

July 1, 2022

Executive Director's Message

This year's Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum was a great success as it saw over 300 mining company persons attend, which aligns with the last in-person event in 2019. There were 228 indoor tradeshow booths, down slightly from the 249 in 2019, but this was solely due to the need for 6-foot spacings between booths, as demand was high for more booths this year. Oh yes, it also rained a bit.

Next year's Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum will be back at its traditional time - April 18th and 19th, 2023.

The 2022 (8th Annual) Saskatchewan Suppliers' Energy Forum (formerly known as the Saskatchewan Oil and Gas Supply Chain Forum) will be held on September 28th, 2022 in the Delta Hotel in Regina. This event will be in-person. SIMSA members can buy tickets and book booths [HERE](#).

Sponsorship details are to follow, as we have an existing commitment to the sponsors from last year, stemming from the event flipping to a virtual format at that time.

There will be a small vendor tradeshow (approximately 38 booths), presentations by energy company procurement persons, networking sessions, and another great speed networking session. Confirmed presenters already include Crescent Point Energy, Federated Co-operative Ltd., TC Energy and more to be announced! There will also be an SMR portion to the event.

On June 27th, SaskPower announced that they have selected the GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 small modular reactor (SMR) for potential deployment in Saskatchewan in the mid-2030s.

Our recently announced MOUs with the [Organisation of Canadian Nuclear Industries \(OCNI\)](#) as well as [GEH SMR \(GE Hitachi\)](#), will see our member database become a central fixture within the development of SMRs in Saskatchewan. We will eventually add some categories to it, such as:

- Are interested in participating in SMR projects
- Are developing accreditations for nuclear-related work
- Are accredited for nuclear related work

SIMSA will be hosting events with GE Hitachi as well as the OCNI in the near future.

In addition, SIMSA is still in conversations with two other vendors – X-Energy and Westinghouse. They have also toured our member database and X-Energy has also presented to SIMSA members. We will continue to work with and support them, as well as they us.

If you attended SIMSA networking event in Calgary earlier this month, you could have met with executives from GE Hitachi, Westinghouse, and X-Energy to discuss SMRs in Saskatchewan, as well as Minister Harrison and proponent SRC. The below image is from the event.



SMRs are lining-up to be a multi-billion-dollar business opportunity for SIMSA members. Therefore, just as SIMSA aligned with BHP over 4-years ago to have our database become a key element of their purchasing, SIMSA has aligned itself with potential SMR vendors and the sector in general. In short, SIMSA's member database will be a key resource for SMR development in Saskatchewan.

As we stated last month, to effectively tell our story, and to have them follow our requests, the Federal and Provincial governments need to be told how many voters and dollars we represent. We have not completed a thorough survey of this since 2019 and our membership has grown by 50% since then. As such, we have begun a member survey to secure this data - only the primary contact from each member company will be emailed the survey. The data received will only be disclosed as a total, not individually.

Eric

Advocacy

SIMSA's Executive Director – Eric Anderson – as part of a group conversation - discussed the future of Saskatchewan with Ministers Bronwyn Eyre, Don Morgan, and Lyle Stewart on June 27th. Specifically, “what should we do next to see our province benefit.” Also in attendance within the small group were former Premier Grant Devine, a Canadian senator, and others. They are well aware of the benefits of and need for a strong Saskatchewan supply chain.

Minister Harrison spoke candidly and supportive of SIMSA at our Global Energy Show event in Calgary.

Jim Reiter is the new Minister of Energy and Resources replacing Bronwyn Eyre. Jim spoke at the Mining Supply Chain Forum and conversation with him have begun.

Members' News

[Haztech welcomes Injury Management Specialist Shelagh Robinson](#)

[Team Power Solutions Attends the Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum](#)

[Team Power Solutions Attends the NSBA Business Builder Awards](#)

Sector News

Following a thorough assessment of several Small Modular Reactor (SMR) technologies, SaskPower has selected the GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 for potential deployment in Saskatchewan in the mid-2030s.

SaskPower's assessment focused on several key factors including safety, technology readiness, generation size, fuel type and expected cost of electricity. The selection follows an independent and comprehensive assessment process that also included close collaboration with Ontario Power Generation (OPG) and a review by Calian, an independent engineering firm with extensive experience in Canada's nuclear industry.

SaskPower has assessed the potential for a pan-Canadian, fleet-based deployment of nuclear power from SMRs since 2019. A fleet-based approach offers many advantages for Saskatchewan, including lower regulatory, construction and operating costs while also eliminating first-of-a-kind risk.

In December 2021, OPG selected the GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 for their Darlington New Nuclear Project in Ontario. SaskPower's selection of the same technology helps enable a pan-Canadian, fleet-based approach to SMR deployment.

SaskPower will not make a decision whether to build an SMR until 2029. However, to maintain SMRs as an option by the mid-2030s, several years of complex project development, licencing and regulatory work is still required; two key components of this work are selecting an SMR technology and identifying an appropriate site for the first nuclear power facility. SaskPower is currently conducting a detailed technical evaluation of potential regions that could host an SMR, and is expected to identify these suitable regions this year.

In other areas, Ceres Global shelved its plan to build a \$350-million US canola-crushing plant in Northgate, Saskatchewan by 2024. The cancellation came on Friday June 24th, where they cited inflationary pressures and shifting economic conditions. Ceres says it's still looking at some kind of canola-crushing plant in the future, but there's no guarantee when or if it will happen. This is one of several canola crushing plants announced for Saskatchewan.

Further, on June 27th Rio Tinto Exploration Canada Inc. placed the Star – Orion South Diamond Project on care and maintenance through December 31, 2022. As part of this, Rio Tinto has advised that, it does not intend to commit additional capital to the Project during 2022 beyond what is necessary for care and maintenance. Rio Tinto also advised it intends to conduct a near-term review of its alternatives regarding the Project, including its potential exit.

However, Rio Tinto also stated that it remains pleased with the results of the comprehensive studies and bulk sampling program that have been completed to date at the Project.

Upcoming Events

Register for Upcoming Events [HERE](#)

- **Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum – September 28, 2022**
The 8th Annual Saskatchewan Suppliers Energy Forum will be held at the Delta Hotel in Regina, SK. Crescent Point Energy, Federated Co-op, and TC Energy are already confirmed as attendees, more are expected. SMRs will also be included in the event.
- **Saskatchewan Mining Supply Chain Forum – April 18 & 19, 2023**
Save the date!
- **SIMSA's 2023 AGM – May 16, 2023**
Save the date!

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