

The National Action Strategy on Global Warming will be undertaken jointly by federal and provincial/territorial governments. Specific action programmes to limit greenhouse gas emissions will be announced independently by these governments as they are developed. However, intergovernmental agreements will be negotiated to co-ordinate implementation of the complex and interdependent plans of action which the federal, provincial and territorial governments will develop under the Strategy. The Federal Government will put in place first those measures that make economic sense in their own right, such as energy efficiency and tree planting, or that serve multiple policy objectives, such as elimination of CFCs. Discussions on more far-reaching initiatives are to start as quickly as possible.

A planned National Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy Act is to deal specifically with regulation of minimum energy efficiency levels in energy-using equipment, labelling of products and collection of statistics on energy use. In addition, minimum energy efficiency standards will be developed for appliances and equipment. Energuide labelling for home appliances will be enhanced to provide consumers with information on opportunities for financial and energy savings, and the programme is to be extended later to other appliances and products. The incorporation of revised building standards into more federal, provincial and municipal building codes will be encouraged; and the development and commercialisation of promising technologies for energy-efficient buildings will be enhanced. In the transportation sector, aside from the development of strategies for reducing CO₂ and other emissions from transportation and the development of educational packages for fleet managers and drivers, new fuel efficiency targets for new vehicles are to be initiated. The Government will co-operate with industry to help achieve energy efficiency gains and to share information on new technologies and practices; energy efficiency targets are to be established for each industrial sector, and energy efficiency managers are to be trained.

Aside from energy efficiency improvements in the short term, alternative energies will be promoted, in particular less carbon-intensive energy sources, in order to contribute to the longer-term goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Canadian Government supports nuclear power as an option for electricity generation. Other measures include accelerated development and market penetration of alternative transportation fuels and the study of passive, active and photovoltaic solar energy options. Federal efforts will focus upon systems design and engineering as well as standard-setting and certification programmes, including enhanced R&D of alternative energy sources, cost-shared market assessments, and increased RD&D of advanced energy systems, e.g. combined cycle generation, CHP and district energy systems. These measures are to be supplemented by a major public information campaign and an annual report to Parliament on progress in meeting energy efficiency objectives. Other planned measures include a community tree-planting programme, as well as measures to limit greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector and to reduce CFCs and ground-level ozone.