



Sign Up with the Oilfield News Online



www.oilfieldnews.ca

www.wilsonimmigration.com
 What Immigration, Naturalization & Citizenship
 Your gateway to a new life.
 660 Rocky Mountain Plaza, 615 Macleod Trail SE, Calgary AB
 Phone: 403.264.2923 / Fax: 403.266.5162
 403.266.7143
 Toll Free: 1-888-657-8255
 Ann Wilson, CHRP, ICCRC R421415
 (Formerly Citizenship Judge)
 ann@wilsonimmigration.com

Published By: NEWS COMMUNICATIONS since 1977

Wednesday March 12th 2016

CRESCENT POINT POSTS SURPRISE 4Q 2015 PROFIT AS OPERATING COSTS FALL

Canadian oil and gas producer Crescent Point Energy Corp. posted a surprise quarterly profit, helped by lower operating costs, but the company slashed its dividend as it looks to conserve cash after a steep drop in oil prices.

Crescent Point also said on March 9 that it expected its capex and production in 2016 to be at the lower end of its forecasts.

The company had earlier forecast capex of CA\$950 million to CA\$1.3 billion and production of 165,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (Mboe/d) to 172 Mboe/d for 2016.

Other Canadian oil and gas producers including Encana Corp. (NYSE: ECA) and Husky Energy Inc. have also cut or suspended their dividends and lowered their capital budget.

Crescent Point slashed its monthly dividend to 3 Canadian cents per

share from 10 Canadian cents, which it said would save about CA\$430 million (US\$321 million) annually.

As of March 4, about 39% of the company's oil production was hedged for the rest of 2016 at an average price of CA\$80/bbl, it said.

Crescent Point posted a net loss of CA\$382.4 million, or 76 Canadian cents per share, for the fourth quarter of 2015. The Calgary, Alberta-based company had a profit of CA\$121.3 million, or 27 Canadian cents per share, a year earlier.

Excluding an impairment charge of CA\$829.6 million, the company earned 41 Canadian cents per share.

Analysts on average had expected a loss of 2 Canadian cents per share, according to Thomson Reuters I/B/E/S. (\$1 = C\$1.34)

75-YEAR-OLD OIL PIPELINE SHUTS DOWN

A pipeline buried under three New England states that carried foreign crude oil from the Port of Portland to refineries in Montreal for 75 years has been mothballed.

The oil has stopped flowing.

The 236-mile-long pipeline was built to provide for the safe transport of crude oil to Quebec at a time when German U-boats that could sink oil tankers were patrolling the western Atlantic.

But the flow dropped to zero in January, according to state data, and a ship chandler in Portland says the pipeline had no tanker deliveries in February.

The amount of oil flowing through the pipeline has been dwindling for years, and the completion last fall of a major pipeline reversal project in Canada has left the pipeline of no use. The refineries in Quebec now get their oil from the vast oil sands reserves in Alberta.

"There is no need to move crude oil from Portland to Montreal. That is a permanent change," said John Auers, executive vice-president of Turner, Mason & Co., a Dallas petroleum industry consulting firm.

If oil ever again moves through the pipeline, Auers said, it probably will be going the other way, bringing tar sands oil from western Canada and North Dakota to Portland

Harbor for delivery to refineries on the East Coast and overseas.

While the pipeline could be repurposed to carry other petroleum products, such as natural gas, the most obvious use is to deliver crude oil to a seaport, said Sandy Fielden, director of energy analytics with RBN Energy, a Texas consulting firm.

The decision in December by Congress to lift the 40-year ban on exports of domestic oil has made reversing the flow of the pipeline more likely, he said.

The city of South Portland, where the pipeline ends, has banned the export of oil through the city because of environmental concerns. Environmentalists say tar sands oil has greater greenhouse gas emissions and is more corrosive so it could leak from the pipeline.

The Portland Pipeline Corp. has sued the city in federal court. The lawsuit is still pending.

The company declined to comment.

