

The Alberta Oil Sands

A Telephone Survey of Canadians



TOPLINE REPORT

Submitted to:
Environmental Defence

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opinion research

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METHODOLOGY

Regional Quota:

RDD sample of 1,014 Canadians aged 18+.

Atlantic (NB, NL, NS, & PE): 72

QC: 201

ON: 350

MB: 51

SK: 52

AB: 160

BC: 128

Weighting is according to the 2006 census by region, gender and age. The sample is weighted down to 1000. A random sample of 1000 Canadians would yield would a margin of error of $\pm 3.1\%$, 19 times out of 20. All provinces received full questionnaire and demographic questions. The survey was fielded from the 7th March, 2008 to the 10th March, 2008.

Interpretative Notes

- Unless otherwise stated, all numbers are percentages
- The symbol “*” denotes a percentage of less than 0.5%
- Due to rounding not all percentages will add up to 100%
- Top 2 and bottom 2 are added to the full decimal place and therefore may not appear to add up to the individual rounded figures of which they are composed
- All numbers are rounded up to the nearest percent
- DK/NA denotes Don't Know / No Answer
- “n” equals 1000, unless stated otherwise

RESEARCH RESULTS

Q1. Some people say that APPROVALS for new oil sands projects in Alberta should be SUSPENDED until environmental management issues in the region are resolved. Others DISAGREE saying suspending approvals would curb economic growth. Which is closer to your point of view? Should approvals for new oil sands projects be ...?

	ALBERTA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
SUSPENDED until environmental management issues are resolved	48	52
Permitted to CONTINUE so as not to curb economic growth	40	32
[VOLUNTEERED] Permitted to continue with caution/regulation	1	1
[VOLUNTEERED] Neither/Neutral	1	1
[VOLUNTEERED] Other	2	1
[VOLUNTEERED] DK/NA	8	13

Q2. Some say that that oil sand companies should CAP and then REDUCE their TOTAL greenhouse gas emissions because of the impact on global warming. Others say that these companies should be allowed to EXCEED their current greenhouse gas emissions so as to encourage economic growth. Which is closer to your opinion, should oil sands companies' TOTAL emissions be...?

	ALBERTA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
CAPPED at current levels and then REDUCED	81	79
Allowed to EXCEED current levels	12	12
[VOLUNTEERED] Capped at current levels ONLY	3	1
[VOLUNTEERED] Other	*	1
[VOLUNTEERED] Neither	3	*
[VOLUNTEERED] DK/NA	2	8

Q3. And finally, the governments of Canada and Alberta share responsibility for environmental management in the oil sands. Some say that the Federal government is not doing its part and needs to play a MORE ACTIVE ROLE. Others say that a MORE ACTIVE role by the Federal government will increase tensions with the Alberta government. In your opinion should the Federal government play a more active role in managing the environmental impacts of the Alberta oil sands?

	ALBERTA	NATIONAL AVERAGE
Yes, more active role	51	72
No	43	17
[VOLUNTEERED] Other	1	2
[VOLUNTEERED] DK/NA	5	9

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Gender

	%
Female	48
Male	52

D2. Language of Survey

	%
English	79
French	21

D3. Age

	%
18-34	28
35-54	36
55+	32
Refused	4

D4. Education

	%
High school or less	30
College/Trade/Some university	34
University	35
Refused	2

D5. Region

	%
Atlantic	7
<i>Montreal CMA</i>	12
Rest of Quebec	13
<i>Toronto CMA</i>	16
Rest of Ontario	22
Manitoba	4
Saskatchewan	3
Alberta	10
<i>Vancouver CMA</i>	7
Rest of British Columbia	6