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Sierra Club of Canada News Release

Thursday, October 27, 2005

This is Exhibit.....F.....referred to in the
affidavit of.....Stephen Hazell
sworn before me, this.....4th.....
day of.....January.....2008

A COMMISSIONER FOR TAKING AFFIDAVITS

Oil Sands Strategy a Comprehensive Abdication of Government's Environmental Responsibilities

(Edmonton and Ottawa) - Alberta's proposed Mineable Oil Sands Strategy represents a comprehensive abdication of the provincial government's responsibility to protect the environment and sustain the health of northern Alberta communities says the Sierra Club of Canada.

"Roughly 2500 square kilometers of Alberta's boreal forest will be obliterated, and air and water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions will increase dramatically, despite the Strategy's happy talk about reclamation and intergenerational equity" says Stephen Hazell, conservation director of the Sierra Club of Canada. "The real purpose of the Strategy appears to be to create a regulation-free zone to give the companies the freest hand to increase oil production from the tar sands as quickly as possible."

"We looked into this document hoping a positive direction would be set for the region, a direction that would see clean water, clean air and healthy communities come first. Albertans must understand that tar sands mining is one of the most environmentally destructive industries on the planet. It will have many impacts both within and outside Alberta" said Lindsay Telfer, director of the Prairie chapter of Sierra Club of Canada. "One wonders how long Prime Minister Paul Martin will remain silent as growing air and water pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from the oil sands solidifies Canada's international reputation as the tar nation."

The Sierra Club of Canada is demanding that the Alberta Government reconsider the plan to include:

- Recognition that the tar sands will be Canada's largest new source of greenhouse gas emissions by setting clear targets for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and improvements in energy efficiency;
- Discussion as to the application and enforcement of existing provincial and federal laws to the mineable oil sands area;
- Clear and binding targets for ambient air and water quality;
- Complete withdrawal of all mining operations from the McClelland wetlands;
- Creation of corresponding parkland to compensate for the complete removal of wild species from the mining zone;
- Discussion of transboundary impacts on air or water and a clear plan for how Alberta proposes to deal with these issues with downstream jurisdictions (especially Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories);
- Development of a reclamation plan integrated throughout the duration of mining operations;
- Commitment that the mineable oil sands area will not be expanded without public consultation and cabinet review;
 - Requirement that new or expanded tar sands mines use the latest technologies to reduce the intensity of their material or energy use; and
 - Commitment to support companies in these efforts such as by enhancing the electrical transmission infrastructure to allow electricity from co-generation facilities located at tar sands mines to be supplied to southern markets.

Tar sands oil produces roughly twice as much greenhouse gases per barrel of oil as conventionally produced oil, destroys boreal forest and wetlands, and produces massive tailings that contribute to

substantial air and water pollution. Sierra Club of Canada is asking Canadians and Americans to sign the Mackenzie WILD Declaration in order to constrain the unsustainable growth of the tar sands industry as well as protect Mackenzie Valley wilderness. Read more about the Mackenzie WILD campaign at www.mackenzieWILD.ca.

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