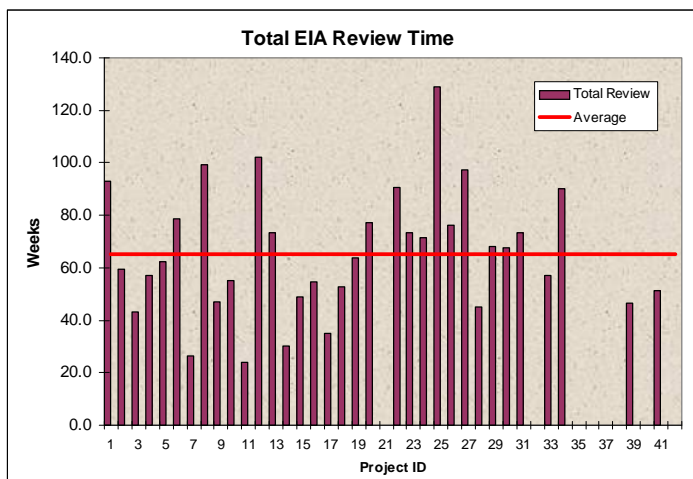
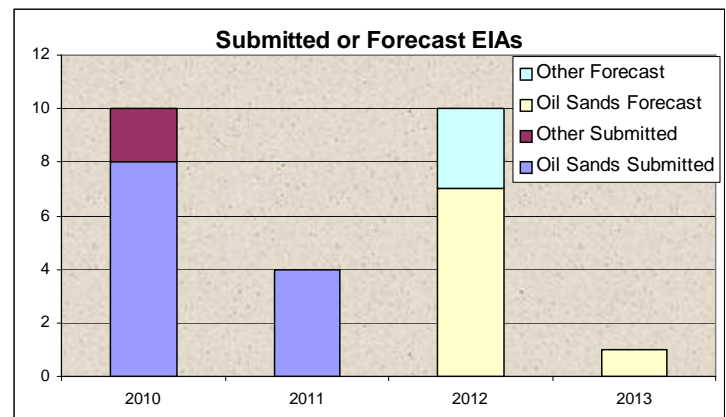


Environmental Assessment Program

Environmental Assessment Program Statistics 2011 Year-End Statistics

Upcoming Environmental Impact Assessment Reports

The chart to the right shows the number of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) reports submitted or forecast to be submitted as of December 31, 2011. The chart separates out oil sands projects (mines, upgraders and *in-situ*/SAGD projects) which have formed the majority of the EIA workload in recent years, and other projects.

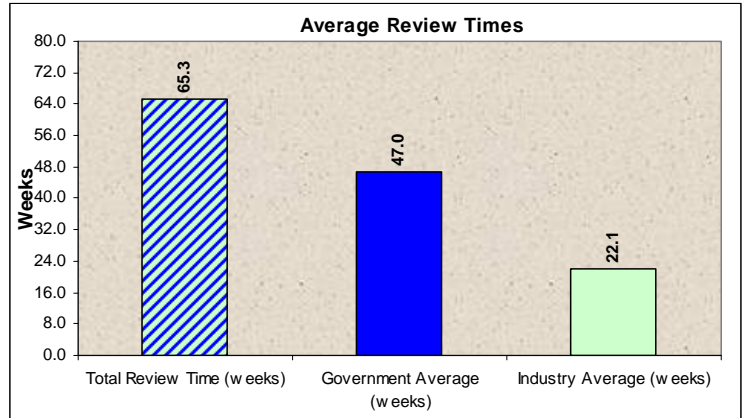


Review Time Averages

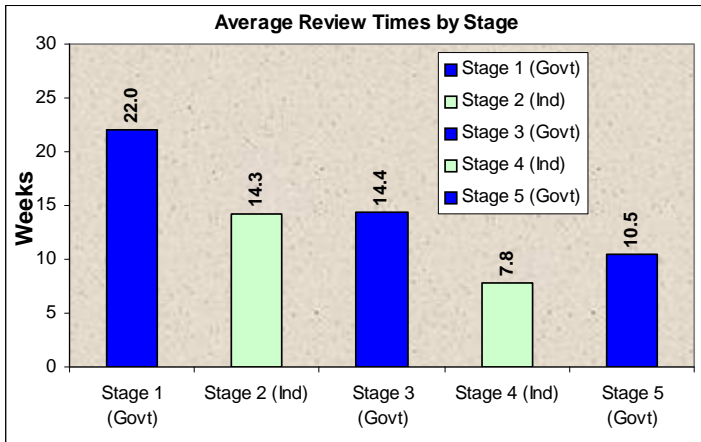
Alberta Environment uses a standard review schedule for EIA projects. The time period starts when the review begins and ends when the Director makes the decision that the EIA report is complete. In 2011 projects 30, 31, 33, 34, 39 and 41 reached the EIA completeness stage.

