

**Final Mission Report  
Travel to Austin, Texas  
December 8-11, 2011**

**Executive Summary:**

Energy Minister Dr. Ted Morton attended the Energy Council's 2011 Global Energy and Environmental Issues Conference in Austin, Texas, from December 8 to 11, 2011.

The Energy Council is a legislative organization of 11 energy-producing American states, along with Alberta, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan and Venezuela. Alberta became the first international affiliate of the Energy Council in 1991 because of the long-term advocacy opportunities that it provided.

**Mission Objectives:**

- Promote Alberta's energy industry to a broader audience;
- Dialogue with legislators and energy executives from Canada, the United States and Venezuela;
- Profile Alberta as a secure, reliable and responsible energy supplier;
- Advance Alberta's clean energy story; and
- Profile Alberta's role in North American energy security and economic recovery.

**Mission Program:**

**Thursday, December 8**

*Travel Day*

**Meeting with the Consul General of Canada**

Minister Morton met with Ms. Paula Caldwell St-Onge, Consul General of Canada in Dallas, Texas, to obtain a briefing on key energy issues in Texas.

**Friday, December 9**

**Opening Breakfast**

Minister Morton attended the opening breakfast of the conference on the Outlook for Energy to 2030. The keynote presentation was delivered by Mr. Rob Gardner, ExxonMobil Corporation.

**North American Energy Markets**

Mr. Clay Bretches, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation, presented on the report of National Petroleum Council entitled, "Realizing the Potential of North American Oil and Gas Resources." Mr. Kim McCaig, Canadian Energy Pipeline Association presented on Canadian oil sands market access.

**A Norwegian Perspective on Global Energy Markets**

Mr. Espen Myrha, Royal Norwegian Embassy, discussed the Norwegian standpoint on global energy markets.

### **Policy Dynamics for North American Natural Gas**

Ms. Nitzan Goldberger, Eurasia Group, presented on North American natural gas and the policy dynamics that exist in the industry.

### **Electric Reliability and Storage Developments**

Mr. Elliot Nethercutt, North American Electric Reliability Corporation, presented on the national perspective on electrical reliability. Mr. Chris Winland, Texas Energy Storage Alliance, presented on electricity storage developments.

### **Meeting with the Texas Railroad Commission**

Minister Morton met with Mr. Barry Smitherman, Railroad Commissioner, to discuss the viability and issues related to the expansion of oil sands products into Texas.

## **Saturday, December 10**

### **Global Oil Prices: Speculation or Fundamentals**

Dr. Mine Yucel, International Association of Energy Economics, presented on the speculation and fundamentals of global energy prices.

### **Federal Regulation and Energy Development**

Ms. Kathleen Harnett White, Armstrong Center for Energy and the Environment, Texas Public Policy Foundation, presented on federal regulation in energy development.

### **Implications of International Nuclear Power Policy Developments**

Dr. Dale Klein, The University of Texas, presented on nuclear power policy developments internationally.

### **Competing for Energy Investments in a Global Marketplace**

Dr. Gerry Angevine, The Fraser Institute, presented on competition for energy investments in a global marketplace.

### **Carbon Dioxide Pipelines**

Mr. Greg Schnake, Denbury Resources, presented on carbon dioxide pipelines.

### **Meeting with Dr. Scott Tinker**

Minister Morton met with Dr. Scott Tinker, Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, to discuss his documentary, "The Switch," which was screened at the conference.

## **Sunday, December 11**

*Travel Day*

Approved by Ted Morton, Minister of Energy: