

# Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation

Ontario Tech University

## BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

July 19, 2024

### Top News

#### Energy Policy

##### **Government of Canada's New Canada Green Buildings Strategy: A Plan to Help Canadians Save Money on Their Energy Bills - NRCAN**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/government-of-canadas-new-canada-green-buildings-strategy-a-plan-to-help-canadians-save-money-on-their-energy-bills.html>

Natural Resources Canada has introduced Canada's inaugural Green Buildings Strategy, which aims to save money for Canadians, generate employment opportunities, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The plan targets energy efficiency improvements in homes and buildings, focusing on retrofits and new energy-efficient constructions. Key initiatives include the Canada Greener Homes Affordability Program and the Oil to Heat Pump Affordability Program. The strategy, funded with \$903.5 million as part of Budget 2024, complements Canada's National Adaptation Strategy and supports the country's 2030 emissions reduction plan.

##### **Longest-serving recreational hub in Vancouver receives support for green upgrades - Infrastructure Canada**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/office-infrastructure/news/2024/07/longest-serving-recreational-hub-in-vancouver-receives-support-for-green-upgrades.html>

The Kerrisdale Community Centre in Vancouver will receive more than \$2.3 million from the federal Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program for energy-efficient upgrades. The project will replace aging HVAC systems with low-carbon alternatives, enhancing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 281 tonnes annually. The City of Vancouver is contributing \$595,700 to the project. Improvements will cut energy consumption by 48.3 per cent. The GICB program, supporting Canada's climate plan, has allocated additional funding through 2029.

## **Government of Canada Invests \$30 Million in Hitachi Energy's Sustainable Energy Initiatives - T&D World**

<https://www.tdworld.com/renewables/news/55126558/government-of-canada-invests-30-million-in-hitachi-energys-sustainable-energy-initiatives>

Hitachi Energy Canada has secured a \$30 million investment from the Government of Canada to establish an HVDC simulation center in Montreal and modernize its power transformer factory in Varennes, Quebec. This funding is part of a \$140 million initiative, including contributions from Investissement Quebec. These investments align with Hitachi Energy's \$4.5 billion global clean energy transition commitment. The upgrades aim to enhance efficiency and project timelines, with the HVDC simulation center and Varennes factory upgrades slated for completion by the end of 2027.

## **After the carbon capture industry gold rush, how many facilities will actually be built? - CBC**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/bakx-ccs-ccus-atlas-alberta-1.7257666?cmp=rss>

The federal emissions reduction plan aims to triple Canada's carbon capture capacity by 2030. Alberta's CCS gold rush began three years ago, with companies proposing dozens of projects. Of the 25 projects announced in Alberta, only one has reached an agreement with the government. The Government of Canada expects 20 to 25 CCS facilities to be built within the next decade. A new federal tax credit for CCS covers up to half the equipment cost, encouraging investment. Without these projects, meeting climate goals will be challenging.

## **Nuclear Energy**

### **University secures Saskatchewan funding for nuclear research - World Nuclear News**

<https://www.world-nuclear-news.org/Articles/University-secures-Saskatchewan-funding-for-nuclea>

The University of Regina has received \$580,000 from Innovation Saskatchewan for three nuclear research projects. This funding, provided by the Innovation and Science Fund, supports research and enhances competitiveness. The projects focus on preventing rust in SMR materials, upgrading nuclear simulation labs, and developing the Heavy Gas Cherenkov detector. This investment enhances Saskatchewan's research capabilities and provides advanced training opportunities.

## **Critical Minerals**

### **Canada and B.C. Invest in Infrastructure Upgrades to Support Critical Minerals Development in Northwest B.C. and Create Jobs Across the Province - NRCAN**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2024/07/canada-and-bc-invest-in-infrastructure-upgrades-to-support-critical-minerals-development-in-northwest-bc-and-create-jobs-across-the-province.html>

The federal and B.C. governments announced a joint \$195 million investment to upgrade highway infrastructure in northwest B.C., aiming to support critical minerals development and create jobs across the province. This project, part of the Critical Minerals Infrastructure Fund, includes contributions of \$75 million from the federal government and \$120 million from B.C. The upgrades to Highways 37, 37A, and 51 will improve safety and accessibility, benefiting local communities and supporting mining activities. Work begins in 2024, targeting completion by 2030.

## Oil and Gas

### **Feds to end oil heating in new buildings - National Observer**

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2024/07/17/news/feds-end-oil-heating-new-buildings>

The federal government released the Canada Green Buildings Strategy. It commits to phasing out heating oil in new buildings to cut emissions. The strategy focuses on electrifying heating and using heat pumps. It includes \$800 million for a new home retrofit program starting in 2025. An estimated \$400 billion in capital investment over the next 30 years is required. The goal is to reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

*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)*