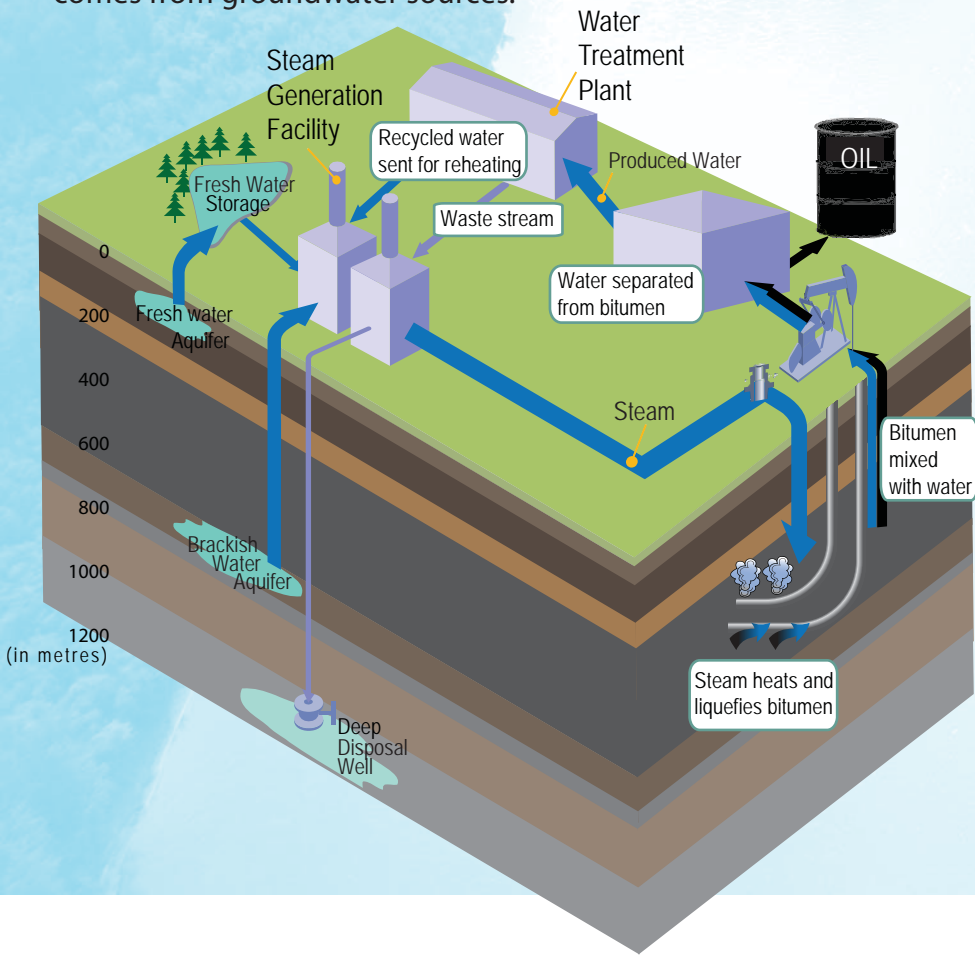


Water Use in a SAGD Operation

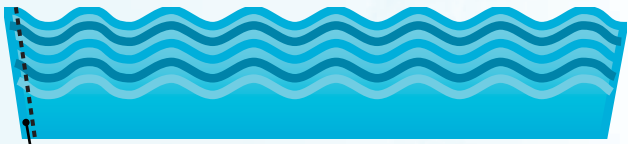
Thermal in situ projects often use deep salty or brackish water as an alternative to fresh water. Fresh water that is used usually comes from groundwater sources.



Water Use in a Mine Operation



Oil sands mines get most of their water from the Athabasca River, with strict limits on how much water they can remove. All current and approved oil sand mines are allocated less than three per cent of the average annual river flow.



Oil sands *actual* water use is less than one per cent of the Athabasca River's average annual flow.

The water in the lakes and rivers within the oil sands regions will continue to be protected throughout oil sands development. The Alberta government has a zero discharge policy for all process-affected water into regional waterways, therefore it must be contained on site. The provincial and federal governments, industry and community groups collect thousands of samples every year in the Athabasca region to identify and monitor the effects related to oil sands development.

