



< Working Together to Build an Economy for the Future >

Alberta

Alberta's coal communities have a proud history of powering a prosperous and industrious province. We want that to continue, so people can build a good life for themselves and their families.



The Government of Alberta worked with the federal government to allow our coal plants to convert to natural gas produced here in Alberta – and to continue operating past 2029.

A visit to Sheerness Generating Station in Hanna.

(From left-to-right: Jay Slem, chair Palliser REDA; Jordan Christianson, Chair Special Areas Board; Deron Bilous, Economic Development and Trade Minister; Chris Warwick, Hanna mayor; and Dale Friesen, VP ATCO)

Canada is one of many countries moving away from coal and the federal government has mandated an end to coal-powered electricity generation by 2029. We've heard first-hand the uncertainty that creates for many Alberta families. That's why we've worked with the federal government to allow our coal plants to convert to natural gas produced here in Alberta – and to continue operating past 2029.

These new electricity generation options will ensure coal communities continue to power Alberta, while creating long-term economic opportunities.

We know workers will be affected during the transition – even with new construction and operating jobs in natural-gas generation. We've reached agreements with power companies that ensure they fulfill their obligations to affected employees, including severance and pensions.

We've also appointed an Advisory Panel on Coal Communities to hear from economic development organizations, workers, labour leaders and local governments – to help us understand the challenges and opportunities that come with this transition.

The panel will provide recommendations to support retraining and other opportunities for workers – and to support regional economic development. The Alberta Government will share the panel's feedback this fall.

Working together we can create local plans to build diversified and resilient economies for the future.



Canada is one of many countries moving towards natural gas and renewables while moving away from coal-powered electricity.

The Notley Government will continue working with the federal government to make natural-gas conversion easier and to secure additional worker and economic development supports.



The Notley Government ensures Alberta coal plants can continue operating past federally mandated end-dates by converting to natural gas.



Deron Bilous, Alberta's Economic Development and Trade Minister, meets with labour and municipal leaders from coal communities.



The Notley Government protects workers' pensions by reaching transition agreements with power companies.



The Notley Government announces The Advisory Panel on Coal Communities to hear from workers and local leaders about future opportunities and challenges.

2017



The Trudeau Government speeds up end-date for all coal-fired electricity to 2029.

2016



The Notley Government introduces the Climate Leadership Plan which will create 7,000 jobs by transitioning to renewable and natural-gas generated electricity by 2030.

2015

2014



The Harper Government introduces regulations that will prevent all Alberta coal plants from converting to natural gas.

2012



The Harper Government approves regulations to end Battle River and Sundance operations in 2019, end Keephills operations in 2029, and end Sheerness operations starting in 2036.

2006



The Harper Government begins discussions on regulations to close coal plants after 40 years of operation.