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For Immediate Release

Today SaskPower released its immediate future plans for coal power generation in Saskatchewan. The announcement did not include a Clean Coal Project for the Estevan area.

In recent meetings with SaskPower representatives, it had come to the attention of the Estevan and District Chamber of Commerce that the current costs of a Clean Coal Plant would be higher than first anticipated by SaskPower. We have been informed that SaskPower and its partners on the project wish to have more time to examine the technology and engineering to determine how construction costs may be rationalized.

The Estevan and District Chamber of Commerce recognizes the immediate need of expanding power production capacity in the province due to growing demand and a growing economy. Due to the need for an immediate increase in power generating capacity the Board of the Chamber can understand today's announcement. Chamber President, Lynn Chipley stated, "We are disappointed that a Clean Coal plant is not forthcoming at this time, but we have every confidence that clean coal power generation will be embraced by SaskPower in the near future."

"Power generation and coal mining have always played an important role in the economy of Estevan area and it is certain that they will continue to be two of our major industries in the future", said Community Development Manager, Bert Roach. "Partnerships of all kinds are evident in economic development today. Perhaps more time has to be spent getting all levels of government and representatives from industry and labour together to see a large project like a Clean Coal plant proceed. The Estevan and District Chamber of Commerce would love to see more discussion about Clean Coal and our organization is committed to facilitating that discussion, regardless of what political parties hold power at the federal or provincial level." Roach also stated.

This release is authorized by
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