

March 5, 2010

## Daylight to buy West Energy

By CBC News  
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Daylight, a junior oil trust, said it wants to expand its holdings in the Pembina oil region of central Alberta.

"With the addition of West's high-quality assets, this transaction solidifies Daylight's position as one of the leading players in the Pembina Cardium horizontal oil development," CEO Anthony Lambert said in a statement.

The Cardium is Canada's largest conventional oilfield. It was discovered in the 1950s, but new technology has increased how much oil can be recovered from the basin.

Daylight said it will pay up to \$115 million in cash and the rest in trust unit equivalents.

The deal is expected to close by late May.

It came on the heels of a prediction by a Calgary-based oil industry merger and acquisitions adviser - Sayer Energy Advisors - that the total value of deals in the oilpatch will increase by 25 per cent in 2010.

Takeovers and asset sales added up to \$20 billion last year, not counting the unusually large \$27 billion merger of Suncor and Petro-Canada.

Sayer is predicting activity totalling about \$25 billion this year, although a large part of that will not be corporate takeovers but deals to buy oil and gas-producing properties.

"This is in large part due to Suncor's plan to sell \$2 - 3 billion worth of assets which it recently acquired from Petro-Canada," Sayer associate Crystal Holdershaw said in a commentary.

In addition, Talisman Energy Inc. has properties that produce 2,790 barrels of oil equivalent per day on the street, and PetroBakken Energy Ltd. has about 6,750 barrels of oil equivalent per day "with a for sale sign," she said.

Cenovus Energy Inc. has also announced plans to sell off a significant amount of assets this year.