCO Group is an Alberta-based, worldwide organization of companies with more than 7,000 employees actively engaged in Power Generation, Utilities, and Global Enterprises. More information about ATCO Ltd. can be found on its website, [www.atco.com](http://www.atco.com).

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