

Getting Transmission Built

What Changes Under the *Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009* (formerly Bill 50)?

The *Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009* changes part of the approval process for **critical transmission infrastructure** only.

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.

Under the *Electric Statutes Amendment Act, 2009*, the Government of Alberta approved the need for four critical transmission infrastructure projects.

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

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:

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

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

Step 8 (NO CHANGE): Landowner agreements completed.

Step 9 (NO CHANGE): Construction begins.