

# Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement

THIS ENERGY CONSERVATION AGREEMENT executed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007 BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
(hereinafter called "the Province")

and

BC HYDRO CORPORATION  
(hereinafter called "BC Hydro")

**WHEREAS** the Province believes it must take action to halt and reverse the growth in greenhouse gases.

**WHEREAS** the Province has directed BC Hydro to meet 50 percent of new electricity needs through conservation.

**WHEREAS** BC Government operations will be carbon neutral by 2010.

**WHEREAS** the Province is reducing greenhouse gas emissions in provincial Ministries, Crown corporations, agencies and authorities.

**WHEREAS** enhancing energy conservation reduces the operating costs of providing valuable services for British Columbians, promotes energy self-sufficiency and encourages alternative energy sources.

**WHEREAS** the above objectives are achievable by pursuing a wide range of energy options for British Columbians.



**BC hydro**

# Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement

The Province and BC Hydro are entering a comprehensive agreement to significantly increase energy conservation and expand the use of alternative energy options<sup>1</sup> across 6,500 public sector buildings in British Columbia, including Crown corporations, education and health care facilities, office buildings, social housing and other government operations.

The Province will take concerted action in the Public Sector to halt and reverse the growth in greenhouse gases. The Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement will create benefits for all British Columbians by:

- delivering valuable public services in more cost-effective, energy-efficient ways;
- converting to alternative energy sources where feasible to support the goal of making provincial government operations carbon neutral by 2010; and
- contributing to the goal to meet 50 percent of new electricity needs through conservation by 2020.

The Agreement has three pillars that serve as a framework to achieve challenging new energy conservation goals for the public sector in 2020.

## Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement

### Pillar One: Aggressive conservation targets

The Province is taking bold action to reduce energy consumption across government operations by setting aggressive new conservation targets.

Targets include lowering electricity consumption across government by:

- five percent below baseline energy use in 2011<sup>2</sup>;
- 14 percent below baseline in 2016; and
- 20 percent below baseline energy use in 2020.

In 2010, the public sector will reduce electricity consumption by 55 GWh that year.

### Pillar Two: Enhanced energy assessment, portfolio audits and employee engagement

The Province and BC Hydro are expanding assessments and audits of energy consumption at government buildings to:

- achieve energy efficiency upgrades for lighting and heating systems;
- broaden energy management expertise within government by establishing 20 Energy Managers across the public sector by 2010; and
- complete an enhanced energy management assessment and audit program by 2010.

The Province and BC Hydro are also initiating employee and public engagement activities, including a joint initiative with the provincial Climate Action Secretariat to encourage government employees to be energy conservation leaders at work and at home. Through the initiative, BC Hydro is collaborating with Ministry Green Teams by providing annual sustainable energy planning workshops and information to develop and implement climate action plans. Provincial Crown corporations, authorities and agencies are included.

### Pillar Three: Accelerated alternative energy innovation

The Province and BC Hydro are working together to foster alternative energy by:

- identifying and supporting innovative, emerging alternative energy technologies;
- initiating alternative energy demonstration projects; and
- employing alternative energy options where appropriate.

<sup>1</sup> Alternative energy is defined as energy derived from renewable sources that have limited environmental impacts. Sources include wind, solar, micro-turbine, earth, waste heat and other clean energy options. Projects involving a conversion to alternative energy sources will be consistent with the Province's 2007 Energy Plan goals for conservation, energy efficiency and reducing green house gases.

<sup>2</sup> 2006 Baseline consumption is equivalent to approximately 1710 GWh.

# Implementation

The Agreement will be directed by a Steering Committee, including representatives from:

- The Climate Action Secretariat;
- The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources;
- The Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services;
- The Crown Agencies Secretariat; and
- BC Hydro Power Smart.

The Steering Committee will be comprised of one representative of each Ministry and two of BC Hydro.

The Steering Committee will work directly with Crown corporations, agencies, authorities and the Ministries of Health, Education and Advanced Education to develop and recommend annual targets specific to each. Progress reporting will be required annually.<sup>3</sup>

Plans to achieve the targets will be based on assessments of:

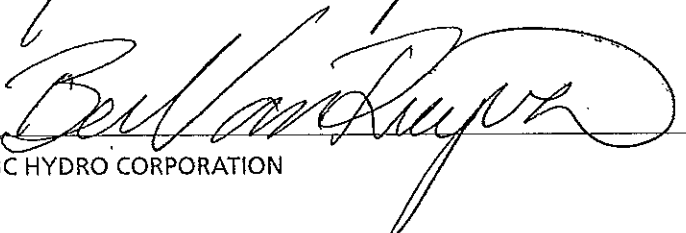
- whether technology is readily available to complete the project;
- whether the benefits to British Columbians warrant the investment; and / or
- the likelihood the investment will result in significant behavioural change.

This agreement will undergo a periodic review to ensure its ongoing effectiveness. Material amendments will be subject to the review and approval of the Steering Committee.

The Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement will be in place from 2008 through 2020.



THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



BC HYDRO CORPORATION

<sup>3</sup> Implementation is outlined further in *Public Sector Energy Conservation Agreement Planning: 2008-2020*.