



AUC

Alberta Utilities Commission

Grande Prairie Generation, Inc.

**Time Extension to Complete Construction of the 95-MW
Harmattan Energy Centre**

December 30, 2014



The Alberta Utilities Commission

Decision 2014-379: Grande Prairie Generation, Inc.

Time Extension to Complete Construction of the 95-MW Harmattan Energy Centre

Application No. 1611115

Proceeding No. 3601

December 30, 2014

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The Alberta Utilities Commission

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1 Introduction and background

1. Grande Prairie Generation, Inc. (GPG) pursuant to Approval No. [U2013-351](#)¹ has approval to construct and operate a 95-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fuelled power plant, designated as the Harmattan Energy Centre in the Harmattan area.
2. GPG filed an application with the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC or the Commission) requesting approval of a time extension, from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2017, in order to complete construction of the power plant. The application was registered on December 19, 2014, as Application No. 1611115.

2 Discussion

3. GPG stated that it planned to construct the power plant in concert with the Harmattan 187S substation. The substation was applied for in Application No. 1610353 (Proceeding No. 2341), filed in February 2014, and was originally intended to be constructed in the fourth quarter of 2014. Proceeding No. 2341 consisted of an Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) Needs Identification Document (NID) application, an AltaLink facility application and GPG's substation application.
4. On November 7, 2014, the AESO filed a letter with the Commission requesting approval to withdraw its application. The request was approved on November 21, 2014. GPG stated the withdrawal of the AESO's application will significantly impact the timeline to construct and operate the power plant and substation.
5. Noting the withdrawal of the AESO application and the related impact on construction of the facilities, GPG requested approval of a time extension to complete the Harmattan Energy Centre by December 31, 2017.
6. GPG stated it did not conduct a participant involvement program because it is not proposing any alterations to the power plant and the time extension will not affect other companies or projects.

3 Findings

7. GPG has provided information respecting the need, nature and the duration of the requested time extension. Based upon the information provided, GPG has demonstrated that the

¹ Approval No. U2013-351, Application No. 1608498, Proceeding No. 1918, July 30, 2013.

requested time extension is of a minor nature, but necessary in order for GPG to complete construction of the power plant. GPG is not proposing any alterations to the approved power plant. The Commission finds the lack of a participant involvement program to be justified given that there are no material changes to the power plant.

8. Due to the minor nature of the application, a notice of application was not issued and, therefore, a hearing was not required. The Commission considered that its decision would not directly and adversely affect the rights of a person pursuant to Section 9 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*.

9. The Commission has reviewed the application and considers that a time extension to December 31, 2017 to complete construction of the power plant to be satisfactory, given the state of the associated substation and NID applications.

10. The Commission considers the application to be in the public interest pursuant to Section 17 of the *Alberta Utilities Commission Act*. The Commission approves an extension of the construction completion date to December 31, 2017.

4 Decision

11. Pursuant to sections 11 and 19 of the *Hydro and Electric Energy Act*, the Commission approves the application and grants GPG the approval set out in Appendix 1– Time Extension to Complete Construction of the 95-MW Harmattan Energy Centre – Approval No. U2014-564 – December 30, 2014 to construct and operate the power plant (Appendix 1 will be distributed separately).

Dated on December 30, 2014.

The Alberta Utilities Commission

(original signed by)

Anne Michaud
Commission Member