



arctic SYNERGY

The Arctic Energy Summit, a two-year Arctic Council project led by the United States in conjunction with the Institute of the North and the University of the Arctic, is an official International Polar Year project. For more information, visit www.arcticenergysummit.org.

this week in SUMMIT NEWS

The Arctic Energy Technology Conference -- 15-17 October 2007 in Anchorage, Alaska - is one of three components of the Arctic Energy Summit, an International Polar Year endorsed project and a Sustainable Development Working Group initiative of the Arctic Council. The Summit will bring focus to the areas of developing resources while addressing the need for affordable energy in rural areas throughout the Arctic.

The technology conference will provide a forum for the presentation of international, interdisciplinary technical research papers on **the Arctic as an emerging energy province**. A benchmark of 200-250 papers is expected; the call for technical papers includes, but is not limited to the fields of extractive energy in the Arctic, renewable and rural energy in the Arctic, and sustainability of energy in the Arctic.

Abstracts for papers should be between 150-250 words, written in English, giving a concise overview of the topic to be covered. Abstracts are due no later than **15 February 2007** via www.arcticenergysummit.org. Final paper deadline is 15 August 2007. Please visit the website for more information, or contact Phil Cutler, Institute of the North, pcutler@institutenorth.org.



RENEWABLE & RURAL

ALASKA/US

US House takes on Big Oil (Christian Science Monitor, 01/18/07)

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2007/0118/p01s01-usec.html>

The House of Representatives is poised to play Robin Hood with energy policy. It aims to cut \$14 billion in federal oil and gas tax breaks and other benefits over the next 10 years and give them instead to renewable-energy programs.

Wind too much for Unalaska power source (Anchorage Daily News, 01/16/07)

<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/rural/story/8565548p-8459152c.html>

Gusts are only part of the problem. Like other islands in the volcano-peppered Aleutians, steep mountains dominate Unalaska's terrain, a landscape that leads to sudden shifts in wind direction and speed. Those wind shears could shred windmill blades if the machinery that adjusts them can't keep up.

When it's 30 below, any fuel will do (Anchorage Daily News, 01/15/07)

<http://www.adn.com/money/industries/oil/story/8564075p-8457647c.html>

As part of its program to donate heating fuel to poor Americans, Citgo, headquartered in Houston, Texas, pledged this year to give away 1 million gallons of heating fuel in Alaska Native villages. More than 11,000 homes are eligible for 100 gallons each.

FINLAND

Heat from waste water to be used to heat Helsinki homes (Helsingin Sanomat, 01/11/07)

<http://www.hs.fi/english/article/Heat+from+waste+water+to+be+used+to+heat+Helsinki+homes/1135224233844>

Water treated at the Viikki waste water treatment plant will be led to the pumping station through an underground tunnel. After heat has been extracted, the waste water continues its journey to the sea.

ICELAND

Icelandic firm to invest \$1 billion in geothermal (World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 01/11/07)

<http://www.wbcsd.org/plugins/DocSearch/details.asp?type=DocDet&ObjectId=MjlzNzU>

An Icelandic investor, a bank and an engineering firm have set up a company with the intention of raising \$1 billion to invest in geothermal energy around the world. It will invest in geothermal projects at all stages of development, as well as buying up companies and acquiring existing geothermal plants from utilities.

REGION

Europe creates attractive clean energy scene (International Herald Tribune, 01/16/07)

<http://www.ihf.com/articles/2007/01/16/business/venture.php>

A commitment by European governments to budding clean-energy entrepreneurs is creating a more welcoming environment than in America, where erratic support and onerous financial rules have given pause to some start-ups and investors.



EXTRACTIVE

ALASKA/US

Global climate change initiatives seen increasing gas demand (Oil & Gas Journal, 01/18/07)

http://www.ogj.com/display_article/282482/7/ONART/none/GenIn/Global-climate-change-initiatives-seen-increasing-gas-demand/

US policymakers should expect heavier natural gas demand growth if they embrace alternatives to address global climate change, trade association executives said on Jan. 17.

Editorial: Energy time (New York Times, 01/16/07)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/01/16/opinion/16tue1.html>

The last thing America needs is another multi-year debate leading to yet another giant bill that offers something for everyone without really changing the way this country produces and uses energy.

Higher tariffs could cost state millions (Petroleum News, 01/14/07)

<http://www.petroleumnews.com/pntruncate/357117363.shtml>

Increased oil shipping rates on the trans-Alaska oil pipeline could cost the state roughly \$102 million a year if they stand, according to an estimate by a state petroleum economist.

Bush lifts moratorium on Bristol Bay drilling (Alaska Journal of Commerce, 01/14/07)

http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/011407/hom_20070114099.shtml

There are believed to be 200 million barrels of oil and 5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas beneath the bay's federal waters three miles to 200 miles from shore. The Interior Department last year estimated energy development could produce up to 11,500 jobs and new tax revenue for the state.

