

Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation
Ontario Tech University

BEI Energy News

This update is produced twice weekly by the Brilliant Energy Institute

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Top news

BEI Energy News

BEI partner CGAI chapter on North American energy security published – BEI LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7079934419247005696>

Canadian Global Affairs Institute's (CGAI) Kelly Ogle, CEO and Joe Calnan, Energy Security Analyst and Forum Manager, recently co-authored a chapter in the book *Mexico & Canada: Two Nations in a North American Partnership*. The chapter explores the potential for greater ties between Mexico and Canada to support shared North American energy security. CGAI is a valued Brilliant Energy Institute (BEI) and Ontario Tech University partner.

Energy Policy

First regional energy and resource tables collaboration framework for accelerating a low-carbon economy released - Natural Resources Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/06/first-regional-energy-and-resource-tables-collaboration-framework-for-accelerating-a-low-carbon-economy-released.html>

The Governments of Canada and British Columbia, along with the First Nations Summit and the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, announced the *British Columbia Regional Energy and Resource Table: Framework for Collaboration on the Path to Net Zero*. The framework, focusing on clean fuels, electrification, critical minerals, the forest sector, carbon management, and regulatory efficiency, aims to accelerate clean growth projects and promote clean electricity infrastructure. An investment of more than \$100 million from federal and provincial sources was announced to support British Columbia's low-carbon economy. The initiative underscores the importance of incorporating First Nation perspectives and aligning with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

Canada supports clean energy projects in Saskatchewan with more than \$7 million investment - Natural Resources Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/06/government-of-canada-supports-clean-energy-projects-in-saskatchewan-with-over-7-million-investment.html>

The Government of Canada announced a \$7 million investment in clean energy projects in Saskatchewan to support Indigenous communities and businesses. This funding, provided through the Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways program, will support renewable energy development, job creation, and Canada's climate goals. The projects include deploying solar arrays in Weyburn by Prism Energy (\$4.3 million), hiring community energy coordinators and implementing energy plans by Lac La Ronge Indian Band (\$2.3 million), building renewable energy capacity by Red Dog Holdings (\$344,565), and conducting a microgrid feasibility study by Saskatchewan Power Corporation (\$141,250).

Energy Systems

Manufacturing

Canada invests \$10 million in state-of-the-art biorefinery conversion in Saskatchewan - Natural Resources Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2023/06/canada-invests-10-million-in-state-of-the-art-biorefinery-conversion-in-saskatchewan.html>

The Canadian government has announced a \$10 million contribution to BioLesna Carbon Technologies LP, a joint venture between BC Biocarbon and Dunkley Lumber Ltd., for the development of a biorefinery in Carrot River, Sask. The funding comes from the Investments in Forest Industry Transformation program, which is aimed at supporting advanced technologies in the forest sector. The Carrot River Biorefinery will convert residual biomass into biochar, bio-oil, wood vinegar, and pyrolysis gas, which can be further refined into value-added products. The project will create local employment, enhance production scale, and diversify forest products.

Indigenous and Community Engagement

Trans Mountain expansion reports 'unprecedented' collaboration with Indigenous communities – Energy Now

<https://energynow.ca/2023/06/trans-mountain-expansion-reports-unprecedented-collaboration-with-indigenous-communities/>

The Trans Mountain Corporation, a Canadian pipeline company, has hired more than 3,100 Indigenous Peoples to work on the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project from Edmonton to the west coast near Vancouver. About 25 per cent of the project contracts, valued at nearly \$4.8 billion, were awarded to Indigenous businesses and partnerships. Among them is Stqó:ya Construction, a heavy construction company majority-owned by Seabird Island Band, whose employees are mostly from Indigenous communities (about 70 per cent). In 2022, Trans Mountain delivered an Indigenous cultural awareness training course to all employees and contractors.

Technologies

Nuclear

OPG seeks approval to operate Pickering Nuclear Generating Station - CNSC

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) received an application from Ontario Power Generation (OPG) seeking approval to continue commercial operation of Units 5 to 8 at the

Pickering Nuclear Generating Station until Dec. 31, 2026. OPG's current license to operate the nuclear plant ends on Aug. 31, 2028 and does not allow OPG to commercially operate Units 5 to 8 beyond Dec. 31, 2024. OPG's application would require authorization from the CNSC and would be subject to a public hearing.

McMaster and medical isotope partners awarded \$35 million from federal government - McMaster University

<https://brighterworld.mcmaster.ca/articles/mcmaster-and-medical-isotope-partners-awarded-35m-from-federal-government/>

McMaster University received \$6.8 million from the federal government for the Canadian Medical Isotope Ecosystem (CMIE). CMIE aims to strengthen Canada's medical isotope research and innovation capabilities. The funding will be used to expand the McMaster Nuclear Reactor, enhancing its capacity for medical isotope research and production. CMIE partners, including Bruce Power and Canadian Nuclear Laboratories, received a total of \$35 million. This investment is expected to create or maintain more than 600 highly skilled jobs and attract additional investments of more than \$75 million.

Hydrogen

Canada's first hydrogen train is taking passengers - CBC

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/hydrogen-train-quebec-city-1.6888891>

North America's first hydrogen-powered passenger train, manufactured by Alstom, is now operating on a route from Quebec City to Baie-Saint-Paul in Quebec. The train is a demonstration of hydrogen's potential to replace diesel fuel on railways. Running on the Train de Charlevoix route, the hydrogen train emits only water vapor and can accommodate up to 120 passengers. It operates from Wednesday to Sunday until Sept. 30. The project aims to raise awareness and confidence in hydrogen technology in North America and contribute to Quebec's decarbonization efforts. The train uses hydrogen produced with green electricity from Hydro-Quebec.

Fossil Fuels

Norway approves more than US\$18 billion of oil and gas projects – Energy Now

<https://energynow.ca/2023/06/norway-approves-more-than-18-billion-of-oil-and-gas-projects/>

The Government of Norway approved more than 19 new oil and gas projects as well as expansion of existing fields and increased oil-recovery projects, valued more than US\$18.5 billion, to keep up production. Norway became Europe's largest supplier of natural gas after Russia invaded Ukraine. The projects include Aker BP ASA's Yggdrasil, Valhall PWP's Fenris in the North Sea and Equinor ASA's Irpa in the Norwegian Sea, among others. The Yggdrasil project contains plans for nearly 55 wells and that region is estimated to contain 650 million barrels of oil equivalent, making it one of the largest development projects.

Thank you.

The Brilliant Energy Institute news team

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(With a little help from ChatGPT)