

# Brilliant Energy Institute

Office of the Vice President Research and Innovation

Ontario Tech University

## BEI Energy News

Weekly newsletter

February 28th, 2025

### Top News

#### BEI News

##### **Accelerating Automotive Innovation ACE x OVIN Innovation Garage Challenge**

<https://studentlifeportal.ontariotechu.ca/home/upcoming.htm?eventId=28250>

The Brilliant Energy Institute and ACE have partnered with the Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN), Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI), and Toyota Canada Inc. to bring all students at Ontario Tech University a hands-on event to ignite collaboration and innovation in advanced manufacturing and mobility solutions. The event takes place on March 3, 2025, from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the ACE facility.

#### Building Infrastructure

##### **Regional Energy and Resource Tables – Government of Canada**

<https://natural-resources.canada.ca/climate-change/regional-energy-resource-tables>

The Regional Energy and Resource Tables (Regional Tables) are fostering partnerships across federal, provincial, and territorial levels, along with Indigenous collaboration, to propel Canada's low-carbon initiatives in energy and resources. Active in 10 regions, these tables streamline regulatory processes to boost investment and economic competitiveness. Alternative collaborations are also in place in Alberta and Quebec. The focus is on aligning resources and decision-making to generate sustainable economic growth and community benefits.

#### Energy Storage

##### **Report reveals impressive change in massive energy markets: 'We expect to see significantly more growth' - TC**

<https://www.thecooldown.com/green-business/canada-renewable-energy-industry-growth/>

The Canadian Renewable Energy Association (CanREA) reports a 46 per cent growth in the

country's wind, solar, and energy storage markets over the past five years, with installed capacity reaching 24 gigawatts. Led by significant additions in utility-scale wind and solar, Canada plans to continue this momentum with a projected \$30 billion investment to add another 15,000 MW by 2030. Despite these advancements, CanREA President and CEO Vittoria Bellissimo emphasizes the need for more rapid development to meet environmental challenges, highlighting the global urgency to combat climate change and promote sustainable infrastructure.

## Energy Systems

### **Atlantic Canada is the next great energy frontier – Resource Works**

<https://www.resourceworks.com/atlantic-energy-frontier>

Atlantic Canada will become a hub in the nation's energy sector, with initiatives led by Nova Scotia Premier Tim Houston and Newfoundland and Labrador Premier Andrew Furey to expand resource development. Amid global demand shifts and U.S. tariff threats, the region is diversifying its energy exports, focusing on offshore oil, green hydrogen, and other resources. Strategic investments and access to European markets position Atlantic Canada as a key player in international energy markets. The region aims to balance environmental concerns with economic growth as it seeks to become the "energy capital of North America."

### **Site C Clean Energy Project advances with third generating unit online – ReNew Canada**

<https://www.renewcanada.net/site-c-clean-energy-project-advances-with-third-generating-unit-online/>

BC Hydro has achieved a significant milestone with the third generating unit of the Site C Clean Energy Project now operational, contributing to British Columbia's energy supply. The project is on track for completion by fall 2025 and will generate enough electricity to power nearly 500,000 homes. Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions, Adrian Dix highlighted the project's scale and the dedication of its workforce during a recent tour. The Site C project tops ReNew Canada's 2025 Top100 Projects report, underscoring its importance to the region's sustainable energy future.

### **Manitoba Hydro proposes \$1.4B fuel-burning generating station to stave off winter power shortages - CBC**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/manitoba-hydro-fuel-combustion-plants-1.7469200>

Manitoba Hydro is planning a \$1.4 billion fuel-burning power station to prevent winter power shortages expected by 2029. The proposed 500-megawatt station, potentially using natural gas, hydrogen, or renewable natural gas, will bolster the province's energy capacity, which may need to double or triple by the 2040s due to growing demand. The plan, which includes expanding wind power in partnership with Indigenous-owned businesses, faces scrutiny over fuel choice as the province aims to decarbonize and maintain affordability amid a \$24.8 billion debt.

## Oil and Gas

### **Canada's cancelled oil pipeline projects – Reuters**

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/canadas-cancelled-oil-pipeline-projects-2025-02-26/>  
Canada's energy sector has seen several major oil pipeline projects like Energy East, Northern Gateway, and Keystone XL canceled due to regulatory and environmental challenges, with only the Trans Mountain expansion completed. TC Energy, affected by these cancellations, has spun off its pipeline operations into South Bow Energy and is seeking compensation from the U.S. government for the halted Keystone XL project.

## Renewable Energy

### **Utilities commission greenlights 42,000-panel solar farm near Killam, Alta. - CBC**

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/utilities-commission-greenlights-42-000-panel-solar-farm-near-killam-alta-1.7468063>

The Alberta Utilities Commission has approved a 42,000-panel solar farm near Killam, Alberta, a project by PACE Canada Development LP that marks a significant step in the province's renewable energy development. Despite challenges from a recent moratorium on renewable projects, this 21.6-megawatt facility, which integrates agricultural activities with solar energy through agrivoltaics, navigates new regulatory landscapes that prioritize agriculture. Local sentiment is mixed, with Killam's mayor expressing neutral views on the project's aesthetic impact on the landscape. The approval underscores Alberta's shift towards utilizing less intrusive lands for renewable projects, aiming to balance energy production with agricultural preservation.

*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)*