CANADA

Ottawa to invest \$230-million in clean energy (Globe and Mail, 01/17/07)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070117.wtoriesenv0117/BNStory/National/home>

The Conservative government Wednesday announced a \$230-million investment to research clean-energy technologies, the first of a series of political moves on climate change meant to improve the Tories' record on the environment.

Regulatory woes push back Mackenzie gas line schedule (Alaska Journal of Commerce, 01/14/07)

http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/011407/hom_20070114097.shtml

A spokesman for Imperial Oil, a major proponent of the proposed \$7.5 billion Mackenzie Valley natural gas line in Canada, said that given regulatory demands, the project can't be completed by 2010. Construction of the Mackenzie gas line is considered by many to be critical to eventual construction of any gas line from Alaska via Canada to the US.

Thorium comes clean? (CBC News, 01/12/07)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/science/thorium.html>

As these prices rise, nuclear energy providers have begun to search for innovative ways to power reactors without relying on uranium. And increasingly, they are turning their attention to a lesser-known radioactive element on the periodic table called thorium.

NORWAY

Statoil starts work on CHP project, submits North Sea procurement plan (Energy Business Review, 01/17/07)

http://www.energy-business-review.com/article_news.asp?guid=C965CF96-75B6-42F2-90A3-E580F0BA1238

Norwegian energy company Statoil has revealed that work to construct a combined heat and power station at Mongstad near Bergen, Norway has begun. The company has also submitted a plan to yield resources from the Alve gas and condensate filed in the North Sea. *For a related article, please link [here](#).*

CO2 could be new name for merged Norwegian oil firm (Energy Business Review Online, 01/17/07)

http://www.energy-business-review.com/article_news.asp?guid=9244A819-6A86-4595-979B-21FE19407199

Statoil and Hydro agreed in December 2006 to merge their businesses to create a new Norwegian oil champion. As part of the deal to combine their operations, the two companies agreed to create a new name for the enlarged business.

Demand for extended maritime security zone (Norway Post, 01/15/07)

<http://www.norwaypost.no/cgi-bin/norwaypost/imaker?id=40659>

The Norwegian Fishermen's Association (NFL) now demands that all oil tankers and larger cargoliners should sail at least 30 nautical miles away from shore, along the entire Norwegian coastline.

REGION

Supertankers might not observe new shipping regulations in Barents Sea (BarentsObserver, 01/16/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=422540&cat=16149&xforcedir=1&noredir=1>

The establishment of fixed shipping lanes for ships operating in the Barents Sea might not be observed by supertankers, Norwegian maritime authorities report. The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) late last year approved the establishment of fixed shipping lanes in the area, but the use of these is optional.

RUSSIA

Rosneft to increase gas production in Yamal

(BarentsObserver, 01/15/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=422389&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

Purneftegaz, a gas producing subsidiary of Rosneft, is planning to increase the gas production in the years to come. At present, the Rosneft affiliate produces about 3,9 billion cubic meters of gas a year.

New oil terminal in Kola Bay in operation from 2008

(BarentsObserver, 01/12/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=423297&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The Lavna oil terminal in the Kola Bay will have the capacity to handle 30 million tons of oil per year. The terminal will be finished by April 2008, local authorities confirm.

Chevron deal with Gazprom might open Shtokman cooperation

(BarentsObserver, 01/12/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421707&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

US oil major Chevron reports that it has formed a joint venture with Gazprom Neft to develop western Siberian oil fields. The deal marks a break-through in the company's engagement in Russia, and could possibly strengthen its chances for involvement at the Shtokman field in the Barents Sea.

Russia finds alternative oil export routes through Barents and Baltic Seas

(BarentsObserver, 01/12/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421721&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The recent trouble for Russian oil transit in Belarus and Ukraine has forced the Russian government to reconsider export strategies. Pipeline monopoly Transneft says it now considers to expand the Baltic Pipeline System (BTS), as well as to speed up plans for a pipeline to the Barents Sea.

Green light for Varandey oil terminal

(BarentsObserver, 01/11/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421564&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

Russian environmental control authorities conclude that the construction of the Varandey oil terminal in the Nenets Autonomous Okrug is conducted in line with federal environmental legislation. Port owner Lukoil has stated that it wants to increase the capacity of the Varandey terminal to an annual of 25 million tons of oil.

SCANDINAVIA

Fortum interested in building more nuclear power
(NewsRoom Finland, 01/12/07)

<http://virtual.finland.fi/stt/showarticle.asp?intNWSAID=14732&group=Business>

The chief executive of Finnish utility Fortum was quoted as saying that the state-controlled company wanted to invest into further nuclear power generating capacity in both Finland and Sweden.



SUSTAINABILITY

ALASKA/US

Oil drops to 20-month low near \$50 US a barrel (CBC News, 01/18/07)

<http://www.cbc.ca/money/story/2007/01/18/oil.html>

Oil prices plunged to a 20-month low near \$50 US a barrel Thursday, after the U.S. government reported larger-than-expected jumps in crude oil and gasoline inventories.

