



# TOP OF THE WORLD TELEGRAPH

*News from the Arctic*

Vol. 5, Issue 44: 2 February 2010

---

## THIS WEEK FROM THE INSTITUTE OF THE NORTH

In 2005, the Institute of the North began publishing the **Top of the World Telegraph** to help identify and link opportunities for circumpolar cooperation in transportation, telecommunications and infrastructure. With maritime, aviation and telecommunications as its initial focus, the Telegraph – as it is commonly known - has added additional sections as new and different issues emerge, such as the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea; climate change, especially as it impacts the Arctic; and fisheries in support of the International Arctic Fisheries Symposium held last fall.

As a free publication, the Telegraph currently reaches a circulation of more than 1,000 readers. It is used in university classrooms across the Arctic as a valuable tool for student research and it has been a critical component of public policy discussions. We ask you to support these efforts as we look to the future.

<b>Sponsorship Level</b>	<b>Sponsor Amount</b>
Icebreaker	\$5,000
Explorer	\$2,500
Pioneer	\$1,000
Voyager	\$500

The Telegraph is well-suited to communicate to a diverse audience the work done by our circumpolar neighbors. Your expertise, resources and passion are uniquely positioned to help the Institute of the North realize this opportunity.

For more information, please contact Nancy Hemsath at [nhemsath@institutenorth.org](mailto:nhemsath@institutenorth.org) or +1.907.771.2443. All sponsors will be recognized in the Telegraph and on our website.

---

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### MARITIME

#### ALASKA/UNITED STATES

**U.S.-bound ship cargo to get more scrutiny** (The Philadelphia Inquirer, 01/28/10)

[http://www.philly.com/inquirer/world\\_us/82873247.html](http://www.philly.com/inquirer/world_us/82873247.html)

Though 100 percent screening of maritime cargo would be prohibitively costly and cause huge delays, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said U.S. Customs and Border Protection had begun enforcing a cargo-reporting requirement that ocean carriers and importers submit additional details about U.S.-bound cargo 24 hours before it is loaded onto vessels in foreign seaports. The rule aims to help identify high-risk cargo, such as hazardous materials, but will not have an effect on local port operations.

#### CANADA

**The Canadian government will keep an ear on its frigid Arctic waters** (The Canadian Press, 01/31/10)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5jVfkrqU31ebOB4ZbxveFXSLOC-A>

A small team of scientists is returning to the icy shores of the Northwest Passage this summer to install experimental listening devices that could one day keep a 24-hour watch for anything travelling on, over or under waters Canada claims as its own. "We're looking at surface shipping and any underwater vehicles that may be moving through the area," says Lt.-Cmdr. Bruce Grychkowski, project manager of Northern Watch, which plans to plant a series of surveillance devices deep underwater at a choke point along the passage on the Barrow Strait.

**Commentary: An icy SOS, our tepid response** (The Globe and Mail, 01/26/10)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/opinions/an-icy-sos-our-tepid-response/article1445180/>

The Canadian government considers it inefficient to locate search and rescue assets in the North, given the sparse population there. So search and rescue missions are conducted across great distances, with potentially fatal delays. If Canada cannot respond quickly to accidents, our credibility as an Arctic power will suffer - and with it our Northwest Passage claim.

#### FINLAND

**Finnish maritime pilots demand eastern shipping route should be kept open in winter** (Helsingin Sanomat, 02/02/10)

<http://www.hs.fi/english/article/Finnish+maritime+pilots+demand+eastern+shipping+route+should+be+kept+open+in+winter/1135252574343>

The Finnish maritime pilots are demanding that the inner eastern winter route in the Gulf of Finland should be kept open in order that ships could avoid getting stuck in the ice. The winter route through the archipelago would secure unhindered shipping as far west as Hanko and from there further to the Baltic Sea. The Finnish Transport Agency, which started operations on Jan. 1, says that it is not willing to open the detour unless there is a sufficient cause.

## SCANDINAVIA

**Ice problems in the Oslo Fjord** (The Norway Post, 02/01/10)

<http://www.norwaypost.no/content/view/23135/1/>

Several weeks of cold weather have resulted in heavier ice than usual in the Oslo Fjord this early in the year, creating severe problems for shipping, also between Norway and Sweden. Ice in the Oslo Fjord is usually not a serious problem before the end of February and in March but, according to statistics, this has been the coldest January in 23 years.

