

For immediate release

Test facility to play key role in carbon storage commercialization

October 24, 2017, CALGARY, AB – A new facility to develop and demonstrate technologies for the secure underground storage of CO₂ (carbon dioxide) was officially opened today.

The \$7 million Field Research Station (FRS), built by CMC Research Institutes and operated by its Containment and Monitoring Institute, will play a pivotal role advancing the commercialization of carbon storage and helping industry better understand the movement of fluids underground. The site was developed with an investment by the Government of Canada's Western Economic Diversification Program, and is supported by the University of Calgary with funds from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund.

Located on 200 acres of land near Brooks, Alberta, the research station is already attracting Canadian and international research groups, as well as support from companies such as Statoil ASA, which is collaborating at the site with a Norwegian research organization to develop new methods to monitor CO₂ stored underground.

Carbon capture and storage is an essential technology in global efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions because of the large volumes of CO₂ that can be stored deep underground. While there are currently 21 large scale CCS facilities operating or under construction around the world, factors holding back the broader deployment of CCS include operating costs and public concerns over long-term storage safety.

Monitoring technologies developed at the site will provide results that demonstrate the most effective and cost efficient methods for tracking the movement of CO₂ underground and verifying safe and secure storage.

Research and development at the site is not confined to carbon storage technologies. The facility will develop and test atmospheric, surface and subsurface technologies for fluid and emissions monitoring to meet a variety of challenges including mitigating methane emissions and optimizing in-situ oil sands extraction.

CMC Research Institutes also operates a Mobile Environmental Laboratory (MEL) to identify and measure gases such as methane and other light hydrocarbons. The modified truck and trailer are equipped with state of the art equipment for rapid, in-the-field analysis of liquids and gases.

QUOTES

“Our climate is in crisis. CMC Research Institutes is focused on reducing industrial greenhouse gas emissions, because even as we make the transition to a global low-carbon economy, carbon-intensive industries will continue to play a role. Work at our Field Research Station will help governments and industry with this challenge by speeding the commercialization of carbon storage technologies. This will in turn strengthen Canada’s position as an exporter of innovative clean technologies.”

- *Sandra Odendahl, President and CEO, CMC Research Institutes*

“Globally we face monumental environmental challenges that will only be solved through the collaborative efforts of many nations. The Field Research Station is a site where government, academia and companies of all sizes can partner to advance carbon storage – which is a necessary technology in our efforts to reduce carbon emissions.”

- *Dr. Don Lawton, Director, Containment and Monitoring Institute*

“Statoil sees the transition to a low-carbon future as an opportunity for innovation and new ideas. We see opportunities like the CaMI Field Research Station as an important example of how we can support the transition of the world’s energy systems in the decades to come.”

- *Paul Fulton, Country President, Canada*

“The University of Calgary is committed to a low carbon future, so we’ve invested in partnerships with industry and government to bring new knowledge to market. The Field Research Station provides an unparalleled opportunity to field-test concepts at scale, which will accelerate the development and commercialization of carbon capture and monitoring solutions.”

- *Dr. Ed McCauley, Vice-President (Research) University of Calgary*

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ABOUT CMC RESEARCH INSTITUTES www.cmcghg.com

The mission of CMC Research Institutes is to support the advancement of technologies to reduce carbon emissions in large-scale industry. The corporation’s goal is to move technologies closer to market, thereby growing the Canadian economy, increasing Canada’s competitiveness in world markets, and creating a low carbon future. CMC Research Institutes owns and operates the Carbon Capture and Conversion Institute and the Containment and Monitoring Institute