

All Shell bulk fuel outlets to close in Sask.

Last Updated: Thursday, June 14, 2007 | 8:58 AM CT

[CBC News](#)

Farmers who rely on Shell Canada for bulk fuel will have to find another supplier next month.

Shell confirmed Wednesday it's closing its bulk fuel stations on July 20.

"For years the agency business has faced significant challenges in its current form, and it's no longer a sustainable business for Shell," said Shell Canada spokeswoman Danita Davis.

The closure will affect bulk fuel distributors, storefronts and card-lock stations, Davis said.

Although the exact number of Shell Canada bulk outlets to be closed wasn't available, SaskTel's online phone book has 18 listings with that name.

Some rural residents will be affected by the move, though an informal CBC survey suggests many farmers currently get their fuel from Federated Co-op.

"They [Federated] could service all of our needs," said Kelvin Meadows, who farms near Moose Jaw.

According to Davis, Shell was a small player in a business that has seen a decline in sales.

"This limits our ability to maximize the value that is available through the larger market and co-operatives with which we compete," she said.

Shell's retail gas stations will not be affected by the bulk fuel closures, Davis said.