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

### CANADA

**Kuujuuaq gets Nunavik's first cell phone service** (TeleGeography's Nunatsiaq Online, 02/01/10)

[http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/8567\\_kuujuuaq\\_gets\\_nunaviks\\_first\\_cell\\_phone\\_service/](http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/8567_kuujuuaq_gets_nunaviks_first_cell_phone_service/)

Nunavik's first and only cellular phone service officially launched, offering prepaid local and long-distance calling, as well as text messaging, to customers in Kuujuuaq, with plans to expand service into other Nunavik communities. The new Kuujuuaq system will use the CDMA platform that is also used by Bell Mobility, so customers in Kuujuuaq are able to "roam" on other CDMA carriers' networks in Canada. But cell phones won't replace CB radios just yet because the current cell phone range in Kuujuuaq doesn't extend beyond a 20-kilometre radius.

**New 911 technology introduced** (The Globe and Mail, 02/01/10)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/british-columbia/new-911-technology-introduced/article1452204/>

An emergency cellphone call in southwest B.C. can be tracked to within 300 metres or less under new 911 technology required across the country by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. The so-called Wireless Phase 11 technology enables the regional emergency communication centre to plot the latitude and longitude coordinates of a 911 call on a computerized map, although emergency calls through the Internet remain a problem.

### REGION

**Northwestel confirms discussions on trans-Arctic link** (Nunatsiaq Online, 02/01/10)

[http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/83467\\_northwestel\\_confirms\\_discussions\\_on\\_trans-arctic\\_link/](http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/83467_northwestel_confirms_discussions_on_trans-arctic_link/)

Northwestel says it's had "very preliminary discussions" with an Alaska company hoping to build a trans-Arctic fibre optic cable. While other remote communities get their telecommunications signals from microwave transmission towers, Nunavut relies entirely on satellite connections, which are much slower. Also, Transport Canada said it would have to give the project the all-clear under the Navigable Waters Protection Act. *Related article: [Fiber project to link Asia, Europe via Alaska.](#)*

## RUSSIA

**Rostelecom triples Moscow capacity** (TeleGeography's CommsUpdate, 01/29/10)

[http://www.telegeography.com/cu/article.php?article\\_id=31871&email=html](http://www.telegeography.com/cu/article.php?article_id=31871&email=html)

Russian long-distance carrier Rostelecom has announced the completion of an upgrade to its Moscow traffic exchange, boosting its link capacity to 30Gbps in response to growing local internet traffic. State-owned conglomerate Svyazinvest holds a controlling interest in Rostelecom, which forms a major part of the company's restructuring plans. Svyazinvest plans to combine its seven regional fixed line operators with Rostelecom to provide fixed line telephony, broadband and mobile services across the whole country.

## TECHNOLOGY

**A world of connections** (The Economist, 01/28/10)

[http://www.economist.com/specialreports/displayStory.cfm?story\\_id=15351002&source=hptextfeature](http://www.economist.com/specialreports/displayStory.cfm?story_id=15351002&source=hptextfeature)

In this special report, *The Economist* argues that social networks are more robust than their critics think, though not every site will prosper, and that social-networking technologies are creating considerable benefits for the businesses that embrace them, whatever their size. It also contends that this is just the beginning of an exciting new era of global interconnectedness that will spread ideas and innovations around the world faster than ever before.

## AVIATION

### ALASKA/UNITED STATES

**Action plan for RTCA NextGen Task Force** (FAA News, 01/31/10)

[http://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/nextgen/media/FAA\\_TASKFORCE\\_RESPONSE\\_1-31-2010.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/about/initiatives/nextgen/media/FAA_TASKFORCE_RESPONSE_1-31-2010.pdf)

In September 2009, members of the RTCA NextGen Mid-Term Implementation Task Force presented the FAA with a unified set of priorities for NextGen's next five years. A new report provides responses and an action plan for each of the Task Force Tier One recommendations. The FAA NextGen Implementation Plan, summarizing the agency's work to achieve the 2018 operational capabilities, will be released in early March. *Related article: [U.S. 2010-11 budget aims to boost NextGen funding 32%](#).*

**Ryans faced turbulent times to build carrier** (Alaska Journal of Commerce, 01/29/10)

[http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/012910/loc\\_1\\_002.shtml](http://www.alaskajournal.com/stories/012910/loc_1_002.shtml)

Wilfred Ryan, Jr., today the president of the modern incarnation of the family-run business, remembers the early days well, as he and his brothers loaded planes with cargo and fuel while his sisters worked the phones and booked flights. What started as a single-plane carrier with one pilot and service to the Ryans' hometown of Unalakleet became a 12-plane carrier with 90 employees and service to 73 communities.

