

**Final Mission Report  
Travel to Provo and Salt Lake City, Utah  
August 30-31, 2005**

**Executive Summary:**

Alberta's Energy Minister, The Honourable Greg Melchin, visited Utah, August 30-31, 2005. Melchin was joined by Glenn Shepherd, Executive Assistant to the Minister of Energy. Melchin met with U.S. officials, including Utah Senators Bob Bennett and Orrin Hatch, Utah Congressman Chris Cannon, as well as the Uintah County Commissioners. Senators Hatch and Bennett were instrumental in having a section included in the U.S. Energy Policy Act 2005 that specifically calls for initiating a partnership with Alberta, "for the purposes of sharing information relating to the development and production of oil from tar sands."

**Mission Objectives:**

- Promote Alberta's valuable energy resources, such as the oil sands and natural gas, to Utah members of the United States Congress.
- Answer questions about development and investment potential in Alberta.
- Discuss initiatives arising out of the U.S. Energy Policy Act 2005 and the possibility of the U.S. and Alberta cooperating on research and technology in the areas of oil sands and oil shales, natural gas in coal, clean coal and coal gasification.

**Accomplishments**

Hurricane Katrina had just hit the Gulf Coast when Minister Melchin was in Utah, so the Minister was able to speak about Canadian efforts to help oil supplies to the United States.

**Highlights**

Meeting with Congressman Chris Cannon

- Congressman Cannon was very interested in touring the oil sands and telling the Alberta story to U.S. Senators.
- Minister Melchin was invited to participate in a *Center for the New West* event. *The Center* fosters balanced growth and economic development in the Western United States and advances the principles of the Founders, including personal freedom, limited government and free enterprise in America's New Economy.
- U.S. is interested in our electricity grids and would like to find out more.

Meeting with Senator Orrin Hatch

- Senator Hatch was very interested in what the Alberta government has done as far as a policy framework to stimulate oil sands development.
- Senator Hatch recommended a committee comprised of provincial, state and U.S. federal counterparts be formed to monitor progress in North America becoming an independent energy centre.

**Official Delegation**

Honourable Greg Melchin, Minister of Energy  
Glenn Shepherd, Executive Assistant to the Minister

**Related Links**

*Energy Minister to meet with U.S. members of Congress*

<http://www.gov.ab.ca/acn/200508/18660ECF99EE4-FDFE-4AAD-9561F990684B201B.html>