

# Demo lithium facility enters commissioning phase

BY Doug Collie, MVP Staff

**MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY** — E3 Lithium has taken another step in its goal of exporting battery-grade lithium around the world for cellphones and other technological devices.

The ribbon was cut Friday, Sept. 5 for the commissioning phase of its demonstration facility located about 20 kilometres east of Olds.

E3 Lithium founder and chief executive officer Chris Doornbos predicted that in a couple of years or so, the company will create thousands of jobs in construction and hundreds of jobs in operation.

In addition to reporters and staff, several representatives of Mountain View County attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The equipment was designed and built over the past year. Phase 2 involves drilling two new wells and eventually producing and exporting the lithium.

Doornbos said E3 Lithium's technology enables it to obtain lithium from a giant aquifer underground using almost no water.

The process makes it one of the most efficient lithium producers in the world, he said, very competitive with lithium extractors in China and other countries, where the world currently obtains much of its lithium.

"This equipment represents the first of its kind at this scale, lithium production equipment in Canada and one of the few pieces of equipment of its kind," Doornbos said.

"We are leaders in this industry. We're very excited to be able to be out here today talking about this. There's little equipment on this scale in Canada and globally. And I think that's a very important piece to this story."

Doornbos predicted that the first commercial facility producing 12,000 tons of lithium will be commissioned in late 2028. About 100 operators will be needed to run that operation.

He said that will likely ramp up to 160 to 200 jobs when they get to the 36,000-ton scale.

Four projects are expected to be built over time, resulting in a total of about 1,000 full-time jobs.

That's not including construction jobs. Doornbos expects that about 2,000 construction jobs will be created for each project.

Before all that can be done, the engineering needs to be completed.

Doornbos anticipates that will be done and the company ready to build a construction-ready project by the middle of next year.

The construction phase is expected to last about 18 months, depending on financing.

Once the commissioning phase over, the equipment and the giant tent housing it as well as other facilities on-site will be moved to the first well project.

Then the demonstration site will be cleaned up – including the gravel, so that the land can be farmed again. All that will be left behind will be a well head, much like conventional oil and gas well heads.

Doornbos said the company's focus will be on doing as much fabrication as possible in Alberta or Western Canada "because of the cost savings of modular builds."

Doornbos said he's grateful for the support the company received from the federal government, but especially the support it received from the Alberta government, including \$5 million for the company's demonstration equipment.

"These projects create jobs that create revenue to take, create wages, taxes and royalties for the profit suburban and ultimately the country. So we're very excited to be building this, to be on the tip of the spear of this industry in Alberta," Doornbos said.

"We know that there are many that will follow on the developments that are here today, and obviously



Energy & Minerals Minister Brian Jean cuts the ribbon for the commissioning phase of E3 Lithium's demonstration facility with help from Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills MLA Tara Sawyer, left, and E3 Lithium founder and chief executive officer Chris Doornbos, right.

Doug Collie/MVP Staff

we're thankful for the support that has led us to this, and we're happy getting this all out of the way for the people of Alberta."

He thanked Alberta Energy and Minerals Minister Brian Jean specifically for his support of the lithium industry, describing that support as "incredible."

Jean noted Alberta has the third largest stockpile of lithium in the world.

He praised Doornbos and the company for its foresight, creativity and innovation to create their lithium extraction process.

"I'd like to congratulate Chris and E3 lithium on this major achievement and to play such an incredible leadership role in mineral development in Alberta, Canada and the world," Jean said.

"Critical minerals like lithium are, well, absolutely critical to this evolution powering everything from cars to phones to data centres and batteries for stor-

age, grid storage."


Jean said the Alberta government will not only continue to support the oil and gas industry in the province but also projects like lithium extraction as they become more and more important in the future.

He also praised E3 Lithium for "making sure we clean up what people leave behind and make sure that that is prepared for the future of tomorrow."

"Alberta is not just the best place in the world to live, invest and raise a family. It is also the best place to innovate and build the future of energy," Jean said. "We need it. We have to have it, and we do it better than anybody else."

Doornbos, Jean and Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills MLA Tara Sawyer cut the ribbon to officially open the facility.

Then news media and other guests were taken on a tour of the facility.



**NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY**

10 - 1408 - Twp Rd 320 (Bergen Rd & Hwy 2A)  
Main: 403-335-3311

Email: [info@mvcounty.com](mailto:info@mvcounty.com)  
Website: [mountainviewcounty.com](http://mountainviewcounty.com)

**LOCAL JURISDICTION: Mountain View County, PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day is September 22, 2025 for the municipal election taking place on October 20, 2025 and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following offices will be received at the location of the local jurisdiction office set out below within the period beginning on January 1, 2025 and ending at noon on Nomination Day.

OFFICE(S)	VACANCIES	ELECTORAL DIVISIONS
COUNCILLOR	SEVEN (7)	DIVISION 1 - 7

Location (Address) of Local Jurisdiction Office:

Mountain View County  
10-1408 TWP RD, 320  
Didsbury, Alberta TOM OWO

Dated at the office of Mountain View County, in the Province of Alberta, this 28 day of August, 2025.  
Christofer Atchison (Returning Officer)