## CANADA

**N.W.T. budget continues with infrastructure spending** (CBC News, 01/28/10)

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/north/story/2010/01/28/nwt-budget.html>

In tabling his 2010-11 budget, Northwest Territories Finance Minister Michael Miltenberger reiterated the government's \$222-million economic stimulus plan to build, repair and upgrade schools, roads, airports, community and government buildings, of which \$17 million is indicated for airport infrastructure upgrades. Also in the budget is \$19 million for energy initiatives - such as hydroelectric and geothermal projects, as well as energy conservation programs - aimed at reducing the N.W.T.'s reliance on fossil fuels such as diesel.

**Native-owned airline lands oil sands deal** (The Globe and Mail, 01/28/10)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/native-owned-airline-lands-oil-sands-deal/article1447000/>

Canadian North has signed a five-year charter contract to fly hundreds of construction workers to and from the Kearl oil sands project in northern Alberta, giving a much-needed lift to the aboriginal-owned airline. With nine Boeing 737-200s in its fleet, Canadian North has been looking for ways to utilize the planes to their fullest, so the new contract to transport Kearl workers comes at an opportune time. Canadian North is owned by NorTerra Inc., a holding company jointly owned by Inuvik, NWT-based Inuvialuit Development Corp. and Nunasi Corp. of Iqaluit, Nunavut. About one-third of its 400 employees are aboriginal.

**First Air adds flights to four Kivalliq communities** (Nunatsiaq Online, 02/01/10)

[http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/270110\\_first\\_air\\_adds\\_flights\\_to\\_four\\_kivalliq\\_communities/](http://www.nunatsiaqonline.ca/stories/article/270110_first_air_adds_flights_to_four_kivalliq_communities/)

First Air opened a new front in the North's airline wars, adding service to four communities in the Kivalliq region starting March 30: Whale Cove, Repulse Bay, Coral Harbour and Chesterfield inlet. The changes expand on moves First Air made last year to break into the Kivalliq market, when it launched flights between Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake and Arviat, said Chris Ferris, vice president of marketing and sales.

## REGION

**Russian radar station closes Suursaari to tourism** (Helsingin Sanomat, 02/02/10)

<http://www.hs.fi/english/article/Russian+radar+station+closes+Suursaari+to+tourism/1135252582911>

Russia has erected a white radome on Haukkavuori, one of the highest points of the Suursaari Island, 142 metres above sea level. According to retired Lieutenant-General Matti Ahola, the radar in question is used for air surveillance and air-traffic control. Ahola estimates that with the new radar it is possible to see as far as the entrance to the Gulf of Finland, while those Russian radar devices that are located on the mainland are likely to see only as far as Porvoo. In addition to flight control, the radar can be used to monitor flights in neighbouring countries, thanks to its location and higher elevation.

## **RUSSIA**

**Russia to corporatize Rossiya air carrier, merge with Aeroflot** (RIA Novosti, 02/02/10)

<http://en.rian.ru/business/20100202/157751083.html>

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin agreed with proposals to transform the state transportation company Rossiya into a joint-stock company in 2010 and merge it with the flagship air carrier Aeroflot. The St. Petersburg-based air carrier, which has been struggling to stay afloat amid tight competition on the market, will be corporatized along with other regional airlines that are run by the state-owned hi-tech corporation Russian Technologies before they are merged into Aeroflot. Aeroflot, which is more than 50% owned by the Russian government, controls over 42% of the Russian market of regular international flights. After the merger with Rossiya and other regional airlines, Aeroflot's share of domestic air traffic will rise by 15-20% to 30-35%.

