



Press Release

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Province Announces \$285 Million Boost to Local Carbon Capture Project

The Province of Alberta announced yesterday that it will contribute \$285 million over the next 15 years to the Swan Hills Synfuels carbon capture and storage project.

This unique project will turn underground coal into synthesis gas (syngas) for power generation. This \$1.5-billion commercial project is the first of its kind in North America, drilling to 1,400 metres below surface, and is the deepest underground coal gasification project ever conducted in the world. The project will also capture up to 1.3 million tonnes per year of carbon dioxide to enhance the recovery of conventional oil in the area.

Swan Hills Synfuels, a privately held company based out of Calgary, plans to provide the syngas to a new 300-megawatt clean-energy power generation plant that will be constructed in the Whitecourt area. The power plant will be developed, owned and operated by a third party partner selected by Synfuels. The plant is slated to be in service by 2015.

“This project has been in the works for a couple of years now. Both Mayor Rennie and I have worked hard to promote the project provincially, and I’m proud to see it come in to fruition. The economic impact on the Town of Whitecourt will be overwhelming.” stated Whitecourt Mayor Trevor Thain.

It is anticipated that the Swan Hills gasification plant will create 600 construction jobs over the next two years, and 60 full-time jobs at the plant. Construction of the power generation plant is expected to create 300 construction jobs and 30 full-time positions.

“Now more than ever is a fantastic time to announce new employment in the Whitecourt area. This is an environmentally friendly, long-term opportunity for the community and will offer stable, good paying jobs.” stated Woodlands County Mayor Jim Rennie.

Both Mayor Thain and Mayor Rennie noted that the project is a testament to what can be achieved when municipalities and organizations work in partnership. The project was originally slated to be built in another community, but teamwork enabled the region to attract the developers.

For more information on the project visit. www.swanhills-synfuels.com.

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