

**Hydropower**  
Paul Norris on the  
power of water



**Canada's beer industry**  
Doing its part for water  
conservation

**MEDIA  
PLANET**

March 2013

# CONSERVING ONTARIO

3

FACTS ABOUT  
WATER IN  
CANADA

**Guy Laliberté**  
Billionaire founder  
of Cirque du Soleil  
speaks on water  
issues



## THE FUTURE OF ONTARIO

**Educating Canadians** on the vital role  
our **natural resources** play in the  
prosperity of **our province**.

## Celebrating water for people and nature

**T**oday, we celebrate water. Canada Water Week and World Water Day are both great reminders of the importance of fresh water to our culture, to our economy, to our communities — and to the environment that sustains us all.

### Water responsibility

One day, however, is not enough — we need a system to ensure the health of our waters is top of mind 365 days a year. As one of the world's most water wealthy countries, Canadians — and particularly Ontarians — have a special responsibility in an increasingly crowded world.

In October 2011, the world's 7 billionth person was born. Danica May Camacho — was born into a world in which 783 million people — around 11 percent of the world's population

— lack access to safe drinking water.

In her lifetime, Danica will see the global population rise to and possibly surpass 10 billion. So will my own 6-year old son. These kids will confront the UN's prediction that by 2050, seven billion people in 60 countries could be facing water scarcity, and that freshwater biodiversity around the world is declining at an alarming rate. These kids will face the very real challenge of feeding, clothing and providing energy for another 3 billion people while also protecting the health of the world's freshwater ecosystems.

### Water regulation

Good news: here in Ontario, and increasingly across Canada, governments, businesses, communities and NGOs are working together to meet that responsibility.

Over the past decade we have witnessed a surge of attention to water issues here in Ontario — from the

Clean Water Act in 2006 to the Water Opportunities Act of 2010 to the proposed Great Lakes Protection Act currently on legislators' desks. Together, these laws aim to ensure we never experience another Walkerton, that we are positioned to tap into the burgeoning domestic and global market for water knowledge and technology, and that we do our part to conserve the world's largest freshwater ecosystem.

All of this represents excellent progress. However, as in much of Canada, we continue to see challenges related to water quality, quantity and the overall health of our water bodies. This raises some important questions: What is all the effort adding up to? How will we know if or when we are successful?

These questions suggest we need a way to judge the true impact of our water laws and policies. We need a big goal and a way to assess the health of our waters — our riv-



**Tony Maas**  
Freshwater Program Director, WWF-Canada  
PHOTO: ALYSSA BISTONATH / WWF-CANADA

ers, lakes and wetlands — in order to measure real progress towards it. We need a system to give all of this effort clear purpose and direction over the long term.

### International initiatives

Internationally, leaders have already set some great examples of these initiatives to secure the health of their waters. The E.U. set the aggressive goal of achieving "good ecological status" for all waters by 2015. And we can, and we should, do the same.

At WWF, we believe in this type of approach as the big next step for water policy and management in Ontario and Canada. It is this approach that will ensure generations to come — my own son's generation — will be proud citizens of a country that is a true global water leader, with clean and healthy waters that we use sustainably to do our part to provide for Canadians and an increasingly thirsty world.

TONY MAAS

editorial@mediaplanet.com

### Ontario's Conservation Authorities report on the state of Ontario's watersheds



Ontario's Conservation Authorities are launching a new series of watershed report cards.

**What are they?** A summary of what the Conservation Authority monitoring programs are telling us about the health of our watersheds.