**Russia's UAC delivers 14 commercial aircraft in 2009** (Flightglobal, 02/02/10)

<http://www.flightglobal.com/articles/2010/02/02/337912/russias-uac-delivers-14-commercial-aircraft-in-2009.html>

Russia's United Aircraft airliner manufacturing divisions delivered 14 aircraft in 2009 and posted an 18% increase in consolidated revenues to Rb114 billion (\$3.8 billion). Sales of commercial aircraft accounted for 11% of this total, Rb12.5 billion, 8.7% up on the previous year. Its civil aircraft divisions manufactured 17 civil aircraft, of which 14 were delivered. Russia's government holds 89% of the share capital in the company.

**Analysis: Give air drays back to Urals** (RusBusinessNews, 01/25/10)

<http://www.rusbiznews.com/news/n705.html>

Social and economic connections inside the Urals region could be much strengthened if short range aviation were revived. The *RusBusinessNews* observer found out that certain steps in this direction have already been made. A new air transportation system, however, will differ significantly from that of Soviet times.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

**A330 freighter undergoes cold-weather tests in Canada** (Flightglobal, 02/02/10)

<http://www.flightglobal.com/articles/2010/02/02/337909/a330-freighter-undergoes-cold-weather-tests-in-canada.html>

Airbus undertook cold-weather testing of its A330-200 Freighter in northern Canada in January, ahead of hot-weather trials in the Asia-Pacific region. The Pratt & Whitney PW4000-powered flight-test aircraft (MSN1004) was flown to Iqaluit on Jan. 23 and subjected to temperatures down to -30°C (-22°F). Airbus says that the testing is not for certification but to verify system performance guarantees to customers, and check the response of modifications introduced during the freighter's development. These include checks on the main cargo door, following cold-soak of the twinjet to -27°C inside the cabin, as well as the auxiliary power unit and electrical systems.

**AEI to launch Boeing-endorsed MD-80 cargo conversion** (Flightglobal, 02/01/10)

<http://www.flightglobal.com/articles/2010/02/01/337683/aei-to-launch-boeing-endorsed-md-80-cargo-conversion.html>

Aeronautical Engineers is preparing to launch the first passenger-to-freighter conversion product for the Boeing MD-80 with a supplemental type certificate to be secured as early as July 2011. AEI has determined there is sufficient demand from airlines that do not need to use standard cargo containers. AEI believes the MD-80 is an attractive alternative to the 737-400 converted freighter because while both aircraft types can carry the same amount of cargo the former can be acquired for roughly one-third of the price.

**The future of air traffic management communications** (SatMagazine, February 2010)

[http://www.satmagazine.com/cgi-bin/display\\_article.cgi?number=2001645566](http://www.satmagazine.com/cgi-bin/display_article.cgi?number=2001645566)

Notwithstanding the current economic climate, air transport is forecast to double by 2025 according to the latest Eurocontrol figures. And it is abundantly clear that current air traffic management (ATM) systems around the world will simply not be able to cope. To address this issue, as well as issues of safety and security, there are a number of strategic government-funded projects currently running, whose remit is to develop the most appropriate and cost-effective new technologies and techniques for the future needs of ATM. These include the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) in the US and Single European Sky ATM Research (SESAR) in the European Union.

## **FISHERIES**

**Capelin quota issued in Iceland** (IcelandReview, 02/02/10)

[http://www.icelandreview.com/icelandreview/daily\\_news/?cat\\_id=29314&ew\\_0\\_a\\_id=357285](http://www.icelandreview.com/icelandreview/daily_news/?cat_id=29314&ew_0_a_id=357285)

The Icelandic Marine Research Institute has found enough capelin for sustainable fishing; therefore the Minister of Fisheries issued a quota of 130,000 tons of capelin for this season. Icelandic capelin ships are entitled to roughly 90,000 tons of the quota, according to agreements with other nations on harnessing the capelin stock in Icelandic waters. The export value of the catch is estimated at approximately ISK 10 billion (USD 78 million, EUR 56 million), news source *visir.is* reports.

**Alaska state fisheries board restricts Yukon salmon gillnets** (Anchorage Daily News, 02/01/10)

<http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/rural/story/1119656.html>

The Alaska Board of Fisheries voted to prohibit subsistence and commercial fishermen on the Yukon River from using gillnets with a mesh larger than 7.5 inches, an effort to help rebuild the king salmon run. The goal of the regulation, which takes effect next year, is to allow more of the larger king salmon to spawn. Alaska fish managers also have failed to deliver enough king salmon to Canada two out of the past three years, as specified by an international treaty. Studies show most of the big fish in the chinook run are bound for Canada.