"Nothing is going to flow until this court case is resolved," said Mark Usinger,



REDVERS & DISTRICT OIL SHOWCASE

REDVERS RECREATION CENTRE

May 12 & 13

2016

Box 903

Redvers, SK S0C 2H0

Tel: (306) 452-3225

email: redversoilshow@hotmail.ca



www.redversoilshow.com

GREENGROVE A DIVISION OF PFG INC.

- * WE SUPPLY AND PLANT TREES
- * Wholesale and retail pricing depending on quantity
- * Tree moving and design
- * Large variety of trees available



Contact:

BUSINESS: 780.795.2362

CELL: 780.723.1678

FAX: 780.795.2523

EMAIL: greengrove@hughes.net

P.F.G Inc. ©2007 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

a Portland ship chandler who for years has delivered supplies to the oil tankers. "The demand is gone."

GRANDE PRAIRIE HOSTS MASSIVE EQUIPMENT AUCTION IN WAKE OF ENERGY SLUMP

Bulldozers, trucks being sold off in droves as Alberta oil and gas companies flounder and fold

A bust in Alberta's once booming oil and gas economy has Ritchie Bros. holding what it calls a 'massive' equipment and truck auction.

With profits drying up, operators are selling off their heavy equipment in droves, filling the Ritchie Bros. lot with high-quality haulers, excavators and bulldozers.

With so much inventory, they've had to add the additional auction to their calendar. It is the largest sale in Grande Prairie by the auctioneering company to date.

"The economy definitely has an effect, and there has been some tightening," said Ritchie Bros. vice president Simon Wallan.

More than 2,250 items — including more than 65 excavators, more than 60 bulldozers, hundreds of trucks and trailers—will be sold off March 14 and 15.

A large portion of the auction inventory comes from two companies — Pinnacle Services of High Level and Continental Pipelines of Fort St. John — which are selling off every last piece of equipment they own.

"All our equipment is well-maintained and ready to go to work for a new

owner," said OJ Blanchette of Pinnacle Services. "Some of it is actually still working for us right now — it will be taken straight from the job site to the auction site, cleaned and prepared for sale."

As is the case with all Ritchie Bros. auctions, the items will be sold off without minimum bids or reserve prices. Even so, Wallan remains optimistic they'll fetch a good price.

"(The downturn has) had a softening impact on the economy and the forces that are out there right now," said Wallan. "But the exchange rate with the U.S. dollar and the high price of 'new' (equipment) has really helped level off, or keep constant the price of good, used equipment."

CANADA'S OIL- DEPENDENT ALBERTA PROVINCE SEES HIGHER DEFICITS

'Commodity price crash has proved to be deeper and longer than projected,' government says

The Western Canadian province of Alberta said Tuesday that lower oil and gas prices will force it to increase deficit spending beyond earlier projections, a sign of its dependence on revenue from the energy industry.

"The Government of Alberta cannot meet current deficit targets, because the commodity price crash has proved to be deeper and of longer duration than projected," Alberta Lieutenant Governor Lois Mitchell said in a speech on behalf of Premier Rachel Notley.

The province's declining fortunes have weighed on the broader Canadian economy because fossil

fuels are among the country's top export products. Alberta had been the fastest-growing province in Canada before a swoon in oil prices that began in mid-2014.

The Conference Board of Canada said Tuesday that Alberta will be the only province to see its economy shrink this year, with GDP contracting 1.1% after a 2.9% drop in 2015.

Last month, Alberta said the deficit could top 10.4 billion Canadian dollars (\$7.75 billion) in the financial year that begins April 1 and that the province was on track for a C\$6.3 billion deficit in the current fiscal year. Last year, Alberta posted a C\$1.1 billion surplus.

The government said in a key policy address called a throne speech that it would revise those budgetary assumptions. It promised to review its fiscal plan by taking a "prudent, balanced approach," but provided no further details.

Ms. Notley's administration did, however, reiterate a pledge to spare education and health care from spending cuts.

