

Alberta

2008

On January 24, 2008, Alberta released its new climate change action plan. New and next generation carbon capture and storage technologies will deliver the majority of the new plan's reductions – about 70 per cent of the 200 megatonne-reduction by 2050. Up to \$500 million could be directed towards these initiatives, including allocations through the Canada ecoTrust and the Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund. About 12 per cent of Alberta's reductions will be achieved through conservation and energy efficiency. The plan calls for increased investment in clean energy technologies and incentives for expanding the use of renewable and alternative energy sources such as bioenergy, wind, solar power, hydrogen and geothermal energy. Initiatives under this theme will account for 18 per cent of Alberta's reductions.

Press Release and Fact

Sheet <http://alberta.ca/home/NewsFrame.cfm?ReleaseID=/acn/200801/22943ACC446ED-ED74-6A1E-6CF263E59920969B.html>

Overview <http://environment.alberta.ca/2431.html>

A booklet containing facts on what climate change is, what causes it, what Alberta is doing, and what impact climate change is having: [Download](#)

2007

Starting July 1, 2007 Alberta facilities that emit more than 100,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases a year will be required to reduce their emissions intensity by 12 per cent under the *Climate Change and Emissions Management Act*. Companies have three ways to meet their reductions. They can make operating improvements, buy Alberta-based credits or contribute to the Climate Change and Emissions Management Fund.

View the [guidance document](#)

Alberta requires industrial facilities that emit more than 100,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulphur hexafluoride) to submit annual reports on their greenhouse gas emissions. The [Specified Gas Reporting Standard](#), published in March 2007, describes what needs to be reported and how to calculate greenhouse gas emissions. For yearly reports on greenhouse gas emissions go to: <http://www3.gov.ab.ca/env/air/EMR/sgreporting.html>

In 2007, ninety per cent of the electricity used in government facilities comes from green power sources, (i.e., wind power from Pincher Creek and biomass from Grande Prairie).

Alberta Environment - Climate Change Web Page
<http://environment.alberta.ca/1319.html>

2004

In 2004, Alberta began to require all new coal-fired power plants to lower their greenhouse gas emissions to [the level of a natural gas plant](#), potentially cutting in half their greenhouse gas emissions. The first plant under this standard comes on-line early in 2005. Under transition principles developed with the utility sector, any new, coal-fired plants will have four recognized options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions:

- increase investment in technology development
- increase investment in renewable power generation
- receive credit for early shutdowns of existing facilities
- invest in emissions offsets

<http://www.gov.ab.ca/acn/200403/16053.html>

In 2004, Alberta enacted regulations requiring industry to report greenhouse gas emissions.

<http://environment.alberta.ca/631.html>

The reporting program is being implemented in phases, with subsequent years requiring more detailed information be submitted. In phase 1, industrial facilities emitting 100,000 tonnes or more of carbon dioxide equivalent (based on the sum of direct emissions of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulphur hexafluoride) have been required to report emissions to Alberta Environment.

2003

In 2003, Alberta enacted the [Climate Change Emissions Management Act](#). The Act provides for:

- An overall emission target for Alberta and targets for specific sectors of the province's economy that will be established by negotiated agreements.
- A tool kit of options to facilitate sectoral agreements and to focus on cost-effective reductions in Alberta.
- A framework for how emissions offsets will be applied against Alberta regulatory requirements.
- A provincial climate change management fund to help sectors reduce emissions and invest in Alberta energy conservation, energy efficiency and technology.

Alberta also:

- provides interest-free loans for projects to make municipal buildings more energy efficient.
- has adopted standards for new government building construction that are 25 per cent more efficient than the National Energy Code for buildings.
- established [Climate Change Central](#), an innovative public-private partnership for action on climate change.
- is increasing the use of alternative energy sources -- by 2008, 3.5 per cent total electricity will be generated from renewable and alternative sources, primarily wind and biomass and

- is helping to fund innovative technology.

2002

In 2002, Alberta adopted a climate change action plan. [*Albertans & Climate Change: Taking Action*](#) - establishes a framework to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The plan focuses on improving energy efficiency, enhancing technology to control industrial emissions, and seeking out renewable energy sources and better emissions management.