

Getting Transmission Built: What Changes Under Bill 50?

Step 1 (NO CHANGE): The Alberta Electric System Operator, the provincial electricity planner:

- forecasts future demand for electricity;
- determines what additions or upgrades are needed to meet that demand; and
- consults in areas that could be affected.

Once the need has been identified, it can take anywhere from three to five years to get transmission built.

Step 2: The Alberta Electric System Operator submits a “needs” application to the Alberta Utilities Commission, the provincial regulator.

- **Bill 50 proposes that the need for critical transmission infrastructure be approved by the Government of Alberta.**

Step 3: The Alberta Electric System Operator assigns the transmission project to a transmission facility owner.

- **Recent regulatory amendments propose that the Minister of Energy may assign a project to a transmission company.**
- **Future critical transmission infrastructure projects may be assigned through a competitive process.**

Step 4 (NO CHANGE): The transmission company:

- consults with landowners on a specific route.

Step 5 (NO CHANGE): The transmission company:

- proposes a specific route; and
- makes a “facilities” application to the Alberta Utilities Commission.

Step 6 (NO CHANGE): The Alberta Utilities Commission:

- holds public hearings on the proposed route, affected landowners may intervene; and
- may approve or suggest amendments to the proposed siting.

Step 7 (NO CHANGE): Approval of the specific route.

Step 8 (NO CHANGE): Landowner agreements completed.

Step 9 (NO CHANGE): Construction begins.