Her government also vowed to implement a controversial plan to combat climate change outlined last November. It will introduce a broad-based carbon tax, phase out coal-fired power generation and cap greenhouse gas emissions from oil sands production.

Those initiatives follow legislation passed last summer to boost corporate taxes and increase an existing carbon tax on large-scale emitters.

Some energy companies and

conservative opposition parties have pushed back on those ambitious climate policies, which Ms. Notley's left-leaning ruling party pledged to pursue after taking power in provincial elections last May.

As part of the throne speech, the government said it would set up an advisory committee of oil sands producers to "ensure measures are effective and widely supported."

IMPERIAL OIL SELLS ESSO GAS STATIONS FOR \$2.8-BILLION

Imperial Oil Ltd. has reached a deal to sell 497 Esso-brand retail gas stations to five fuel distributors for \$2.8-billion, as the company seeks to focus on its expanding oil sands and refining businesses.

Quebec-based Alimentation Couche-Tard Inc. will purchase 279 retail stations from Imperial in Ontario and Quebec for roughly \$1.7-billion, the company said late on Tuesday. 7-Eleven Canada Inc. will pick up sites in Alberta and British Columbia. The other distributors involved in the deal include Parkland Fuel Corp., Harnois Groupe pétrolier and Wilson Fuel Co. Ltd.

Energy companies have sought to jettison assets to help weather the sharp plunge in oil prices to less than \$40 (U.S.) a barrel, although deals have been scant amid disagreements between buyers and sellers over valuations.

Imperial, which is majority owned by oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp., has been mulling the sale of the service stations since January, 2015.

It did not specify how it would

E3 Quality Machining

Oilfield * Industrial * Agriculture

Machining - Fabrication - EDM
Specialized in AUT Calibration Blocks
ASME and MUT's



Tel: 780-387-5730

Cel: 780-361-5731

Serving Millet & Area.....

GET OUT OF DEBT

- ➔ **FREE** Financial Advice ➔ **Consolidate** Debts
- ➔ **Good or Bad Credit** ➔ **Relief** from Creditor Calls
- ➔ **Only NORTHERN** Counsellor ➔ **0%** Interest Eligibility
- ➔ **Cash Settlements** ➔ **Friendly Prompt Service**

Free Help Line:

1-866-563-6998

GOV'T LICENSED / BONDED

www.debtconsultants.ca

**AAA CREDIT COUNSELLORS
& DEBT CONSULTANTS**

spend the proceeds, but the move comes after the startup, last year, of an \$8.9-billion (Canadian) expansion phase at its massive Kearl oil sands mine in northern Alberta. The company also recently started pumping crude at its \$2-billion (U.S.) Nabiye development near Cold Lake, Alta.

Under the deal announced Tuesday, the stations would be owned and operated by the distributors, while Imperial would continue to supply fuel.

About two-thirds of the 1,700 Esso retail stations currently in Canada operate under a similar model.

"We believe these agreements represent the best way for Imperial to grow in the highly competitive fuels marketing business," Rich Kruger, Imperial's chairman, president and chief executive officer, said in a statement.

"The Esso brand has a leading presence in Canada through our distributor network and strong prospects for continued growth to the benefit of our customers and shareholders."

Imperial said the sales are expected to close by the end of the year, subject to regulatory approvals. Like others in the oil patch, the company has stepped up efforts to preserve cash as crude prices tumble.

Last month, it pared its 2016 budget to \$1.8-billion (Canadian), down sharply from the roughly \$3.6-billion outlay in 2015. Its fourth-quarter earnings dropped 85 per cent to \$102-million from same period a year earlier.

Couche-Tard CEO Brian Hannasch said the deal completes a search for a "transformative" acquisition

in Canada that began following its 1999 purchase of Silcorp Ltd.

"The sites we would acquire represent an excellent strategic fit for our business, allowing us to expand our network and reach more fuel customers than ever before," he said in a separate statement.

Pipeline industry concerned about tampering and vandalism

After recent incidents in Ontario, CEPA says pipelines shouldn't be a target

After a string of recent cases of protesters meddling with pipelines, there is concern whether the tampering could escalate into more serious action.

