







OP Vzdělávání pro konkurenceschopnost



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

# FOSSIL FUELS: OIL AND NATURAL GAS (+ UNCONVENTIONAL SOURCES)

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ESS411 – Environmental aspects of energy

# Exploration and production of oil

#### □ Onshore

- Limited impacts considerable experience, physically limited possibility of spillage
- Impacts similar to mining operations in non-energy industry land use, water and air pollution, dust, noise, transportation damages of habitats.
- Long history of regulation in the EU and USA

Tento projekt je spolufinancován Evropským sociálním fondem a státním rozpočtem České republiky.



# Exploration and production of oil

#### Offshore

- Complicated technology increases the risk of accidents and consequent damages due to the hostile environmental conditions
- Worse impacts of oil spillages (1m3 = spillage up to 1km2)
- Increase in a number of off-shore installations accompanied by more stringent regulation (2010 Gulf of Mexico - Directive 2013/30/EU on safety of offshore oil and gas operations)



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#### **Contributions to global oil production growth**



4

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### Unconventional oil

- = produced or extracted using techniques other than the conventional (oil well) methods.
- Conventional crude: mineral oil consisting of a mixture of hydrocarbons of natural origin, exists in liquid form under normal surface temperatures and pressure, unconventional oil: to be extracted non-conventional technology is needed, in natural state (without heating or diluting) couldn't be extracted.
- Oil sands
- □ Tight oil
- □ Oil shale
- □ Oil produced from coal

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# Oil sands, tight oil, oil shale...

- □ Consistency extremely dense and viscous, almost solid.
- □ High level of sulphur and metals (nickel, vanadium).
- Venezuela Orinoco Belt (1200 bn. barrels = approximately equal the world's reserves of lighter oil, 200 billion barrels technically recoverable)
- Alberta, Canada reserves of 1700 -250 bn. barrels (11 % of world oil reserves, 3rd on the world), 99 % oil sands. Export around 2 mil. barrels/day.



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#### World's Largest Oil Reserves in 2011 (Billion Barrels)



\*Alberta's total oil reserves were 170.2 billion barrels, of which crude bitumen reserves accounted for 168.7 billion barrels and conventional crude oil reserves for 1.5 billion barrels.

Sources: ERCB 2012 ST-98 Report "Alberta's Energy Reserves 2011 and Supply/Demand Outlook 2012 - 2021" and Oil & Gas Journal "Worldwide Look at Reserves and Production. Special Report",



### **Producing techniques**

In – situ mining (Oil shale-kerogen). Injecting hot fluids (or steam) into the rock formation, shale oil is recovered through vertical wells. Increased water and energy (natural gas) consumption. 2-4 barrels of water/1 barrel of oil, 70-90% could be recycled. Steam-Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD)



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## Producing techniques

- Open pit (ex-situ) mining (max 70m) (oil sand-bitumen, also shale oil). Excavation, when sand is cooped out by power shovels, carried away, then hot water is used to separate bitumen from the sand. Then it is refined. 8-10 barrels of water/1 barrel of oil, 40 – 70% could be recycled. About 2 (but up to 4) tons of material/1 barrel of oil. 1,5x more GHG then in case of conventional crude oil.
  - EROI cca 5:1

#### http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkwoRivP17A



# Shale gas

- $\Box$  Natural gas (= clean fuel) trapped within shale formations.
- Fracking combination of horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing.
- High consumption of water, 0,5-2% of injected liquid represents added chemicals.
- □ One well  $-280\ 000\ \text{hl}$  of water.
- □ 2-4 hectares/1 drilling pad (= up to 30 wells), 3-6km between pads.
- Transport one well/700-2000 trucks (during installation one car every 4 minutes)
- □ Methane leackages, earthquakes.

#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ag9GUogWEa0





# Shale gas



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## EROEI of different sources of energy

Oil in the beginning of oil business	100
Oil in Texas around 1930	60
Oil in the Middle East	30
Other oil	10-35
Natural gas	20
High quality coal	10-20
Low quality coal	4-10
Water power plants	10-40
Wind power plants	5-10
Shale oil	5
PV power plants	2-5
Nuclear energy	4-5
Oil sands	max. 3
Shale oil	max. 1,5
Biofuels (in Europe)	0,9 - 4

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# Transport of oil

- Dominated by marine transport (2/3 of world production vs. 1/3 transported by pipelines)
- Liquid bulk carriers (tankers) 77% of all tankers transport crude, 33 % oil and chemical products.

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# Transport of oil

- One of the biggest threats in ship transportation accident and oil spill. Intentional accidents (terorism, piracy), unintentional (accident, collision,, running ashore, failure of the ship).
- Risk is significantly higher in highly frequent areas in 1995-2005 in Turkish Straits 269 accidents.
- □ To stop VLCC or ULCC tanker 14 minutes and 3km are needed.
- □ In 70s there were 25,2 leaks annually, in 80s 9,3 leaks, in 90s 7,8 and after 2000 3,4 leaks annually.
- But with increasing capacity of tankers the oil spills are more severe with increasing environmental impacts.







# **Oil accidents**

- Exxon Valdez 3/1989 at Alaska, 37 000 tons of oil leaked. Impacts still visible.
- Deep Water Horizon 2010, at Louisiana. Oil spill almost 10 000 km2.

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# **Cleanup and recovery**

- Bioremediation use of microorganisms or biological agents (bacterias) to break down oil
- □ Controlled burning air pollution
- Dispersants to dissipate oil slick.
- Wath and wait.
- Solidifying changing the physical state of spilled oil from liquid to a semi-solid.
- Skimming
- $\square$  = usually no more than 20% of oil is re-captured.

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