Alberta’s Oil Sands: The Facts

The world’s third largest proven resource of oil. Yes. Responsible. Yes.

- Alberta’s oil sands has proven reserves of about 168 billion barrels—the third-largest proven crude oil reserve in the world.
- Alberta’s oil reserves play an important and growing role in the global economy, supplying stable, reliable energy to Canada and the U.S.

Clearing the air.

- Alberta was the first jurisdiction in North America with mandatory greenhouse gas reduction targets for all large industry.

About 0.15% of global GHG emissions comes from oil sands development.

Using less fresh water.

- Oil sands operators recycle large volumes of water and use saline water where possible.

European Union
Europe 12%
USA 17.17%
China 26.18%
Japan 3.7%
India 6.35%
Canada 1.58%
Australia 1%
Other 29%
Oil sands 0.15%

Since 1990, oil sands producers reduced per barrel emissions by an average of 26 per cent - some achieved reductions as high as 50 percent.
12 million seedlings have been planted to reclaim the land. With many more to come.

Creating opportunity.

- One in 16 jobs in Alberta is directly related to energy.

About 121,500 Albertans are directly employed in Alberta’s mining and oil and gas extraction sectors.

Working toward a healthier community.

- The Alberta Government is committed to continually monitoring changes in the environment and the health status of Albertans in the oil sands area and addressing concerns.

- The oil sands industry is one of Canada’s top employers of Aboriginals. In 2010 about 1,700 First Nations people were employed directly by oil sands operations - about 10% of the oil sands workforce.

Stimulating economic growth.

- Every dollar invested in the oil sands creates about $8 worth of economic activity; with one-third of that economic value generated outside Alberta—in Canada, the U.S. and around the world.

Economic Activity

$1 Invested = $8.00 Economic Activity

Caring for nature.

- Government and industry are working together to keep wildlife safe and ensure long-term health of ecosystems. Alberta cares about how the oil sands affect our natural habitats and has strict laws and regulations governing the protection of wildlife and biodiversity.

Looking out for the land.

- Oil sands operators are legally obligated to reclaim all disturbed land to a productive state.

x 12 Million

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