

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Albian achieves ISO 14001 accreditation**

**(Fort McMurray, Alberta)** – Albian Sands Energy is proud to announce that its environmental management system (EMS) has been certified in accordance with the ISO 14001 standard.

This certification makes Albian Sands the first oil sands mining operation to be ISO 14001 certified, and completes certification of the Athabasca Oil Sands Project's (AOSP) mining and upgrading facilities.

"This is a great achievement for Albian and the Athabasca Oil Sands Project," said Neil Camarta, Senior Vice President, Oil Sands for Shell Canada and CEO of Albian Sands Energy. "We've had a strong commitment to sustainable development since the start, and achieving ISO 14001 registration after only one year of operations reflects our continued focus in this area."

ISO 14001 is a voluntary, internationally recognized standard for environmental management systems, which is applicable to all kinds of industries worldwide. An environmental management system is a systematic approach to identifying and preventing or minimizing environmental impacts in any part of an organization's activities, products or services.

Registration is recommended by accredited, independent auditors who are confident that an organization has in place an effective environmental management system to support a sound environmental policy. In addition, the organization must demonstrate that it is seeking continual improvement of its environmental performance. The accredited auditing body for Shell Canada and Albian Sands Energy is PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"Achieving this international standard is a major milestone in the development of our business," said Steve Reynish, Albian Sands' Chief Operating Officer. "The efforts of key staff were considerable, and much energy and hard work will continue to be required to meet and comply with the strict requirements of the 14001 standard."

Certification according to the 14001 standard falls within Albian and Shell Canada policies on health, safety and environment.

-30-

*Backgrounder attached.*

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## Background

### Albian Sands Energy ISO 14001 Registration

Albian Sands Energy has had a Health, Safety and Sustainable Development management system since the company began operations in 2003. Our management system has always embodied the same principles as, and has a similar framework to, ISO 14001 but now we have taken the extra step of having Albian's management system registered to ISO 14001.

ISO 14001 applies basic management principles to environmental management. In its simplest form there are four parts: Plan, Do, Check, Act.

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|--------------|---|
| <b>Plan</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand your issues and requirements. Create targets. Set up an organization, training, procedures, etc. needed to achieve your targets.</li></ul> |
| <b>Do</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement your plan (operational excellence).</li></ul>   |
| <b>Check</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Audit to see if you are doing what you say you are doing and if targets are being achieved.</li></ul>   |
| <b>Act</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Make improvements to resolve the identified issues and to promote continuous improvement</li></ul>  |

### *ISO 14001 Questions & Answers*

#### What is it?

ISO 14001 is an internationally recognized standard for environmental management systems. This voluntary standard is applicable in all kinds of industries in every part of the world. It applies basic management principles to environmental management. In its simplest form there are four parts:

- Plan - Understand your issues and requirements. Create targets. Set up an organization, training, procedures, etc. needed to achieve your targets;
- Do - Implement your plan (operational excellence);
- Check - Audit to see if you are doing what you say you are doing and if targets are being achieved;

- Act - Make improvements to resolve the identified issues and to promote continuous improvement.

## **What does ISO 14001 registration mean?**

A company that achieves ISO 14001 registration is demonstrating that it:

- has a sound environmental policy;
- has in place an effective environmental system to support its policy;
- is committed to complying with environmental legislation as a minimum, protecting the environment and continually improving its environmental performance.

## **How is the certification granted?**

An independent registering body conducts an audit to ensure that the environmental management policies and systems meet the required ISO 14001 standard. The registering body will conduct regular follow-up audits to confirm that the standard continues to be met and that environmental performance continues to improve.

What does ISO 14001 certification mean to Albian Sands?

ISO 14001 registration is consistent with Albian Sands' commitment to sustainable development, which means integrating economic, environmental and social dimensions into the conduct of our business. Also, the independent audit necessary for registration is consistent with Albian's commitment to transparency. We believe that our ISO 14001 registration will enhance the reputation of the company among all our stakeholders.

What would ISO 14001 registration mean to Albian's key stakeholders?

- Neighbours – while ISO 14001 registration does not guarantee the absence of incidents, neighbouring communities can be confident that Albian has identified potential risks to the environment and has in place third-party audited procedures to eliminate or reduce them.
- Non-governmental Organizations – can see that Albian "walks the talk" in terms of its public commitment to sustainable development.
- Governments – can be assured that, not only is Albian meeting legislative requirements for environmental management, but is voluntarily doing more.
- Industry Associations – can point to Albian Sands as an example of the success of voluntary initiatives that help the oil and gas industry to play a positive role in protecting the environment.