The chart shows the variability in review times for recent projects. Empty columns indicate projects that are still under review as of this update. The variability in performance is a reflection of the time taken by the government review teams and the time taken by the proponent in responding to the Supplemental Information Requests, as well as the complexity of the project and whether any significant project updates were submitted during the review.

The chart to the right shows the average review times of the government review teams and proponents.



The chart to the left breaks down the average review times by stage.



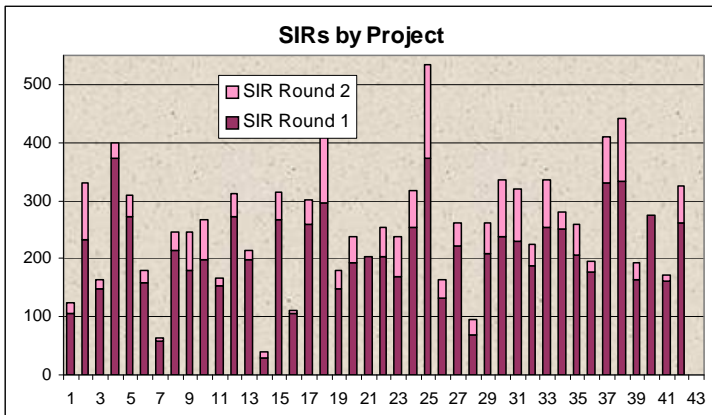
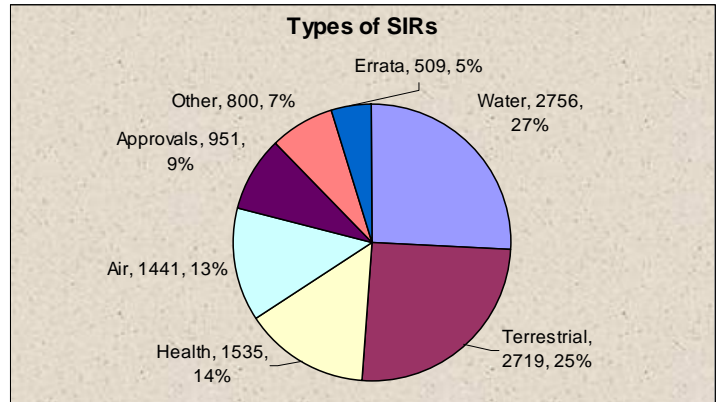
- Stage 1 (Government) – Review EIA and send SIRs to Proponent
- Stage 2 (Industry) – Respond to SIRs
- Stage 3 (Government) – Review response and send any additional SIRs to Proponent
- Stage 4 (Industry) – Respond to SIRs
- Stage 5 (Government) – Review response, ask additional SIRs if necessary and send EIA Completeness Letter to Board

The two charts above track the cumulative average review times for all of the projects in the Total EIA Review Time chart. The sum of the individual times does not equal the total review time in each chart since projects are at various stages of the review (i.e., only 34 projects may have been completed while 42 have reached Stage 1).

Supplemental Information Requests

During the review of an EIA report and associated applications the review teams may require additional information. This additional information is solicited from the proponent through the Supplemental Information Request (SIR) process. Often more than one round of Supplemental Information Requests is required.

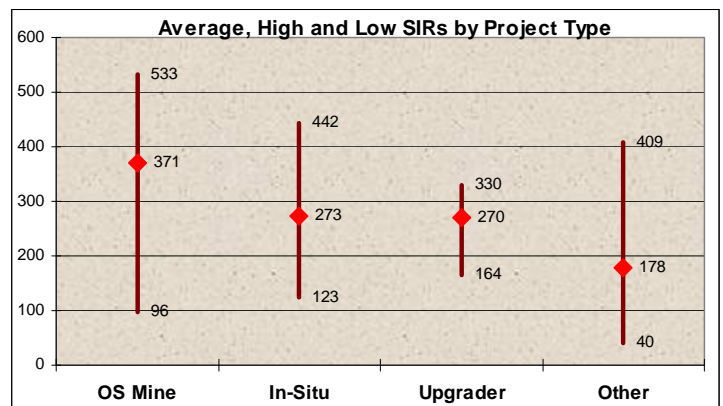
The chart above shows the types of questions asked by the review teams. The Terrestrial and Water teams have the largest number of questions because of the wide diversity of issues they cover.



The chart to the left shows the variability in the number of questions asked. The Project IDs are the same as those in the Total EIA Review Time chart.

The average number of supplemental questions asked is 249.

The chart to the right shows the average number of SIRs by project type, as well as the high and low numbers. Generally, oil sands projects are more complex and generate more questions.



Fast Stats

	Dec 2010	Dec 2011
Number of EIAs currently under review	12	9
Number of EIA reviews completed this year ¹	3	6
Number of Final Terms of Reference published ²	5	6
Average weeks from Final Terms of Reference to submission of EIA	24.4	30.2
Average weeks from submission of EIA to start of review	9.6	9.5
Number of e-mail notification system subscribers ³	732	737
Number of e-mail system postings	33	23

Third Party Contracting (3PC)

Alberta Environment started contracting out the review of the EIA and related applications to consulting firms in 2007. The Proponent pays for the reviews but Alberta Environment selects the consulting firm and provides the direction for the work. See the website under the 3PC heading for more information.

