



Alberta Coal Industry Fact Sheet

The coal industry is essential to Alberta as a catalyst for economic development, creator of employment for thousands of people (particularly in rural areas), and financial contributor to government social programs through tax and royalty payments.

There are two types of coal produced in Alberta, namely THERMAL coal, used for power generation and METALLURGICAL (Met) coal, a key ingredient in steel-making.

Alberta's Coal Industry

- Alberta has approximately 6 billion tonnes of coal reserves, dispersed over almost half of all Alberta.
- Alberta has 9 producing coal mines -7 Thermal mines and 2 Met mines.
- In 2013, Alberta produced just under 29 million tonnes of coal. The vast majority was thermal coal used for local power generation, the remainder exported to Asia, mainly Japan and South Korea.
- Coal mining is a temporary use of the land and over 75% of mined lands in Alberta have been reclaimed.

Benefits to Albertans

- Before the current global market downturn, about 7,000 Albertans were employed thanks to the coal industry, the majority in rural Alberta.
- Over the last five years, the Alberta Government received over \$91 million in royalties from coal companies to financially support government programs and services which enrich the lives of all Albertans.

Significant New Coal Mining Potential

- Over the next 20 years, global demand for thermal coal is expected to double, and met coal demand to increase by 50%.
- Alberta is positioned to capitalize on this export potential due to its high quality coal.
- New coal mining projects can further diversify the economy, pay billions of dollars in taxes and royalties to government and create thousands of high paying, long term jobs:
- ✓ Coalspur's Vista Project near Hinton, a thermal coal export project, is projected to generate over \$200 million in new Alberta government revenues and create over 500 direct jobs in Phase 1 alone.
- ✓ Several companies are investigating Met coal project potential in the Eastern Slopes:
 - ❖ Three projects in the South Saskatchewan/Crowsnest Pass region could generate \$3 billion in new government revenues and 4000 jobs.
 - ❖ An additional five projects in the North Saskatchewan region have the potential to generate upwards of \$13 billion to government and employ 11,000 workers.

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