

Equally culpable

Re: "Environment Canada reviews bird deaths in tailings ponds," Nov. 7

The oilsands are being tied to the whipping post and fined massive amounts, yet AltaLink, a Calgary-based company responsible for almost 60 per cent of Alberta's electrical transmission lines, annually kills waterfowl with nary a fine or slap on the wrist.

Constructed right through a wetland area, the southern Alberta line is directly in the flight path of ducks, geese and swans that use it as a staging area for their migratory flight.

At a recent information session held near Pincher Creek, I was told by an AltaLink representative that the massive waterfowl kill which occurred last year was an anomaly, a freak of nature like the 100-year flood that devastated High River.

Now AltaLink is proposing an even bigger power line that will be constructed right through the nesting area of bald eagles. What are their lives worth?

The province and the Alberta Energy Regulator should look into the practices of all companies that kill our waterfowl.

Doug Smith, Sherwood Park