

4 June 2009

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pembina Institute is a non-partisan, Canadian, sustainable energy think tank that has researched the environmental impacts of Canada's oil sands for over a decade. Our mission is to advance sustainable energy solutions through innovative research, education, consulting and advocacy.

I am pleased to provide you with a digital copy of our new resource, *Clearing the Air on Oil Sands Myths*. The purpose of this resource is to provide clear, factual information on the environmental impacts of Canada's oil sands development. The report rebuts 23 of the most common government and industry claims about the environmental impacts of oil sands development, using information from a variety of public sources.

The Pembina Institute is committed to meaningful discussions on how to improve environmental management in the oil sands, but we are concerned that government and industry communications do not always accurately portray the impacts associated with oil sands development and the unresolved challenges that need to be addressed. It is critical that we move past public relations rhetoric and "clear the air" regarding the growing impacts of oil sands development, such as greenhouse gas emissions and the production of liquid tailings waste. Impacts must be faced and dealt with, not downplayed, if oil sands management is to be improved.

We hope that you find this report illuminating. Should you require further information on any of these issues, or if you would like to access a wide range of publications addressing oil sands impacts to air quality, boreal forest and fresh water, and potential solutions to these problems please visit our website at www.oilsandswatch.org, or contact me directly at 403-721-3937, or by e-mail at simond@pembina.org.

Yours sincerely,



Simon Dyer
Oil Sands Program Director

