## SilverBirch Energy Corp. provides update on regulatory application for the Frontier and Equinox Projects

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<u>SilverBirch Energy Corporation</u> (TSX-V: 'SBE') ("SilverBirch" or the "Corporation") announced today that the Regulatory Application and Environmental Impact Assessment for the Frontier Project (including the Equinox Project) (the "Project"), located approximately 110 kilometres north of Fort McMurray, has been submitted.

The application, submitted to Alberta Environment, the Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, seeks approval for an oil sands mining and bitumen extraction project that will produce approximately 277 thousand barrels per calendar day of partially de-asphalted bitumen from a phased surface mining development. First production is anticipated to start in 2021 and over its life the Project is expected to produce 2.8 billion barrels of bitumen. The Frontier Project is the last remaining, undeveloped oil sands mining project to enter the regulatory process.

"SilverBirch considers the filing of the application a significant milestone in the advancement of the Project towards commercial production" said Howard Lutley, President and Chief Executive Officer of SilverBirch. The application addresses a number of concerns that were expressed by local stakeholders during the extensive consultation process. The Corporation also notes that the application includes a development plan that complies with the intent of the latest requirements for tailings and water management as well as applying best commercially available emissions management technologies.

The Project is jointly owned by SilverBirch and <u>Teck Resources Limited</u> ("Teck"). Each company holds a 50% interest with Teck as the operator.

Corporate sanction of the Project could occur as early as 2014/2015 with construction commencing in 2016 and commercial oil production obtained in 2020/2021.

SilverBirch is under no obligation to provide major project funding at this time and will not be proceeding with construction until a partnership agreement and funding solutions are in place. The Corporation continues to review alternatives to fund its share of the future Project costs; this may include equity/debt financing, strategic or financial partnering, a reduction of its interest in the Project, or sale of the Project.

## **About SilverBirch**

SilverBirch Energy Corporation is a pre-production oil sands Corporation headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. SilverBirch has a portfolio of mining and in situ oil sands properties, including 50% ownership of the Frontier and Equinox Projects. To learn more, please visit www.silverbirchenergy.com.

## Advisory Regarding Forward-Looking Information

This news release contains forward-looking information and forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws (collectively, "forward-looking information"). The words "expect", "could", "estimate", "anticipate", "plan" and similar expressions, as well as future or conditional verbs such as "will" and "may" often identify forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is only a prediction. Undue reliance should not be placed on forward-looking information, as there can be no assurance that the plans, intentions or expectations upon which it is based will occur. Specific forward-looking information contained in this news release includes, without limitation, statements regarding: the corporate sanction, timing and development of the Project; the estimated operating, capital and total project costs associated with development of the Project; SilverBirch's plans and expectations regarding the funding of its share of Project costs; the expected timing of commencement of construction and commercial oil production and the level of production and production capacity anticipated; the continuance of the stakeholder consultation process; and resource estimates relating to the Project.

The forward-looking information set out in this news release, is based on certain expectations and assumptions regarding, without limitation: future crude oil, bitumen, natural gas and SCO prices; geological

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and engineering estimates; the geography of the areas in which SilverBirch will be working; and the sufficiency of budgeted capital expenditures in carrying out planned activities. These expectations and assumptions are based on certain factors and events that are not within the control of SilverBirch and there is no assurance they will prove to be correct.

Forward-looking information is subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors which may cause actual results, levels of activity and achievements to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such forward-looking information or statements. Such risks, uncertainties and factors include, among others: the early stage of development of SilverBirch's assets and the nature of the exploration and development activities on such assets; risks associated with contingent bitumen resources and mine pit estimates; difficulties encountered during the exploration for, delineation, development and production of bitumen; costs associated with exploration for, delineation, development and production and upgrading bitumen; the need to obtain required approvals and permits from regulatory authorities; compliance with and liabilities under environmental laws and regulations; the volatility of crude oil and natural gas prices and of the differential between heavy and light crude oil prices; in the foreign exchange rate amount between the Canadian dollar, the U.S. dollar and the Euro; general economic conditions; changes in or the introduction of new government regulations; the uncertain ability of SilverBirch to attract capital for both debt and equity when necessary. Additional information and other factors that could affect SilverBirch are included in the documents on file with applicable securities regulatory authorities, including SilverBirch's AIF for the year ended December 31, 2010, and may be accessed through the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com.

The forward-looking information contained in this news release is made as of the date hereof and SilverBirch does not undertake any obligation to update publicly or to revise any of the included forward-looking information to reflect new events or circumstances, except as required by applicable Canadian securities laws. The forward-looking information contained herein is expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

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