	Dec 2010	Dec 2011
Number of 3PC Contracts (Active/Completed)	26 (14/12)	31 (9/22)
Number of Different 3PC Contractors	10	11
Average 3PC Team Size	12	11
Total Amount Spent by Proponents to Date on 3PC Projects	\$4.575M	\$5.588M
Total 3PC Hours Billed to Date	28,965	34,531

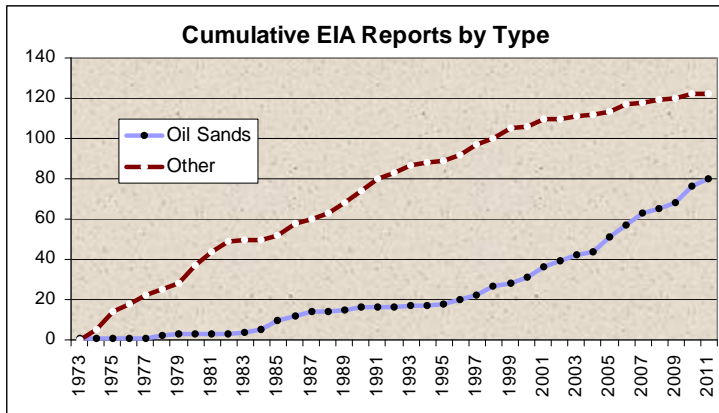
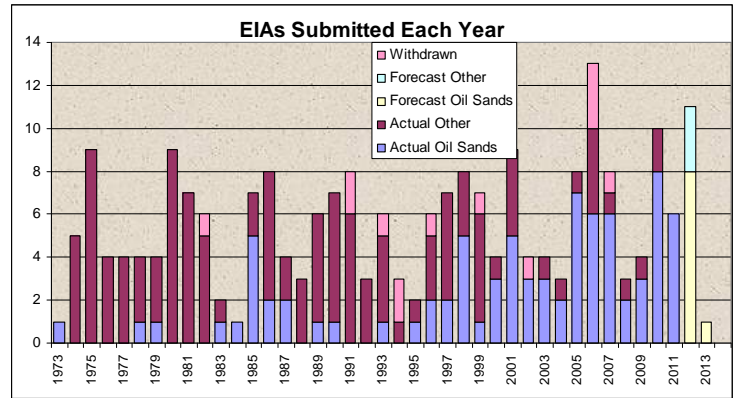
1 The following project reviews were completed in 2011: Cenovus FCCL Ltd. Christina Lake Thermal Project Phases 1E, 1F and 1G In-situ, Osum Oil Sands Corp. Taiga Oil Sands In-Situ Project, MacKay Operating Corp. MacKay River Commercial Project, Devon NEC Corporation Jackfish 3 In-Situ Project, Shell Canada Limited Carmon Creek In-situ, Shell Canada Limited Quest Carbon Capture and Storage Project.

2 A leading indicator of future EIA report review workload.

3 If you are interested in receiving EIA status updates click on the light blue shaded E-mail Information Service link on the webpage. You will be asked to input your e-mail address and will then receive an e-mail notifying you about the service.

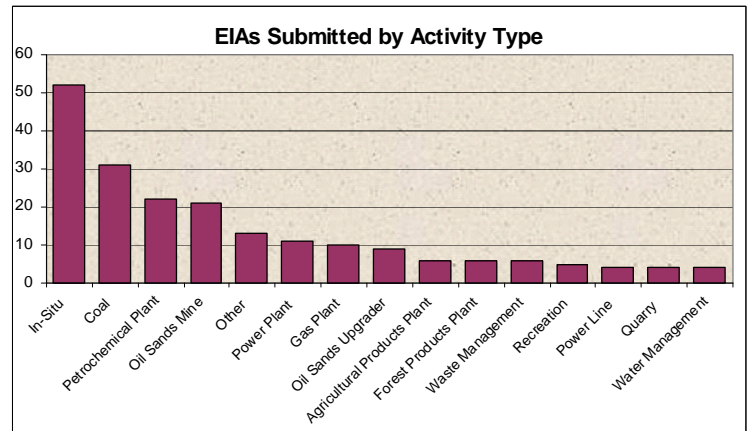
Long Term Trends

The chart to the right shows the number of EIA reports submitted each year. Projects in the chart shown as *Withdrawn* were submitted and then withdrawn or cancelled by the proponent at some time prior to the EIA completeness decision. All other charts in this report exclude withdrawn projects.



The chart to the left shows the running submission totals, split into oil sands and non-oil sands projects.

The chart to the right shows the number of EIA reports by project type (in-situ and coal projects dominate). Many of the other categories (e.g., gas plant, agricultural products plant, forest products plant, recreation) have not had submissions in several years.



The chart on the left shows the top ten municipalities in which EIA projects are located (RMWB = Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo).

