

## **SSEB ANNUAL MEETING PRESS RELEASE SHELL**



**Southern States Energy Board**  
6325 Amherst Court  
Norcross, Georgia 30092  
Contact: Polly McKinney  
Office: (770) 242-7712  
Cell: (678) 427-5945

### **Alberta Minister, Iris Evans, Addresses Canada/U.S. Energy Policy**

#### **Evans Lends Experience to Regional Energy Symposium**

**September 16, 2010 (White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia) – Today**, Iris Evans, Alberta Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations, shared her views on North American energy policy at a high-powered regional energy conference in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. The conference, the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB) 2010 Annual Meeting, brought together a wide range of elected officials and energy and environment industry leaders to focus on regional, national, and international energy issues.

This year's meeting celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of the regional energy and environmental organization, which was founded by means of an interstate compact in 1960. The Board, originally called the Southern Interstate Nuclear Board, is comprised of 18 member states and territories. Although the organization originally focused on nuclear issues, its purview now encompasses all forms of energy and related environmental policies.

Evans, invited by SSEB 2010 Chairman, West Virginia Governor Joe Manchin III, to address the U.S./Canada fossil fuel relationship, spoke on the benefits of energy trade between the countries. "Last year, Alberta's crude exports made up 17 percent of the total imported crude in the U.S." Evans noted. "That's more oil than what Saudi Arabia and Iraq exported to the U.S. *combined.*"

A study by the Canadian Energy Research Institute found that in the next four years, oil sands development would create 343,000 person-years of employment across the United States. The report estimated that due to job creation and the increased demand for American-made goods, the American Gross Domestic Product would increase by an average of \$31.2 billion annually.

“It behooves us all to work together on North American energy policy,” said Manchin. “Meeting the needs of both countries’ citizens, while encouraging trade with friendly nations is crucial to U.S. energy security.”

“We share the same democratic principles and environmental commitment,” adds Evans. “We think there are great reasons to continue choosing Alberta oil.”

The Southern States Energy Board is an interstate compact, comprised of governors and state legislators from sixteen southern states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as a presidential appointee. The Board’s mission is to promote economic development and enhance the quality of life in the South, through innovations in energy and environmental programs, policies and technologies.

###