

May 26/10.

Bury the power line

I was one of the people involved with the Heartland Transmission proposal that picked our property as a possible route for the new high-voltage power line to Redwater. We attended a couple of meetings sponsored by Responsible Electricity Transmission for Albertans (RETA). The consensus among property owners at both meetings was to put the lines underground, some good reasons being the adverse health issues for those living under the lines, esthetics, and reduced property values. Also, underground lines would not be susceptible to ice storms, tornadoes or high winds.

The power people said underground lines are not necessary and the cost is far too high. What I find ironic is that AltaLink took out a full-page ad in the last *Sherwood Park News* that shows a toppled high voltage transmission tower. The text underneath reads: "This spring, weather damaged transmission lines throughout central and southern Alberta, temporarily disrupting power to thousands of Albertans." This appears to be a great advertisement for underground lines.

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