**EU and Norway finally reached deals on fish** (BarentsObserver, 01/26/10)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/eu-and-norway-finally-reached-deals-on-fish.4725469-116320.html>

The new bi-lateral 2010-agreement between the EU and Norway concluded a long-term deal on the mackerel stocks in the waters outside southern Norway. Disagreement around the management of mackerel stocks was the main reason why the negotiations collapsed in December last year. Due to the collapsed negotiations, Norwegian and EU fishermen have not been allowed to fish in each other's waters since Dec. 31. But the new deal also includes a chapter on increase controls and fisheries inspections in both the Barents and North Sea.

**Dumping fish is reprehensible** (Norden, 01/26/10)

<http://www.norden.org/en/news-and-events/news/dumping-fish-is-reprehensible>

EU-based trawlers dump huge quantities of fish back into the sea every year, a practice reprehensible from an ethical and environmental perspective, and one that does nothing to enhance the sustainability of the fish stocks. It is one of the most pressing issues that the current reform of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) needs to address, according to two members of the Nordic Council.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Courts as battlefields in climate fights** (The New York Times, 01/27/10)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/27/business/energy-environment/27lawsuits.html?ref=us>

Kivalina, an Inupiat Eskimo village of 400 perched on a barrier island north of the Arctic Circle, is accusing two dozen fuel and utility companies of helping to cause the climate change that it says is accelerating the island's erosion. The case is one of three major lawsuits filed by environmental groups, private lawyers and state officials around the nation against big producers of heat-trapping gases. In a report issued last year, Swiss Re, an insurance giant, compared the suits to those that led dozens of companies in asbestos industries to file for bankruptcy, and predicted that "climate change-related liability will develop more quickly than asbestos-related claims." The pressure from such suits, the report stated, "could become a significant issue within the next couple of years."

**Iceland leads environmental index as U.S. falls** (The New York Times, 01/27/10)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/27/science/earth/27index.html?ref=world>

The new Environmental Performance Index, compiled every two years by Yale and Columbia University researchers, puts some of the globe's largest economies far down the list, with the United States sinking to 61st and China to 121st. The top performer this year is Iceland, which gets virtually all of its power from renewable sources - hydropower and geothermal energy. It was joined in the top tier by a cluster of European countries known for their green efforts, including Switzerland, Sweden, Norway and Finland. *Link to press release from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs Iceland: [Iceland tops Environmental Performance Index.](#)*

## ENERGY

### **President Obama requests \$364.8m for MMS** (MarineLink, 02/02/10)

<http://marinelink.com/en-US/News/Article/333208.aspx>

The FY 2011 budget includes a program increase of \$3.5m to continue the development of the Minerals Management Service Renewable Energy program, which regulates oversight of the access and potential development of the abundant renewable energy sources of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). This increase builds on the \$24m in additional funding for OCS renewable energy development provided by the Congress in FY 2010.

### **Hydroelectric plant approved for Greenland** (Sermitsiaq, 02/02/10)

<http://sermitsiaq.gl/indland/article109893.ece?lang=EN>

Greenland's Self-Rule administration has given its final approval for construction of a hydroelectric power plant outside the town of Ilulissat. Power company Nukissiorfiit will operate the plant and is expected to enter into a contract with Denmark's Phil and Son to build the dam later this month. Once construction is completed in 2013, 70 percent of the electricity generated by Nukissiorfiit will come from renewable sources, according to the company. In 2006, 40 percent came from renewable sources.

