

Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation
Ontario Tech University

BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

June 14, 2024

BEI NEWS

Oppenheimer: Science in Hollywood

The "Oppenheimer: Science in Hollywood" talk by Jason Donev from the University of Calgary was a success. Jason Donev explored the fascinating intersection of history, cinema, and one of the biggest events in nuclear science. To learn more about Oppenheimer, Jason recommends reading "American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer," the Pulitzer Prize-winning book that inspired the movie. The Oppenheimer: Science in Hollywood talk by the University of Calgary's Jason Donev, was a success. Special thanks to everyone who attended and to Jason Donev, Kirk Atkinson and Les Jacobs. Jason Donev dove into the fascinating intersection of history, cinema, and the biggest event in nuclear science. Spoiler alert—Hollywood got it right. If you are looking for a deeper dive on Oppenheimer, Jason recommends picking up American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the Pulitzer Prize-winning book that inspired the movie.

OPG tour

On June 11, 2024, the BEI team and Jason Donev from the University of Calgary toured the OPG Darlington Nuclear Visitor Centre. The centre offers an engaging experience, showcasing Ontario's electricity production history through interactive displays and informative exhibits. It was an amazing opportunity for the team to learn about OPG's contributions to the energy sector.↓

Energy Policy

Energy minister tables bill to speed up Hydro-Québec's green power production

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/quebec-energy-minister-fitzgibbon-green-power-electricity-production->

[1.7227272#:~:text=Bill%2069%20would%20remove%20the.and%20new%20hydroelectric%20power%20stations](#)

Quebec's Energy Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon has introduced Bill 69 to accelerate Hydro-Québec's green energy projects, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2050. The bill removes the requirement for Hydro-Québec to call for tenders, speeding up wind and hydroelectric projects. It also allows companies to buy renewable energy directly from private sources. The Régie de l'énergie will reassess electricity rates every three years and may set dynamic pricing to reduce peak consumption. A financial assistance program will help keep residential rate hikes below three per cent. Some businesses are concerned about potential increases in electricity costs.

Building Infrastructure

Report finds infrastructure investments at the centre of energy transition roadmap

<https://www.benefitscanada.com/canadian-investment-review/research-markets/infrastructure-investments-at-the-centre-of-energy-transition-roadmap-report/>

Institutional investors are driving a \$100 trillion infrastructure overhaul critical for the global energy transition, says IFM Investors. Over ~~the next~~ 30 years, investments will focus on renewable energy and climate change adaptation. Infrastructure assets have shown resilience and act as an inflation hedge. ~~The Australian and Canadian markets led early infrastructure investments, establishing a mature approach to asset assessment and risk management.~~

[The Australian and Canadian markets are pioneers in early infrastructure investments and have developed a sophisticated method for assessing assets and managing risks.](#)

Calgary company signs funding deal to turn trash into clean energy

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2024/06/11/news/calgary-company-trash-clean-energy-Canada-Growth-Fund>

Gibson Energy Inc. of Calgary has signed a deal with the Canada Growth Fund to develop Canada's first waste-to-energy facility with carbon capture technology. The project will divert solid waste from Edmonton's landfill to create electricity, capturing greenhouse gas emissions. Gibson will own 50 per cent of the project, with the Canada Growth Fund and Varme Energy holding 40 per cent and 10 per cent stakes, respectively. The deal includes a carbon price assurance mechanism to purchase carbon credits, reducing investment risks. The project aims for a 2027 start, supporting Gibson's net-zero emissions goal by 2050.

Hydro planning \$1B investment for Bay d'Espoir and new turbine to build power grid

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/newfoundland-labrador/nl-hydro-billion-dollar-investment-1.7227156>

Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro ~~isare~~ investing over \$1 billion to add an eighth unit to the Bay d'Espoir hydroelectric dam and a new 150-megawatt combustion turbine on the Avalon Peninsula. CEO Jennifer Williams announced the plan, which ~~aims to will~~ meet increased power demand due to population growth and electrification. The additional capacity ~~is expected to be will be~~ online by 2034. The project includes buying 80 megawatts of wind power. Learning from the Muskrat Falls project's issues, Hydro is adopting cautious planning and will submit the plans to the Public Utilities Board for review.

Nuclear

First of its kind in Canada: Westinghouse bringing new engineering jobs to Kitchener

<https://kitchener.citynews.ca/2024/06/12/new-westinghouse-hub-will-bring-100-new-engineering-jobs-to-kitchener/>

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Westinghouse Electric Company will open a new engineering hub in Kitchener, Ontario, which will bring 100 new engineering jobs to the region. This hub will support the company's work on advanced nuclear technology, specifically focusing on its innovative eVinci microreactor. The Kitchener facility is part of Westinghouse's broader strategy to expand its engineering capabilities and support new nuclear projects in Canada and globally

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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
brilliantenergyinstitute.ca
(With a little help from ChatGPT)