

Hello! I wanted to submit a few comments on the Energy Strategy currently available for public review.

Let me just say that I am a young (28 years old), relatively new (2.5 years) resident of Nova Scotia, considering spending the rest of my life here. During that period I will potentially invest large amounts of time, energy, creativity, care, and money into Nova Scotia's communities and economies. One of the biggest deterrents about putting down roots here is the seemingly archaic approach to such important issues as energy use, energy production, climate change, and biodiversity conservation. I've been inspired/reassured by individual projects I've seen, but have yet to be dazzled by leadership on these fronts by government. The Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act was a big first step - let's make the Energy Strategy the next.

Briefly, I support the actions outlined in the Ecology Action Centre's document "Pathways to Sustainable Energy Prosperity in Nova Scotia." This document touches on important issues, such as the value of energy efficiency as a "source" of energy, and the need to have a diversity of approaches and fuel sources. I would strongly encourage you to adopt all recommendations made in this wise and well-researched document.

In addition, I would like to see Nova Scotia be a WORLD leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. 10% below 1990 levels is no longer going to cut it. Match leading-edge countries regarding emission targets, or base targets relative the (embarrassing) proportion of GHG emitted in Nova Scotia.

Finally, environmental education is key to tying energy into the bigger picture. I would like to see environmental education figure more prominently in the strategy.

Thanks for your time, consideration, and trying to save the world!

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~ Mahatma Gandhi

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