

Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation
Ontario Tech University

BEI Energy News

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Energy Policy

NDP to introduce bill calling for ban of coal exports as Canadian output booms (Paywall)

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/article-ndp-to-introduce-bill-calling-for-ban-of-coal-exports-as-canadian/>

NDP environment critic Laurel Collins introduces a private member's bill calling for the ban of thermal coal exports. Canadian exports of this type of coal reached an eight-year high in 2022. Despite the Liberal government's promise to work on banning coal exports by the end of the decade, the country exported over eight million tonnes of domestically produced thermal coal in 2022, marking a 60 per cent increase over 2021. Collins calls these numbers "shocking" and emphasizes the impact of coal on the climate crisis.

Indigenous and Community Engagement

Indigenous participants learn about energy efficiency at program

<https://www.aptnnews.ca/national-news/indigenous-participants-learn-about-energy-efficiency-at-program/>

The Indigenous Clean Energy (ICE) organization completed its Bringing it Home Project. The program assists First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities in retrofitting older buildings for improved livability. The program provides training in energy efficiency techniques and project development through webinars and two weeks of intensive in-person training. The final session took place in Wakefield, Quebec, and included participants from communities across the country. ICE is offering \$125,000 in project grants to support an 18-month housing program for Indigenous communities.

Building Infrastructure

Federal government supports electrification of Regina's transit fleet

<https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2024/02/federal-government-supports-electrification-of-reginas-transit-fleet.html>

The City of Regina will receive a greener transit system with an investment of \$52.2 million from the federal and municipal governments. The funding will facilitate the acquisition of 20 zero-emission buses and related charging infrastructure, contributing to a cleaner environment and aligning with Regina's net-zero targets. The project involves the replacement of diesel-powered buses with forty-foot battery electric buses over the next three years. Additionally, upgrades to the Transit Operations Centre and the Transit Maintenance Facility will support the transition to zero-emission public transit infrastructure.

EDP Renováveis agrees to sell 80 percent stake in Canadian wind farm for \$600-million (Paywall)

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/article-edp-renovaveis-agrees-to-sell-80-stake-in-canadian-wind-farm-for-600/>

Portugal's EDP Renováveis (EDPR) announced an agreement to sell an 80 per cent stake in a 297-megawatt wind farm in Alberta, Canada, to fund CC&L Infrastructure for \$600 million. EDP Renováveis will retain a minority equity stake and continue to operate and manage the wind farm. This move is part of EDPR's strategy to raise EU €7 billion through asset rotation by selling mature renewable energy sites to finance new ones. The company previously sold CC&L Infrastructure, a portfolio of U.S. solar and wind plants with a combined capacity of 560 MW.

\$7B Energy Transition Hub advances clean energy goals in B.C., Canada

<https://canada.constructconnect.com/joc/news/infrastructure/2024/02/7b-energy-transition-hub-advances-clean-energy-goals-in-canada>

Plans are progressing to build a massive energy transition hub on the Kerry Lake East Indian Reserve in northern B.C., to contribute to clean energy goals in the province and Canada. The Tse'khene Energy Transition Hub, estimated to cost \$7 billion, will produce low-carbon energy through hydrogen production via hydrolysis. The proposal includes the conversion of hydrogen gas to liquid ammonia for transportation. A straddle plant will extract liquids like ethylene from natural gas, reducing byproducts burned in the gas distribution system. The project will create jobs and position B.C. as a leader in the clean energy transition.

Hydrogen

Shell to permanently close all of its hydrogen refuelling stations for cars in California

<https://www.hydrogeninsight.com/transport/shell-to-permanently-close-all-of-its-hydrogen-refuelling-stations-for-cars-in-california/2-1-1596104>

Shell has decided to permanently close six out of seven hydrogen refuelling stations (HRS) for passenger cars in California, citing "supply complications and other external market factors." The closure leaves the oil major with only three H2 filling stations for heavy-duty vehicles and one light-duty station in Torrance, a Los Angeles suburb, which is currently exploring options for divestment. Shell had previously discontinued its plan to build and operate additional light-duty vehicle fueling stations in California, affecting 48 new sites. The decision aligns with Shell's focus on hydrogen for heavy-duty mobility while investing in electric vehicle (EV) charging for light-duty vehicles.

Critical Minerals

Lithium-iron Phosphate Batteries Market: Future of Clean Energy | North America Growing by Canada, United States

https://www.einnews.com/pr_news/688466231/lithium-iron-phosphate-batteries-market-future-of-clean-energy-north-america-growing-by-canada-united-states

The global lithium-iron phosphate batteries market will exceed US \$9.9 billion by 2030, driven by the growing automotive industry and increasing sales of electric vehicles (EVs). The demand for lithium-iron phosphate batteries is rising due to the adoption of EVs, renewable energy storage systems, and other applications requiring high-performance batteries. The Asia-Pacific region is projected to experience the highest compound annual growth rate (CAGR) in terms of revenue. The report highlights key industry participants, such as BYD, A123 Systems, Electrical Vehicle Power System Technology, OptimumNano Energy, K2Energy, Pihsiang Energy Technology, Victory Battery Technology, Power Sonic, Lithium Werks, and Benergy Technology Company.

Fossil Fuels

Federal Court allows judicial review of southern Alberta coal mine denied by panel

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/alberta-coal-mine-federal-court-benga-1.7114756>

The Federal Court has ruled in favour of a judicial review of a decision by federal Environmental Minister Steven Guilbeault, who denied a permit for an open-pit coal mine in the Alberta Rockies. The ruling, in response to two Alberta First Nations, requires Guilbeault to revisit the issue after consulting with the bands on the economic benefits of the proposed mine. The court found that the Piikani and Stoney First Nations did not receive the consultation opportunity promised by the federal-provincial panel that reviewed Benga Mining's application for the Grassy Mountain proposal near Crowsnest Pass.

Do you have any milestones, events, or news updates to share with the energy community? Email your submission to BrilliantEnergy@ontariotechu.ca for consideration in an upcoming edition.

Thank you.

The Brilliant Energy Institute news team
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(With a little help from ChatGPT)