

Fort Chipewyan Power Plants Update on Environment Approvals

ATCO Electric is planning to file applications to Alberta Environment for the existing power plant and for minor amendments of the approved new "Third Lake" plant at Fort Chipewyan. This update is being sent to local residents to provide information prior to ATCO Electric submitting those applications.

Existing Power Plant: Renewal of Alberta Environment Approval

ATCO Electric operates the existing 4.72-megawatt power plant at Fort Chipewyan. The current approval from Alberta Environment will expire in October 2008. ATCO Electric plans to apply to Environment in early May 2008 to renew the approval by October. The existing plant is scheduled to be shut down and removed in 2009, but the plant still needs a valid Environment approval to run in the meantime and for site reclamation which is planned for completion in 2010.

Some details about the existing plant:

- Located in E½ Section 17, Township 112, Range 7-W4M, at the northeast edge of Fort Chipewyan.
- Contains four main diesel-fuelled generating units plus a mobile back-up unit.
- The current Environment approval (No. 1007-01-00) specifies certain plant features such as exhaust stack height and limits for air emission rates. ATCO Electric is not changing the existing plant, but simply renewing the existing approval.
- The renewal application to Environment will describe the ongoing air, water and waste management measures to protect the environment, and will include our most recent air modelling which shows Alberta ambient air quality objectives will continue to be met under normal projected operation.

New "Third Lake" Power Plant: Minor Amendment of Alberta Environment Approval

The new 4.58-megawatt power plant was approved by Environment in early 2008 (Approval No. 240608-00-00). The new plant, which will replace the existing plant, is located in Southwest Section 34, Township 112, Range 7-W4M, about 5 kilometres north of Fort Chipewyan. Site development started in January 2008, and the new plant is scheduled to be completed and operating by mid-2009.

ATCO Electric made some minor site and equipment adjustments to improve the final layout of the plant. For example, we are now planning to have two smaller main exhaust stacks instead of one larger one and a more compact tank farm with enhanced environmental safety features (double-walled containment). ATCO Electric is submitting an amendment to Environment to describe the adjustments and demonstrate that the final design meets the provincial air quality requirements. We plan to file this amendment by July 2008, for approval prior to installation of the generating units in early 2009.

To Contact Us

If you have any comments, questions or concerns, please contact

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