

# Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation

Ontario Tech University

## BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

August 30, 2024

### Top News

#### Energy Policy

##### **Canadian team awarded \$4.9M from government to boost clean fuel research - Canadian Mining Journal**

<https://www.canadianminingjournal.com/news/canadian-team-awarded-4-9m-from-government-to-boost-clean-fuel-research/>

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) and partners have secured \$4.9 million from Natural Resources Canada's clean fuels fund to boost clean fuel research. The funding supports projects to produce low-carbon synthetic diesel and sustainable aviation fuel. One project will explore creating synthetic diesel from biomass, while the other test converts CO2 from industrial emissions into synthesis gas for fuel production. The initiatives began in December 2023 and will conclude by the end of 2025, contributing to Canada's clean energy goals.

##### **Ontario to procure 5,000 MW of energy to meet future demand - CBC**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/ontario-energy-procurement-1.7306882>

Ontario plans to add 5,000 megawatts of energy to the grid to meet future demand, utilizing a mix of natural gas, hydroelectric, renewables, nuclear, and biomass. A framework for procurement will be established by September 20, with the process set to conclude by February 28, 2026. Ground-mounted solar panels on prime farmland will be prohibited, and local municipalities will have a say in project approvals. The initiative is part of efforts to support the province's energy needs and economic growth.

##### **Hydro-Québec rates: Energy minister forecasts 'significant increases' over next decade - City News**

<https://montreal.citynews.ca/2024/08/28/hydro-quebec-rates-significant-increases/>

Hydro-Québec rates will increase significantly over the next five to ten years. There will be no sudden rate changes in the short term. Hydro-Québec plans to invest \$155-185 billion by 2035 to enhance electricity production and support decarbonization. Rates could rise annually

starting in 2028. The government aims to keep annual increases within a manageable range.

### **Reservoir filling begins on BC Hydro's Site C Clean Project - ReNew Canada**

<https://www.renewcanada.net/reservoir-filling-begins-on-bc-hydros-site-c-clean-project/>

BC Hydro has started filling the Site C reservoir, marking one of the final phases in completing the Site C Clean Energy Project. It will take two to four months to fill the reservoir. The public is advised to avoid the area due to safety concerns. BC Hydro has engaged with local communities and First Nations and created a \$20 million Peace Agricultural Compensation Fund. The project will start operations in 2025.

### **The Government of Canada, CUTRIC and Medicine Hat support planning for a transition to zero emission buses - Infrastructure Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/housing-infrastructure-communities/news/2024/08/the-government-of-canada-cutric-and-medicine-hat-support-planning-for-a-transition-to-zero-emission-buses.html>

The Government of Canada and the City of Medicine Hat are investing in zero-emission buses. They announced a \$198,116 investment to plan for electric buses in Medicine Hat. This project will explore the costs, technology, and environmental impacts of electrifying the city's bus fleet. The Government of Canada contributes \$158,493 through the Zero Emission Transit Fund. This initiative supports cleaner public transit and aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Electric Vehicles**

### **Canada's approach to EV tariffs undermines affordability and our climate - Clean Energy Canada**

<https://cleanenergycanada.org/canadas-approach-to-ev-tariffs-undermines-affordability-and-our-climate/>

Canada has announced a 100 per cent tariff on Chinese-made electric vehicles. This measure is likely to increase vehicle prices and could affect the availability of electric vehicle options in Canada. Currently, electric vehicle sales in Canada are lower compared to regions like Europe, where tariffs on imported vehicles are set at different rates. At present, there are only two affordable electric vehicles available in Canada, with one of these models being discontinued soon. There are proposals to extend existing rebate programs and adjust price caps to support electric vehicle affordability. Canadian-made electric vehicles will become available by 2028.

## **Indigenous Community and Engagement**

### **Federal government invests in 12 new wind, solar and smart grid projects with Indigenous and industry partners in Alberta - Energy Central**

<https://energycentral.com/news/translation-federal-government-invests-12-new-wind-solar-and-smart-grid-projects-indigenous-and>

The federal government is investing over \$175 million in 12 new wind, solar, and smart grid projects in Alberta, working in partnership with Indigenous communities and industry groups. These projects aim to create thousands of jobs and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, equivalent to taking 325,000 gasoline-powered cars off the road each year. Key projects include the Buffalo Atlee Wind Farm and the largest urban solar facility in Western Canada. Operations will commence soon, with ongoing efforts to meet Canada's goal of a zero-emission electricity grid by 2035.

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

Thank you.

The Brilliant Energy Institute news team  
[brilliantenergyinstitute.ca](http://brilliantenergyinstitute.ca)

*(With a little help from ChatGPT)*