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Report Details Further Flaring Reduction in British Columbia

FORT ST. JOHN — A new report from the BC Oil and Gas Commission (Commission) on flaring, incinerating and venting shows a continued decrease in flaring volumes in British Columbia in 2010.

The Flaring, Incinerating and Venting Reduction Report for 2010, which details industry emission levels, initiatives and achievements, shows that flaring levels in the province have decreased 26 per cent since 2006. Total flaring volumes continued to decline in 2010, down four per cent from 2009 levels.

The report details progress made toward the BC Energy Plan. The plan was announced in 2007 by the provincial government to situate British Columbia at the forefront of environmental and economic leadership, and sets out greenhouse gas reduction targets for the oil and gas industry. In 2009, the BC Energy Plan goal of eliminating all routine associated gas flaring was achieved, and the Commission continues to work toward the targets of further reducing flaring and venting at all wellsites and facilities.

Since 1996, natural gas production in British Columbia increased by 49 per cent and the amount of gas flared per unit of natural gas production decreased by 59 per cent.

Solution gas flaring has declined from the single largest flaring source in 1997 to the smallest flaring source, and now accounts for seven per cent of all flaring in British Columbia. In 2009, 97 per cent of solution gas production was conserved.

To view the report please visit the Commission website.

Quotes

Paul Jeakins - CEO and Commissioner, BC Oil and Gas Commission

"Reducing flaring, venting and incinerating is a top priority at the BC Oil and Gas Commission, and the continued decline in flaring levels in 2010 reflects this. New technologies, initiatives and working together with operators, landowners and all stakeholders has enabled the Commission to become a leading regulator in flaring reduction."

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