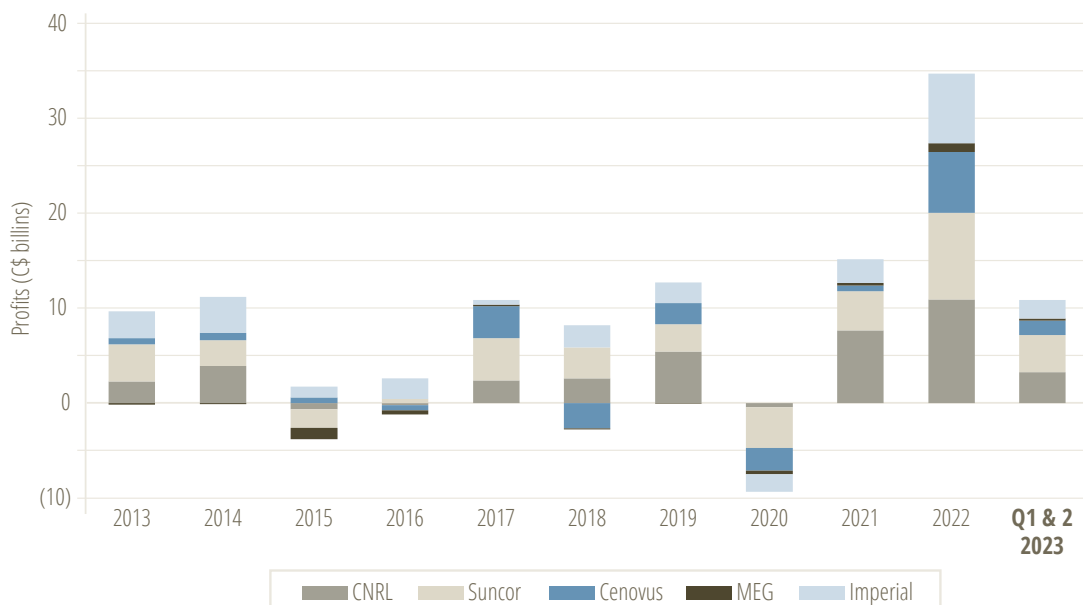


Waiting to Launch 2023 mid-year update

Oilsands profits remain high, but companies are putting the brakes on energy transition spending, with **no new investment in reducing emissions**

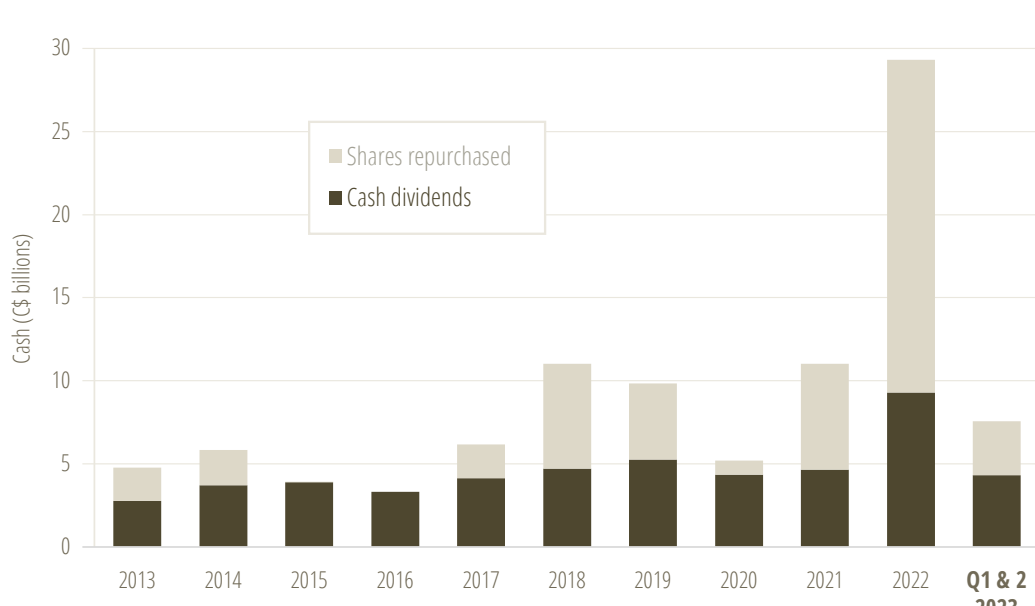
Profits remain high

Halfway through 2023, profits are on track for the second-strongest year in the last decade.



Cash being returned to shareholders remains high

In the first half of 2023, returns to shareholders remained high, with **75% of all available cashflow** returned to shareholders in the form of share repurchases and increased dividends.



Emissions didn't increase in 2022

Some positive news: S&P reports that oilsands emissions **stayed steady in 2022**.

For the sector to do its fair share in helping Canada meet its 2030 targets, **emissions must now rapidly decline**.

Suncor putting the brakes on energy transition focus

Suncor's new CEO recently signalled a change in direction for the company, with a greater focus on its core business of producing oil and less on preparing for the energy transition.

"We have a bit of a disproportionate emphasis on the longer-term energy transition." – Rich Kruger

Suncor joins Shell and BP, which signalled a similar shift earlier this year. Indeed, financial reports from oilsands companies show no new investments or actions to reduce emissions in the last six months.

Why this matters

- Investing in emissions reductions is also the best way for the industry to **prepare for a low-carbon future** and create jobs in the years ahead.
- The oilsands must also do their **fair share** in meeting Canada's climate targets. Yet emissions remain high while investments to reduce them remain low.
- Companies are refocusing on their core business at the expense of **preparing for the energy transition**.
- Since our [last update](#) six months ago, there are still **no new investments** in reducing oilsands emissions.
- These trends underscore that **federal rules to reduce oil and gas emissions** are urgently needed to drive investments in reducing emissions.

Sources

- Financial data is from individual company quarterly financial statements listed on [Marketwatch](#).
- Emissions data from S&P, "Canadian oil sands continue their trend of GHG intensity reductions in 2022 – Down 23% since 2009," August 8, 2023.
- Amanda Stephenson, "Suncor has been too focused on energy transition, must get back to fundamentals: CEO," [CBC](#), August 15, 2023.