Editorial: A low-watt bill (Washington Post, 01/17/07)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/16/AR2007011601380.html>

THE HOUSE Democrats plan to pass an energy bill Thursday that combines the good, the bad and a large dose of missed opportunity. Thankfully, it faces an uncertain future in the Senate. Energy policy deserves more serious treatment.

Banks are urged not to finance coal power (International Herald Tribune, 01/16/07)

<http://www.ihf.com/articles/2007/01/16/america/web.0116coalpower.globe.php>

A coalition of environmental groups is demanding that banks reject loan requests for projects that emit high rates of greenhouse gases, which contribute to global warming. But because of the financial potential, several banks remain bullish about underwriting energy projects, including those that emit high rates of greenhouse gases.

Small spill temporarily shuts down trans-Alaska oil pipeline
(Alaska Journal of Commerce, 01/14/07)

http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/011407/oil_20070114041.shtml

The trans-Alaska oil pipeline was temporarily taken off-line Jan. 9 after workers found a spill of up to 500 gallons of crude.

CANADA

Opinion: Why the Arctic should anchor our foreign policy
(Globe and Mail, 01/17/07)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20070115.wcomment0115/EmailBNStory/National/home>

Climate change is "opening" the Arctic and accelerating ocean-based exploration for and development of natural resources — fully 25 per cent of the world's remaining hydrocarbons are thought to be in this region, primarily in the offshore. Prime Minister Stephen Harper characterizes Canada as an emerging "energy superpower." This vision rests, in part, on what happens in the Arctic.

NORWAY

Insufficient oil spill preparedness in Barents Sea
(BarentsObserver, 01/16/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=422617&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The Bellona Foundation stresses that oil spill preparedness in northern Norway remains worse than in the southern parts of the country. The environmental organisation maintains that more tugboat capacity is needed in the region.

Demand for extended maritime security zone (Norway Post, 01/15/07)

<http://www.norwaypost.no/cgi-bin/norwaypost/imaker?id=40659>

The Norwegian Fishermen's Association (NFL) now demands that all oil tankers and larger cargoliners should sail at least 30 nautical miles away from shore, along the entire Norwegian coastline.

Storms hinder efforts to clean up grounded ship's oil spill
(Aftenposten, 01/15/07)

<http://www.aftenposten.no/english/local/article1601893.ece>

Rescue crews managed to airlift the vessel's 25 crew members to safety in a daring emergency operation Friday evening, but high seas and strong winds made it difficult to contain the oil spill.

Environmentalists demand zero emissions from Snohvit field
(BarentsObserver, 01/12/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421828&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

Norwegian environmental organisations demand that Statoil's gas processing plant at Melkøya on the Barents Sea coast should not be allowed emit carbon dioxide. Statoil plans 1,2

million tons of annual CO2 emissions from the plant, which will make it the biggest single polluter of carbon dioxide in Norway.

No oil money for the Sàmi people (BarentsObserver, 01/11/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421452&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The Norwegian Minister of Trade and Industry says the Sàmi people will get no special rights over petroleum resources in the Barents Sea. The Sàmi Parliament in Norway, the Samidiggi, claims that international law gives the indigenous Sàmi people an exclusive decision right over the development of petroleum resources in the region.

Aetas: Lack of environmental control threatens petroleum safety (BarentsObserver, 01/11/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=421423&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The development of oil and gas industry in Northwest Russia threatens environmental safety, environmental organization Aetas stresses. The organization says that it is especially worried about the state's insufficient control of oil and gas field operators. The environmentalists now call for stricter control of field operators and more funding for technical control equipment.

REGION

Interview: Higher energy prices 'inevitable' (EurActiv, 01/17/07)

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/energy/interview-higher-energy-prices-inevitable-piebalgs/article-160965>

The EU Energy Commissioner says that new energy and climate-change proposals should lead to higher prices for consumers. But paying 5% more now will avoid much steeper price hikes in the future, he argues.

Gazprom to spend 17,1 billion RUB on the Shtokman field in 2007(BarentsObserver, 01/16/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=422863&cat=16149&xforceredir=1&noredir=1>

The Gazprom Board of Directors yesterday approved the company's budget and investment plan for 2007. The investment programme stipulates the spending of 17,1 billion RUB on the development of the Shtokman gas field in the Barents Sea. Year 2007 looks set to mark the start-up of the Shtokman development.

RUSSIA

Lukoil: periodic spills happen to every oil company
(BarentsObserver, 01/16/07)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/index.php?id=422507&cat=16149&xforcedir=1&noredir=1>

The head of public relations in the Lukoil-Komi company says every oil company has to expect periodical oil spill. The most important thing is how the oil companies deal with them and their consequences, he adds.

BP may have to cede some control of Russian venture
(International Herald Tribune, 01/15/07)

<http://www.ihf.com/articles/2007/01/15/business/bp.php>

TNK-BP, as it is known, has already suffered numerous setbacks and is excluded by national security rules from developing large new fields. Now BP may be required to cede some control over the venture, analysts and investors say, as the Russian government increases its grip on the country's natural resources.



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