

Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation

Ontario Tech University

BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

November 8, 2024

Top News

Indigenous

Society Watch: Why respecting Indigenous peoples' rights is key to the energy transition - Reuters

https://www.theglobeandmail.com/drive/mobility/article-hydrogen-powered-toyota-mirai-hampered-by-lack-of-infrastructure-but/?intcmp=gift_share

As countries push to triple renewable energy capacity by 2030, ensuring a fair transition for Indigenous communities has emerged as critical to sustainable development. Recent reports highlight the opportunities and challenges of renewable projects, which can impact Indigenous lands, local livelihoods, and ecosystems. In Canada, a model is emerging where Indigenous groups gain substantial stakes in energy projects, aiming to balance environmental goals with community rights and economic benefits. Advocates argue that involving Indigenous partners early on can create more equitable outcomes and prevent conflicts as governments and companies navigate this complex transition from fossil fuels.

Power restored in Kimmirut, Nunavut, after 3-day outage - CBC

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/kimmirut-nunavut-state-of-emergency-1.7372335>

Power has been restored in Kimmirut, Nunavut, following a three-day outage that left residents without heat or electricity and caused food shortages in the South Baffin Island community. Declared an emergency by the Nunavut government, the outage saw residents rallying together, with Qaqqalik School operating as a warming shelter and local stores working to provide food and fuel. Additional supplies arrived by air, but a boil water advisory and a state of emergency remain in place until mid-November. With power back, the community is focused on recovery and preventing further disruptions as colder weather sets in.

Energy Policy

Oil, gas companies told to cut emissions by 33% under planned cap - Financial Post

<https://financialpost.com/commodities/energy/oil-gas/oil-gas-cut-emissions-planned-cap>

Canada's Environment Ministry has introduced draft regulations mandating a 33 per cent

reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from oil and gas producers by 2032, fulfilling a Liberal election promise but heightening tensions with Alberta. The cap, open for public comment until January 2025, seeks to maintain Canada's oil competitiveness in a low-carbon world, though it faces resistance from Alberta's government and opposition leaders. The plan, which allows flexibility in achieving the cuts and emphasizes methane reduction and carbon capture, has prompted concerns from business groups and economic forecasts warning of potential impacts on Alberta's economy and job growth.

Canada: 35% CO₂ Emissions Reduction in Energy by 2030, a Complex Transition - energynews

<https://energynews.pro/en/canada-35-co%E2%82%82-emissions-reduction-in-energy-by-2030-a-complex-transition/>

Canada has announced a plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions in the energy sector by 35 per cent by 2030 through a cap-and-trade system, pushing companies to adopt cleaner technologies while sparking economic and political debate. The move aligns with Canada's climate commitments but raises concerns from producing provinces like Alberta, which fear job losses and economic impacts. The regulation, set for finalization in 2025, has sparked mixed reactions over the balance between environmental goals and financial pressures and poses challenges and opportunities for industry players, investors, and Canada's energy future.

Perspective: Canada's Energy Transition: Navigating Growth, Resilience, and Innovation - EnergyNow

<https://energynow.ca/2024/11/canadas-energy-transition-navigating-growth-resilience-and-innovation/>

Canada's energy transition is at a critical stage, balancing the growing demand while navigating climate adaptation, emission reduction, and energy resilience. The shift, driven by electrification, population growth, and industrial development, is shaped by Canada's unique energy landscape—from hydro-rich provinces like Quebec and B.C. to fossil fuel-dependent Alberta and Saskatchewan. As natural gas bridges the transition, renewable energy and grid modernization are critical, with decentralized approaches like Indigenous-led projects and microgrids enhancing resilience. However, regional disparities and infrastructure challenges persist. With innovation in hydrogen, smart grids, and interprovincial integration, Canada could emerge as a leader in sustainable, resilient energy.

Novus Earth, E2E partner for geothermal project in Alberta, Canada - Think GeoEnergy

<https://www.thinkgeoenergy.com/novus-earth-e2e-partner-for-geothermal-project-in-alberta-canada/>

E2E Energy Solutions and Novus Earth have announced a partnership to develop the Latitude 53 geothermal project in Hinton, Alberta, aiming to bring geothermal heat and power to the region. The two-phase project will start with a 20-acre greenhouse heated by geothermal energy for year-round strawberry cultivation, followed by a 10-MW geothermal power plant. With construction beginning in 2025, the project will use E2E's Enhanced Geothermal Reservoir Recovery System, blending conventional and EGS technologies. Supported by Ormat Technologies and funded by the Government of Canada, the initiative will boost economic growth and create jobs in Hinton and the West Yellowhead region.

As Ontario eyes Crown land for renewable energy, parking lots seen as having 'untapped potential' - CBC

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/solar-power-northern-ontario-1.7371380>

Ontario is exploring expanding its renewable energy capacity, including utilizing Crown land for solar, wind, and biomass projects. However, some experts suggest parking lots may offer a more efficient solution. With space and the ability to tilt panels for optimal sunlight, parking lots have the potential to be a major source of solar energy. Though the initial investment in constructing carports for solar panels is high, these systems could generate enough power to supply large commercial centres, reducing energy loss and supporting local electrification. This approach is gaining attention, with similar initiatives proposed in other regions, and could significantly boost Ontario's energy transition goals.

TRU recognized for sustainability efforts by Princeton Review, Energy Manager Canada - Castanet

<https://www.castanetkamloops.net/news/Kamloops/515510/TRU-recognized-for-sustainability-efforts-by-Princeton-Review-Energy-Manager-Canada>

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability with two honours. It was named to the Princeton Review's Green College 2025 Honor Roll and received recognition as a runner-up for Energy Manager Canada's Energy Manager of the Year award. These accolades highlight TRU's efforts towards energy efficiency, decarbonization, and sustainability initiatives, including its Low-Carbon District System and plans to install nearly 1,000 solar panels on campus. The university has reduced its energy consumption by 45 per cent since 2010 and continues to lead in environmentally responsible practices.

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)