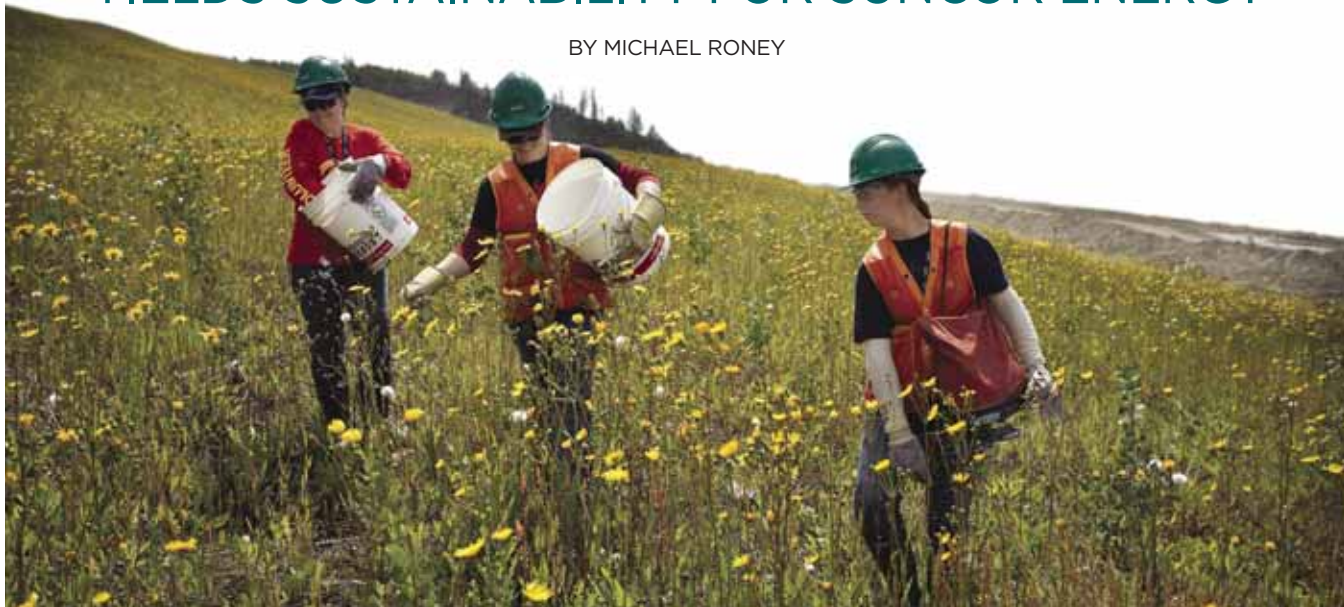


# STRATEGIC COLLABORATION YIELDS SUSTAINABILITY FOR SUNCOR ENERGY

BY MICHAEL RONEY



Western Canada's Athabasca Oil Sands is one of the largest petroleum deposits in the world, offering great promise as well as unique challenges. As the leader in developing this resource, Suncor Energy pursues collaboration with other industry players as a key sustainability strategy, supporting its triple bottom-line goals of economic prosperity, social well-being and a healthy environment. "We believe in working together in an atmosphere of mutual respect with the goal of finding real solutions," says Gord Lambert, Suncor Vice President, Sustainability.

## Partnering to Address Challenges

"As oil sands operators, responsibly dealing with the impact of development raises important questions that require powerful solution-oriented engagement," Lambert states. "You want to produce fuels to meet the demands for mobility, but you want to do so in a way that minimizes the impact on the environment and the surrounding communities."

Suncor has partnered with several other major oil sands operators through major consortia and sustainability projects, including:

- **The Oil Sands Leadership Initiative (OSLI):** Suncor has teamed up with ConocoPhillips, Nexen, Statoil and Total E&P Canada to ensure responsible and sustainable development. In 2010, OSLI's Land Stewardship Working Group assembled a comprehensive map of the entire oil sands region in northern Alberta to aid in

maximizing the positive impact of tree plantings, initiate caribou protection programs and carve out conservation offsets. The group already has begun habitat restoration and expects to have planted about 600,000 trees by the end of 2011.

- **The CO<sub>2</sub> Capture Project:** Comprised of BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Eni, Petrobras, Shell, Suncor and associate member Electric Power Research Institute, this partnership is helping to advance technologies that could make the capture and storage of greenhouse emissions more affordable—a key long-term step in addressing climate change.

- **Tailings Management:** Tailings—a mixture of water, sand, clay and other residue—is produced in oil sands mines during the extraction process. Suncor is sharing its proprietary TRO™ tailings management process technology with six other oil sands companies. "This is

an innovation that we expect will allow us to reclaim entire oil sands mine sites in about ten years versus the 30 years or more it now takes, and ultimately eliminate the need for tailings ponds," Lambert notes. Overall, Suncor expects to spend more than \$1 billion between 2010 and 2012 to implement a new tailings and reclamation technology at its own existing operations.

## Committing to Sustainability

Suncor also is bringing renewables into its energy strategy, including six wind projects and Canada's largest ethanol plant by production volume, with existing and planned investments totaling approximately \$750 million by 2012.

"In all our efforts, we're starting from the premise that no one has a monopoly on good ideas," observes Lambert. "We all need to work constructively toward a positive vision of our energy future."

[www.suncor.com](http://www.suncor.com)

# We see the possibilities.

For Suncor Energy, growth brings opportunity and a set of new challenges. The biggest one of all: balancing increased development with the need to live up to our social and environmental responsibilities, both as an individual company and collectively as part of Canada's oil sands industry. We believe the key is collaboration. A great example is the Oil Sands Leadership Initiative where Suncor works closely with four companies to improve environmental, social and economic performance in the oil sands industry. With a shared commitment to excellence and innovation, we can work together to build a more sustainable energy future.

**36%** decline in amount of fresh water Suncor has withdrawn from the Athabasca River since 2004\*

**50%** decrease in GHG emission intensity at Suncor's oil sands operation from 1990 levels\*

**\$1.2 billion** actual and planned investments in Suncor's new tailings technology

*Vincent Saubestre, executive director,  
Oil Sands Leadership Initiative*



performance  
partnerships  
possibilities



Find out more about Suncor's track record and how we are planning to responsibly develop North America's energy supply.

[www.suncor.com/sustainability](http://www.suncor.com/sustainability)



\*As at December 31, 2010.  
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