



NEWS RELEASE

Alternative Energy Means Big Business for Alberta

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A new report commissioned by the **Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership** reveals just how significant alternative energy investments are for the provincial economy. The data, compiled by Renewable Randolph Consulting, looked at the economic impact of 9 utility-scale projects that are either being constructed or are approved for construction from 2019 – 2022.

“There’s been a lot of discussion lately about the role of alternative energy in the economy. Our partnership wanted to quantify the economic impacts of these projects to show how important this sector is for southern Alberta.” – Peter Casurella, Executive Director of SouthGrow Regional Economic Development

The total capital expenditure of the 9 projects (6 solar, and 3 wind) is **\$1.56 billion dollars**, which includes hundreds of millions of dollars of local spend on things like construction, annual land lease revenues, tax assessment for municipalities, construction and ongoing operations jobs.

“It’s important to note that we only looked at 9 projects out of dozens that have already been built, or are being applied for now,” said Bev Thornton, Executive Director of Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance. “It has been said that southern Alberta is ‘the oilsands of sun and wind’ and the pace of investment is growing. Alberta has a richness of both resource-based and renewable assets, which, taken together, can tell a strong and balanced energy story.”

With the global demand for energy continually growing, Alberta’s wind and solar potential offer plenty of opportunity, particularly as utility-scale battery storage projects come online.

“International investment is moving into this industry right now. When Albertans are looking for good news stories and economic wins, they can look right here. These projects also inject money into the economy, creating more wealth and opportunities for everyone in our region.” – Trevor Lewington, Chief Executive Officer, Economic Development Lethbridge.

The Southern Alberta Alternative Energy Partnership is a collaboration between Alberta SouthWest Regional Alliance, Economic Development Lethbridge, and SouthGrow Regional Economic Development that has been supporting the development of alternative energy since 2007.

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