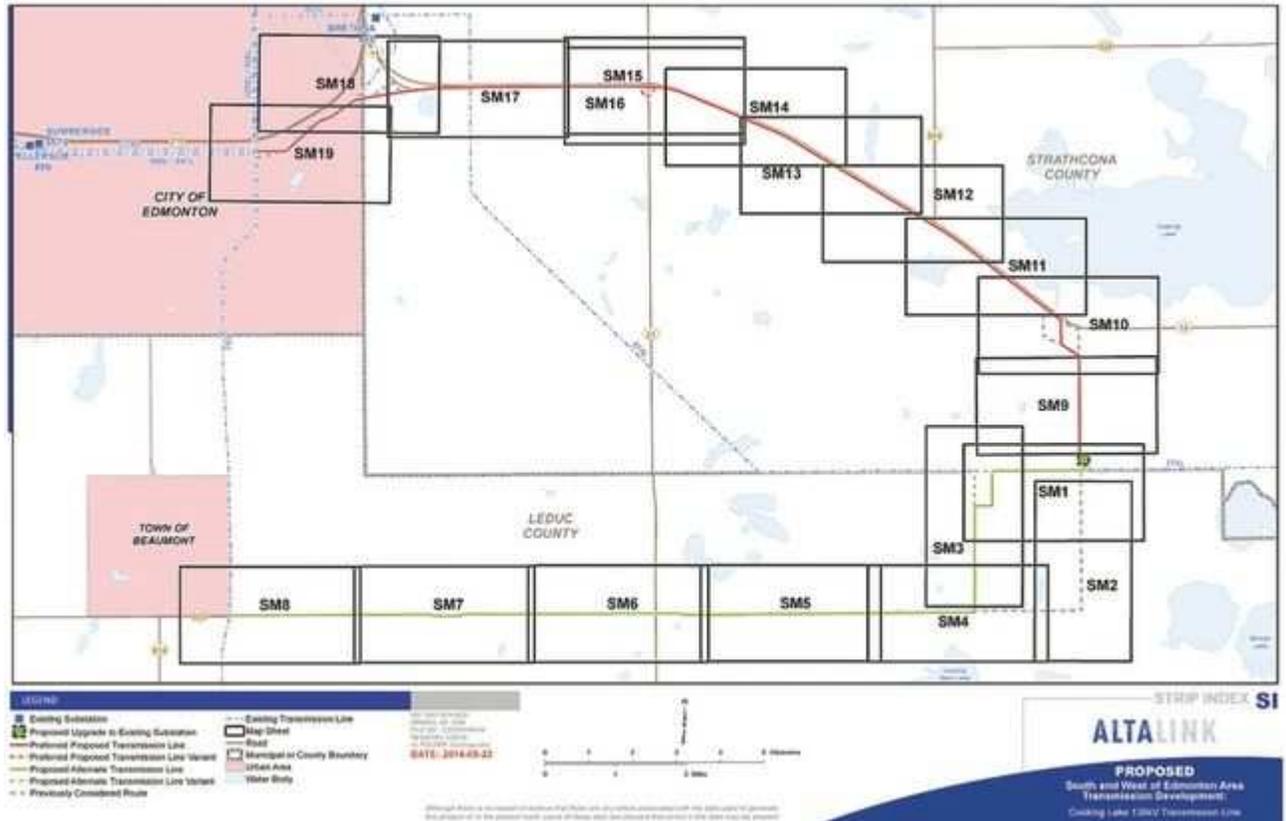


# 138-kV line favours local route



By [Megan Voss](#), Sherwood Park News  
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AltaLink has identified its preferred route for its South Cooking Lake 138-kV Transmission Line and Substation Upgrade project that will be proposed to the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in the fall.

Speaking to Strathcona County council on Tuesday, Lori Mills, an energy exploration liaison for the county, said that AltaLink informed the county and area residents of its choice in June.

“The preferred route is in Strathcona County. It begins at Highway 14 and the Anthony Henday, follows Highway 14 going southeast to Range Road 220, and then goes south on Range Road 220 to the substation, which is located at Township Road 510 and Range Road 220,” she told council.

The alternate route is through Leduc County.

Mills said Strathcona County has requested more plans and information from AltaLink in regards to the county’s road infrastructure, environment and landowners.

“We’ve asked for documentation that proves support for the preferred route over the alternative route, from an environmental perspective,” Mills said.

AltaLink will continue to consult with landowners as well as Alberta Transportation for the Highway 14 routes, she added.

"This includes potential negotiation with obviously some of our residents," she said.

According to Mills, the Strathcona County's technical review team will go over the proposed preferred route.

"Individual landowners' assistance for property owners that are adjacent to the proposed routes on county roads has been offered through Planning and Development Services," she noted.

While AltaLink has informed the county it expects to file the project proposal with the AUC in October, or in early November, the AUC will begin advising affected stakeholders on processes and how to get involved.

"After AltaLink has filed their project... there will be direct notice mailed to affected participants," Mills said.

"If the project is approved as is, AltaLink is proposing to start construction in the fall of 2015."

The 25 km, double-circuit 138-kV transmission line would result in the upgrading and expansion of the Cooking Lake substation. New equipment to monitor and control the high-voltage transmission lines, bringing electricity directly to homes, businesses and industrial facilities would also be a result of the upgrade.

In the evening on Aug. 21, a landowner meeting will take place at the South Cooking Lake hall, where discussions and information on principles of negotiation, key issues for landowner consideration and temporary work space will take place. Besides councillors, county administration will also be present to answer questions. Additionally, residents also have the opportunity to file feedback electronically through the AUC website at [www.auc.ab.ca](http://www.auc.ab.ca).