

Feature Stories about Air

Ethanol plant reduces odours and emissions

Terra Grain Fuels is an ethanol plant located in Belle Plaine, Saskatchewan. It produces clean-burning ethanol, which is blended with gasoline to reduce carbon emissions from our cars and trucks. Terra Grain Fuels installed new equipment on their grain dryers to reduce odours and other emissions by 98 per cent.

These special oxidizers will cut emissions by more than 650,000 kilograms. That's roughly equal to all of the emissions produced by all of the trains operating in our province for an entire year.



The Terra Grain Fuels facility in Belle Plaine is focused on protecting the environment.

K + S Breaks New Ground In Environmental Approval Process

K + S Potash Canada is completing its Legacy Project in southern Saskatchewan. It's the first new potash mine in more than 40 years in a previously un-mined area in Saskatchewan.

K + S received its environmental approvals in November of 2010. One of the approvals the company received is for an Industrial Air Source Environmental Protection Plan (EPP). This EPP is the first ever for a major industrial facility in Saskatchewan.

The new Saskatchewan Environmental Code, which came into effect June 1, 2015, calls for Environmental Protection Plans for new projects. They contain specific requirements calling on companies to demonstrate their emissions will meet new limits and air quality standards.



The K+S Potash Canada mine facility in southern Saskatchewan is setting industry precedent for meeting new standards.

Boundary Dam cleans up coal

Saskatchewan gets most of its electricity through burning coal. New federal rules call for those coal-fired plants to be far more efficient. They must emit less than 420 kg of greenhouse gases for every megawatt hour of electricity produced.

In order to meet those new stringent rules, Saskatchewan has put in place leading-edge technology at the Boundary Dam Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) project. Boundary Dam CCS is a partnership between the Governments of Canada, Saskatchewan and various private-sector companies. A coal-fired generating station has been completely rebuilt using CCS technology. The carbon secured at Boundary Dam can be used in enhanced oil recovery or it can be stored in a deep saline aquifer.

Boundary Dam is the largest plant of its kind in the world. Since it started operating in late 2014, Unit 3 has captured more than 1.4 million tonnes of CO₂. That's the same as taking 350,000 cars off Saskatchewan roads. Unit 3 is the cleanest-burning fossil fuel plant in Canada, producing half the emissions of a natural gas generating station.

Boundary Dam is just the beginning of the story for SaskPower. The Crown-owned utility plans to increase renewable generating capacity to 50 per cent by 2030. It will use sources such as wind and solar. Once this happens, SaskPower will record a 40 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, when compared to 2005 levels.



Aquistore is an independent research and monitoring project to store carbon in a deep geologic formation near the Boundary Dam power plant.