### **Prentice tells Canadian oil sands to clean up its act** (The National Post, 02/01/10)

<http://www.nationalpost.com/news/story.html?id=2509815>

Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice served notice that energy companies and the Alberta government must improve their environmental vigilance - along with Canada's reputation - on oilsands development and better communicate those efforts to the global community. While Mr. Prentice said the Harper government supports expanding oilsands development, buoyed by billions of dollars in new investment, he added Alberta and the energy industry must not forget their environmental obligations. *Related commentary: [Taking gentle aim at oil sands](#).*

### **U.S. Air Force considers coal-to-liquids** (Petroleum News, 01/31/10)

<http://www.petroleumnews.com/pnads/912589609.shtml>

Armed with a \$10 million federal grant, and pushed by a mandate to use synthetic fuels, the U.S. Air Force is studying the merits of a large-scale coal-to-liquids plant in the Interior. Interest in a coal-to-liquids plant developed in 2007 when a Fairbanks-based task force concluded that such a plant could help reduce energy prices and meet the region's long-term energy needs. The plant would first make synthesis gas from coal, natural gas or biomass, and then use the gas to generate power, make synthetic fuels, and provide district heating. Proponents say the plant could help the Air Force meet a goal of using domestically produced synthetic fuels in its aircraft.

### **FERC agrees to review Alaska pipeline lifespan** (Petroleum News, 01/31/10)

<http://www.petroleumnews.com/pnads/301947805.shtml>

After several unsuccessful appeals, shippers on the 800-mile trans-Alaska oil pipeline have succeeded in getting the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to reconsider an earlier decision that accepted a 30-year useful life estimate for the line. The federal regulator of

interstate shipping rates for pipelines said Anadarko Petroleum Corp. presented sufficient new evidence in a recent request for rehearing to merit additional review of the 700,000-barrel-per-day conduit's life expectancy.

**Alaska gas could bypass Alberta** (The Calgary Herald, 01/30/10)

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/Alaska+could+bypass+Alberta/2502872/story.html>

Partners TransCanada Corp. and Exxon-Mobil Corp. formally submitted their intention to solicit shipping commitments for the proposed pipeline to the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the first time in Alaska history that a regulatory application has been filed for natural gas development on the North Slope. Potential shippers have the option of committing to an overland route to the Alberta border or a second option that would divert the gas to Valdez for loading on LNG tankers, but not both, said Tony Palmer, Trans-Canada's vice-president of Alaska development. *Related articles:* [Companies building Alaska natural gas pipeline prepare for open season](#); [TransCanada defends gas pipeline project](#).

**China leading global race to make clean energy** (The New York Times, 01/30/10)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/31/business/energy-environment/31renew.html?th&emc=th>

China vaulted past competitors in Denmark, Germany, Spain and the United States last year to become the world's largest maker of wind turbines, and is poised to expand even further this year. China has also leapfrogged the West in the last two years to emerge as the world's largest manufacturer of solar panels. And the country is pushing equally hard to build nuclear reactors and the most efficient types of coal power plants.

**Noise edict could kill Mackenzie pipeline: Imperial** (Reuters, 01/29/10)

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/businessNews/idCATRE60S48S20100129>

A panel's recommendation to enforce strict noise limits at a bird sanctuary has the potential to shut down development of the C\$16.2 billion (\$15.1 billion) Mackenzie pipeline in Canada's Arctic, the project's backers said. The contention is among several by Imperial Oil Ltd and its Mackenzie partners in written responses to proposals made by the Joint Review Panel, which assessed the massive project's environmental and socioeconomic impacts in a report issued at the end of last year. Canada's National Energy Board will use the report, and responses to it, in deciding whether to approve the Mackenzie project. It has planned final arguments for April.

**EU plans grid upgrade for renewables** (EurActiv, 01/29/10)

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/node/254586>

The European Commission is working on a framework for developing Europe's electricity grids to integrate the massive increase in renewable energy expected in the next decade, said Hans van Steen, head of unit at the Commission's energy and transport department. He said the "package" would be looking at replacing the current Trans-European Energy Networks with new instruments. Moreover, it would address the issue of linking up new capacity for offshore wind in the North Sea.

**Goliat production from year 2013** (BarentsObserver, 01/29/10)

<http://www.barentsobserver.com/goliat-production-from-year-2013.4726579-116321.html>

Energy company Eni intends to start production at its Arctic oil field Goliat off northern Norway in year 2013, the company confirmed. Earlier, Eni had said Goliat would be on stream sometime during 2013. The development, which will include 22 wells connected to a floating production vessel, instead of a traditional concrete platform, is expected to cost more than 28 billion NOK.

