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Bakken Production Hits Billion Barrel Mark

Oil production in the Bakken Formation has reached one billion barrels, with two-thirds of that production drilled during the past three years. Production in the North Dakota portion of the Bakken Formation has totaled an estimated 852 million barrels to date. Approximately two-thirds of the acreage in the Bakken Formation is located in North Dakota. The Department of Mineral Resources estimates that the state will reach its three billionth barrel of total production by sometime next year. [Read more in the Bismarck Tribune.](#)

Watford City at Epicenter of Oil Boom

Oil production is transforming Watford City. Located in McKenzie County—the state's largest oil producing county—Watford City estimates that the town's population could reach 17,000 by 2017. Population estimates are now ten times greater than what was estimated as part of the 2010 census. Home and business construction continues to soar, with the ninth hotel in the community set to open in 2014. Town officials estimate that between 300-400 new homes and 2,000 new apartment units will be available by fall. [Read more in the Bismarck Tribune.](#)

Governor Decides Against Special Session for Oil Patch Impacts

Governor Dalrymple announced this week that he will not call a special session in advance of the 2015 state legislative session to address local impacts in the oil patch. Democratic lawmakers had asked the Governor to call a special session earlier this year. The Governor said in his announcement that state leaders are confident that issues can be addressed in the oil patch without a special session. The 2013 legislature appropriated approximately \$2.5 billion to address the oil patch needs. [Read more in The Forum.](#)

Researchers Studying Enhanced Oil Recovery in the Bakken

The state's Oil & Gas Research Council, the Department of Energy, the UND Energy & Environmental Research Center and private companies are studying the potential for enhanced oil recovery using carbon dioxide in the state's oil patch. Researchers hope the technology will extend the productivity of reservoirs and improve ultimate oil recovery rates. [Read more in the Bismarck Tribune.](#)



ENERGY EVENTS

May 21	Future of the Bio-Industry Summit	Fargo, ND
May 22—24	Williston Basin Petroleum Conference	Bismarck, ND
June 9—12	International Fuel Ethanol Workshop & Expo	Indianapolis, IN
Oct. 14	Great Plains & EmPower ND Energy Conference	Bismarck, ND