

Economic Sustainability



Powering Stability: Coal's Enduring Role in Saskatchewan's Resilience



Saskatchewan has a long history of producing power from coal, and this resource remains an important part of community and provincial stability. With a 100-year supply of provincially owned coal in areas of Estevan, Coronach and surrounding regions, coal has supported local economies for generations. These operations provide nearly 1,400 direct jobs, helping sustain families, local businesses and the broader regional economy.

Coal-fired power also plays a significant role in maintaining affordable and reliable electricity. Coal plants can produce steady power in all seasons and under a wide range of operating conditions. This reliability is essential during periods of high demand or weather variability, when other energy sources may be less consistent. Facilities such as the Boundary Dam Power Station, equipped with carbon capture technology, show how coal generation can support responsible emissions stewardship while continuing to deliver dependable electricity.

Coal is also a practical and established technology that helps bridge the transition toward future power sources, including nuclear energy. As Saskatchewan prepares for the long-term development of nuclear generation, coal provides the stability needed to support the grid while new technologies are built, tested and integrated. This balanced approach allows the province to pursue emerging energy options without disrupting the dependable service that communities and industries rely on.

For regions like Estevan and Coronach, the role of coal extends well beyond power production. The sector anchors the local tax base, supports community services and contributes to population stability. Without continued coal operations in the near term, these communities would face significant risks, including job losses, business closures and reduced economic activity.

Ongoing support for coal is therefore not only an energy decision but also a community and economic one. It helps maintain affordability, sustain local economies and keep the provincial power system reliable as Saskatchewan prepares for its future energy mix.

Coal operations in southern Saskatchewan provide nearly 1,400 direct jobs, helping sustain families, local businesses and the broader regional economy.

Why It Matters

Coal-fired power continues to be an important part of Saskatchewan's energy system. It provides reliable electricity and acts as a dependable bridge to future energy sources, including nuclear generation. For many southern communities, coal is also a cornerstone of economic resilience. It supports long-standing jobs, local businesses and public services, helping ensure that these regions remain strong and vibrant.

Links to Related Information

[Boundary Dam Carbon Capture and Storage Project – Canada](#)

[Sustainable Saskatchewan – Clean Energy](#)

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