

THERMAL VS METALLURGICAL COAL

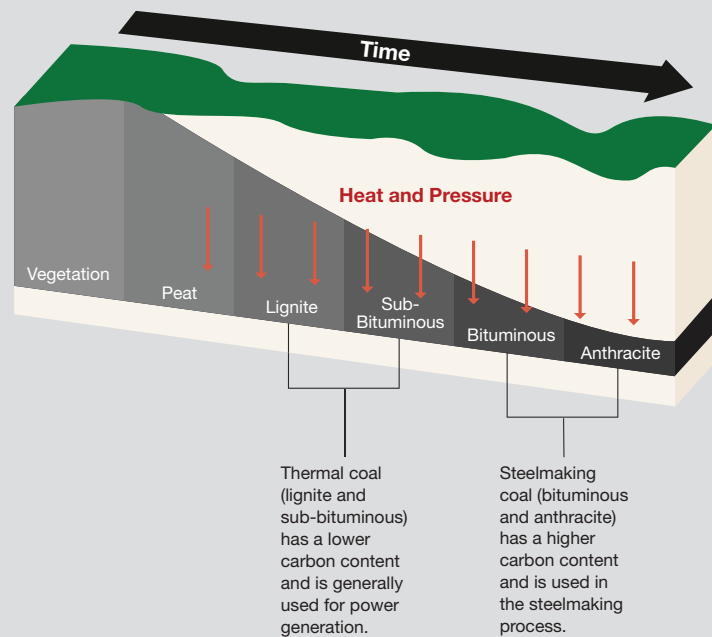
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Coal is an organically derived material. It is formed from decayed plant material compacted into a solid through millions of years of chemical changes under pressure and heat.

Coal is generally classified in two types – thermal and metallurgical (steelmaking). The classifications are determined by the quality and carbon content of the coal. Although thermal and steelmaking coal have similar geologic origins, their commercial markets and industrial uses are vastly different.

Metallurgical coal (coal used in steel production) is easily differentiated from thermal coal (typically used in power generation) when considering their expected end uses, total environmental impact, and alternatives to use.

The use of thermal coal in power generation is decreasing globally with some jurisdictions like Canada publicly announcing plans to phase-out conventional coal-fired electricity across the country by 2030. On the other hand, global demand for steel, and the coal needed to make it, is growing to support strong and emerging economies. By 2050, global steel use is expected to increase by 20% to meet the needs of our growing population.



STEELMAKING COAL IN ALBERTA

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Because of its high quality and unique properties, steelmaking coal is a scarce global resource. One of the areas this coal can be found is in southwest Alberta – which presents a unique opportunity to explore economic potential and expand the province’s reputation while providing the world with a critical resource.

Coal Resources in Alberta

- Proposed Alberta Coal Projects
- Select Alberta Towns/Cities
- Provincial Boarder
- 1976 coal policy category 1
- 1976 coal policy category 2
- 1976 coal policy category 3
- 1976 coal policy category 4
- Metallurgical coal

1. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2021/06/government-of-canada-releases-policy-statement-on-future-thermal-coal-mining-projects-and-project-expansions.html>
 1. <https://www.worldsteel.org/about-steel/steel-facts.html>