There were four incidents on Enbridge's Line 9 between November and January, including sabotage to the pipe near Cambridge, Ont., and a tampered valve near Hamilton.

"It's seen as a socially acceptable way of protesting and it's not" - Chris Bloomer, CEPA

Pipelines are a target, but they shouldn't be, according to the chief executive of the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association.

"You have people going into these things, tampering with them, trying to close the valve, getting inside the fence, and creating a very big potential environmental risk and safety risk to them," said Chris Bloomer.

Quebec's Energy East pipeline hearings get off to rocky start

TransCanada CEO says don't blame pipelines for climate change

Concerns about people taking extreme action have been raised recently as the debate over

pipelines escalates and the rhetoric ramps up. Calgary's former police chief warned some of those inflammatory words raise the risk someone could blow up pipelines.

The incident in Hamilton was described in a post on Earth First Newswire, an environmental activist website.

"Our hearts were bursting with love and cheer after hearing of the many times our friends have courageously shut down pipelines in recent months," it said.

Up to 300,000 barrels of oil a day flow from Alberta's oilsands to Montreal's refineries using the Line 9 pipeline after it was recently reversed. Vandalism has led to oil spills in the past, including in northwestern Alberta in 2011.

"It's seen as a socially acceptable way of protesting and it's not," said Bloomer. "It's harmful, it's highly risky and it can create potential issues with people getting hurt or an environmental spill."

A protester unfurls a banner during a Quebec environmental hearing on

TransCanada's Energy East pipeline proposal Monday night. (CBC)

Bloomer said it's fine to criticize pipelines, but it's too risky to physically tamper with them. He wonders why there wasn't more political pushback after the vandalism occurred.

"That's almost seen as an accessible form of protest and public disobedience. If someone did that on a run way at Pearson [International Airport in Toronto] it would last a nanosecond. If somebody went into a big substation, power station or dam and did something like that, which would not be accepted. So why is that accepted for pipelines? We need to have some education around that," he said.

Enbridge said tampering with equipment or entering locked areas is hazardous behaviour to the public and environment at large. The company is assessing and employing various additional, permanent measures to enhance security and safety to help prevent similar activities in the future, he said.

COME OUT AND BRING THE FAMILY
THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
Nat Geo Wild's TV Show:
Dr. Oakley, Yukon Vet
Kids Fishing Pond
Birds of Prey
Lumberjack Show
March 10-13
Edmonton Expo Centre
sportshows.ca

ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT THE BEAUTY & MEDISPA INDUSTRY?

EIE MEDISPA & LASER TRAINING CENTRE

Clinical Esthetics & Laser Technician 12 Week Diploma Program

- Join the new generation of Clinical Esthetics
- EIE MediSpa & Laser Training Center is the leader in Clinical Esthetics Education
- Obtain your Diploma in only 12 weeks
- Learn the requirements of a Laser Technician
- Licensed under Alberta Advanced Education
- Available for Student Aid Alberta Loan



Full Time Esthetics Diploma Program

This comprehensive esthetics program delivers thorough theoretical and practical training in:

- Manicure
- Pedicure
- Waxing
- Eyelash & Eyebrow Tinting
- Makeup Artistry
- Facials
- Microdermabrasion
- Chemical Peels

The beauty Industry has proven itself to be an industry that never stops growing. Now is your time to become a part of it. Love what you do and do what you love.

Part Time Certificate Courses

Are you intrigued by the Beauty Industry?
 Do you want to become an Entrepreneur?
 Do you want to earn above average income working from home?

EIE MediSpa offers a wide range of Part Time Certificate Courses which can fit your lifestyle.

- Artificial Nails
- Eyelash Extensions
- Make-up Artistry
- Pedicures
- Waxing & Tinting

Check out the wide range of courses available and start your new career today!
WWW.DREAMCAREER.CA
Call and Book your Tour 780-466-5271