**Canadian oil and gas drilling projected to rebound** (The Globe and Mail, 01/28/10)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/oil-and-gas-drilling-projected-to-rebound/article1446132/>

In its most recent forecast, the Petroleum Services Association of Canada said a total of 9,000 new wells are expected to be drilled across Canada in 2010, a 12 percent increase over 2009. The new figure amounts to 1,000 more wells than the PSAC forecast in November, with all of that new activity occurring in Alberta. The Petroleum Services Association of Canada is the national trade association representing the service, supply and manufacturing sectors within the upstream petroleum industry.

**Oil demand has peaked in developed world, IEA says** (Financial Times, 01/28/10)

<http://www.financialpost.com/news-sectors/energy/story.html?id=2495517>

Oil use in rich industrialized countries will never return to 2006 and 2007 levels because of more fuel efficiency and the use of alternatives, said Fatih Birol, the chief economist of the International Energy Agency. The bold prediction, while made previously by some analysts, is significant because the IEA advises 28 countries on energy policy and its oil-demand forecasts are closely watched by traders and policymakers. Flat or declining OECD demand may ease any strain on oil prices caused by ever-growing consumption in emerging economies.

**Huge “iceberg” threatens Siberian dam: report** (TerraDaily, 01/25/10)

[http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Huge\\_iceberg\\_threatens\\_Siberian\\_dam\\_report\\_999.html](http://www.terradaily.com/reports/Huge_iceberg_threatens_Siberian_dam_report_999.html)

A Siberian dam where 75 people were killed in a disaster last year is now threatened by a huge “iceberg” that has formed due to its stalled turbines and winter conditions. The ice mass, which weighs 25,000 tonnes and is 22 metres (72 feet) thick in some points, could lead to a new catastrophe at the Sayano-Shushenskaya hydroelectric power plant, two scientists told the *Gazeta* daily. State-owned RusHydro, the plant operator, said it was monitoring the situation and dismissed the possibility of another disaster at the dam.

## **THE COMMONS**

**Saving Sub-Saharan Africa a drip at a time** (Miller-McCune, 01/25/10)

[http://miller-mccune.com/business\\_economics/saving-sub-sahara-africa-a-drip-at-a-time-1748](http://miller-mccune.com/business_economics/saving-sub-sahara-africa-a-drip-at-a-time-1748)

The hundred thousand people of the Kalalé District in northern Benin, a country in West Africa, like billions in the developing world, are not connected to power lines. But with help from the Association pour le Développement Economique Social et Culturel de Kalalé, \$100,000 from a

World Bank's Global Development Marketplace grant, and private donors, Solar Electric Light Fund put in three solar-powered irrigation systems, each serving 2.1 kilowatt system irrigating 1.25 acres.

**From clash to cash** (Financial Times, 01/07/10)

[http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e96d6a7c-fafa-11de-94d8-00144feab49a.html?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e96d6a7c-fafa-11de-94d8-00144feab49a.html?nclick_check=1)

Nigeria's rulers are hoping a new policy to deliver the benefits of oil to the local population - as Alaska does with its pioneering approach of distributing petrodollars in cash to citizens - might help placate an insurgency that has cut production by as much as 40 percent.

## FROM THE TELEGRAPH WIRES

**FROM THE TELEGRAPH WIRES** provides readers the opportunity to share their views on a specific news article and/or notify readers where other published news articles on Arctic issues can be found by electronic means (e.g., web link). Please direct all inquiries to [nhemsath@institutenorth.org](mailto:nhemsath@institutenorth.org). We look forward to your input.

---

## COMING EVENTS:

---



### [ANILCA Seminar](#)

2-3 March 2010  
Anchorage, Alaska



### **ICETECH 2010**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION on  
PERFORMANCE OF SHIPS AND STRUCTURES IN ICE  
SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2010 ~ ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, USA

Organized by the Arctic Section of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME)

### [ICETECH 2010](#)

20-23 September 2010  
Anchorage, Alaska

---

### **Institute of the North**

509 W. Third Avenue  
Suite 107  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
USA  
[www.institutenorth.org](http://www.institutenorth.org)  
+1.907.771.2444

Thank you for your interest in Arctic issues. If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please send an email to [nhemsath@institutenorth.org](mailto:nhemsath@institutenorth.org) with **REMOVE FROM TELEGRAPH** in the subject field.

---