

# Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation

Ontario Tech University

## BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

October 11, 2024

### Top News

#### Nuclear

##### **Private sector advances proposal for large-scale nuclear power plant in northern Alberta - CBC**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/private-sector-advances-proposal-for-large-scale-nuclear-power-plant-in-northern-alberta-1.7345039>

Energy Alberta, a Calgary-based company, is reviving plans for a large-scale nuclear power plant in Alberta's Peace Region to help the province transition away from fossil fuels and reduce carbon emissions. The proposed project will include five Candu reactors, with a total capacity of 4,800 megawatts, and has strong support from local communities looking forward to the economic benefits it would bring. However, while proponents tout nuclear as a reliable, emissions-free energy source, critics warn of its lengthy development timeline and the unresolved issues surrounding radioactive waste. As Alberta's government expresses interest in nuclear power, the debate continues over its viability as a solution to the climate crisis.

#### Energy Policy

##### **Canadian LNG will not boost Japan's energy security or Asia's decarbonization - IEEFA**

<https://ieefa.org/resources/canadian-lng-will-not-boost-japans-energy-security-or-asias-decarbonization>

Canada's LNG exporters are racing to build new projects, targeting Asian markets like Japan, despite Japan's declining LNG demand due to rising renewables and nuclear power. Japanese companies are reselling LNG to other markets, using Canadian exports for business growth rather than domestic needs. This strategy risks locking Asia into fossil fuel dependence, challenging claims that Canadian LNG reduces emissions. With global LNG supply rising and demand shrinking, the business case for expansion is shaky, and Canada may be better off promoting renewable energy solutions instead.

##### **Discount for Western Canada Select Firms Slightly - EnergyNow**

<https://energynow.ca/2024/10/discount-for-western-canada-select-firms-slightly/>

The discount on Western Canada Select (WCS) heavy crude narrowed slightly on Monday, trading at \$11.75 per barrel versus West Texas Intermediate (WTI), up from \$12.20. Additionally, Chevron announced the sale of its Athabasca oil sands and Duvernay shale assets to Canadian Natural Resources for \$6.5 billion.

### **Abraxas seeks enviro nod for USD-8.8bn green energy hub in Canada - Renewables Now**

<https://renewablesnow.com/news/abraxas-seeks-enviro-nod-for-usd-88bn-green-energy-hub-in-canada-870796/>

Abraxas Power Corp is pursuing environmental approval for a green energy hub in Central Newfoundland, which aims to install 3.5 GW of onshore wind capacity for producing green hydrogen and ammonia. With an estimated investment of CAD 12 billion (USD 8.83 billion), the project, through its subsidiary Exploits Valley Renewable Energy Corporation, could generate up to 200,000 tonnes of green hydrogen and 1 million tonnes of green ammonia annually for export. Pre-construction activities, including environmental assessments and public consultations, are already underway, and engineering firm McDermott has been contracted for engineering and construction planning services, marking a significant advance in Canada's energy transition.

### **Nordex Group receives 500 MW of orders from Canada - Energy Global**

<https://www.energyglobal.com/wind/08102024/nordex-group-receives-500-mw-of-orders-from-canada/>

The Nordex Group has secured orders for 74 N163 turbines totaling 500 MW from Canada, which will be supplied as cold climate variants between 2025 and 2026. These turbines will feature Nordex's Advanced Anti-Icing System for rotor blades, ensuring optimal performance during harsh winter conditions. While the specific customers and wind farms remain undisclosed, the company emphasized the importance of these projects for its Canadian operations, leveraging extensive experience in cold-weather technology. With nearly 1.2 GW of turbines sold in Canada, Nordex will enhance its impact in the renewable energy sector.

### **Canadian Natural Resources buying Chevron's Alberta assets for US\$6.5B - Calgary Herald**

<https://calgaryherald.com/business/energy/canadian-natural-resources-buying-chevrons-alberta-assets-for-us6-5b>

In a significant shift in the Canadian oil sector, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. is acquiring Chevron Canada Ltd.'s interests in the Athabasca Oil Sands Project and Duvernay shale for \$6.5 billion, marking a complete exit of Chevron from the oilsands. This all-cash deal will consolidate control over the Athabasca project, increasing Canadian Natural's working interest to 90 per cent, and adding substantial production capacity. The transaction reflects ongoing foreign divestments in Canada's oilsands, while Canadian Natural sees significant growth potential from the newly acquired assets. With this acquisition, the company plans to enhance operational efficiencies and increase future production, even as it announces a dividend increase for its shareholders.

### **China to head green energy boom with 60 per cent% of new projects in next six years - The Guardian**

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2024/oct/09/china-to-head-green-energy-boom-with->

### [60-of-new-projects-in-next-six-years](#)

China is set to lead a global green energy boom, expected to account for nearly 60 per cent of all renewable capacity added worldwide by 2030, driven mainly by solar power. The International Energy Agency forecasts a rollout three times faster than previous years, positioning China to dominate the renewable sector. Despite the momentum in solar and a rebound in wind energy, significant challenges remain, particularly in grid infrastructure and project approvals. The report urges global leaders to invest more in renewables to meet ambitious targets, although actual progress may still lag behind commitments made to triple capacity by the decade's end.

*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)*