

To The NS Department of Energy:

We, as concerned citizens of Cape Breton, NS, want to make the following specific recommendations in response to the 2007 Energy Strategy and Climate Change Action Plan (which, in view of the urgency of climate change, should be not two, but one coordinated strategy aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions in NS - through conservation, efficiency, education and renewable energy development).

Re Renewable Energy Development we recommend that NS:

- Prioritize renewable energy production and use which includes wind, solar hot-water, solar thermal, photo-voltaics, small hydro, tidal, but not nuclear.
- Deliberately and consistently move away from the promotion, use, dependence upon and development of fossil fuels.
- Adopt a policy of electricity feed-in laws (called standard offer contracts or set, fair price policy for renewable energy based on the cost of production). The lack of such a policy is a major obstacle to widespread generation of renewable energy in NS. More than 30 countries worldwide – and the province of Ontario - have implemented a fixed price policy for renewable energy. This has been the most successful policy in stimulating the rapid development of renewable energy and, at the same time, stimulating local economic development by giving communities an opportunity to earn money by producing clean energy.
- Establish provincial guidelines for wind and other green power producers – including criteria for appropriate locations, size and other aspects of wind and other renewable energy production.
- Establish regulations that require that energy from wind and other green/renewable power sources produced in NS be used for Nova Scotia first - and that prohibit exporting green/renewable energy that is produced in NS.

Re conservation, efficiency and education we recommend that NS:

- Make energy conservation and efficiency key criteria in all energy related policy, project and technology decisions of the province (re electricity, space heating, transportation and land use planning).
- Set targets and establish timelines and mechanisms to implement all cost-effective energy efficiency improvements in Nova Scotia.
- Promote public engagement in conservation and sustainable energy through media campaigns, linking consumer choices with sustainable energy, teacher training and involvement, and making government employees leaders by examples.

We also recommend that the provincial government of NS and its Department of Energy report to the public regularly and hold 'accountability sessions' so that the public is aware of how their input has

been heard and responded to, what has been successful in working toward the stated priorities, and what needs to be improved and/or changed.

Thank you very much for soliciting, receiving, reviewing open-mindedly, and implementing energy policies for the province of Nova Scotia in keeping with input received from the citizens of NS.

Yours truly,
Kairos Cape Breton

Signed / sent by Linda Scherzinger on behalf of Kairos Cape Breton – Cape Breton's connection with Kairos: Canada's Ecumenical Social Justice Coalition