**What will they report on?** Surface Water Quality, Groundwater Quality and Forest Cover.



Report cards will be available at  
[www.watershedcheckup.ca](http://www.watershedcheckup.ca)

Launching - World Water Week  
**March 18**

[www.conservationontario.ca](http://www.conservationontario.ca)



# CHALLENGES

**DECEW FALLS FACILITY**  
Located in St. Catharines, OPG's Decew Generating Station has been providing clean renewable energy to Ontarians since 1898  
PHOTO: ONTARIO POWER GENERATION



Ontario benefits from one of the **world's highest standards of drinking water quality.**

# The state of water in Ontario

**Emma Murphy**  
BES, MA,  
Incoming President,  
Ontario Water Works  
Association

Safe, clean drinking water. It's easy for us to take for granted in Ontario, where we have an abundance of this natural resource that is so critical to our overall health and well-being. Our natural environment also depends on water as the building block that supports all life. The decisions we make about how we manage our water resources affect everything around us.

**Lessons from Walkerton**  
We learned the hard way about the value of safe drinking water in May 2000, when water contaminated with E. coli bacteria made its way into Walkerton's municipal water system. Within days, seven people had died and thousands of others were sick. A subsequent Ontario Government inquiry produced more than 100 recommendations to help protect Ontario's drinking water supply.  
A key safeguard to protecting our water is using a 'multi-barrier approach', which involves putting in levels of defence that range from avoiding contamination of our water sources (lakes, rivers, and

underground aquifers) to requiring proper water treatment, distribution, and testing.

**Working together**  
Over the past few years conservation authorities, municipalities, and community members have been preparing Source Water Protection Plans. These science-based plans cover watersheds — areas where all of the water that is under it or drains off of it goes into the same place. They include policies to reduce the risks posed by water quality and quantity threats such as waste disposal sites, road salt, fuel storage, chemicals and solvents, fertilizers and pesticides, and livestock grazing areas.  
Thousands of Ontarians spend their days protecting our water sources and supplying safe drinking water. Government organizations include the Ministry of the Environment and your local municipality. They are supported by other professional organizations such as the Ontario Water Works Association and the Water Environment Association of Ontario, who represent water and wastewater treatment professionals, respectively. Water professionals have extensive experience and training in water treatment processes, equipment, and technologies. They treat, distribute, and test water to rigorous standards in water treatment plants so that we can have confidence the water is

✓

CONSERVER QUIZ

☐

**Water**  
Do you avoid buying bottled water? In the U.S., more than 30 billion plastic water bottles end up as garbage or litter each year.

☐

**Nature**  
Have you planted a tree, shrub, or wildflowers in the past year? You can clear our air, green our streets, and provide food and habitat for birds and insects.

☐

**Electricity**  
Do you keep your thermostat at 25 degrees or higher in the summer? Air conditioning is one-quarter of the electricity demand during heat waves.

☐

**Green power**  
Do you generate or purchase green power? If you conserve electricity, then the cost of greening your bill is well within reach.

☐

**Transportation**  
Do you walk, bike, take transit, or drive a fuel-efficient vehicle? About one-quarter of climate change emissions come from transportation.

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safe to drink. Wastewater professionals make sure that wastewater is treated so that the residuals do not adversely affect water quality. Together these groups protect this precious resource throughout the water cycle.

**The future of water**  
As well as many educational and research organizations that continually search for improved water technologies, our children benefit from the Children's Water Education Council, which supports water festivals that educate students about the importance of water conservation.  
We must recognize that we are part of our environment; what we do on the land affects the quality and long term sustainability of our natural resources, including water. Our economic growth and prosperity is also water-dependent, so we must all take water into account when we make decisions about our environment. It is in our hands to protect and preserve this life-giving resource — what can you do to conserve? Choose tap water—it's safe, environmentally friendly and inexpensive. Carry a reusable water bottle with you wherever you go.

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WE RECOMMEND

**Scott Freiburger**  
Conserving  
Canada's water

PAGE 4

"An audit can provide the information that enables a company to implement policies that are wrapped around conservation and sustainability."

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**3 – 4:**  
Not bad. Now try a new challenge.

**4 – 5:**  
Congratulations. You are a true conserver.

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With over 1,000 audits completed in Ontario and across Canada, AET offers experience, capabilities and a proven track record that, among other benefits, assures that our clients receive value-added services, credible results and effective solutions to achieve conservation measures.

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- Waste diversion programs and recycling plans
- Conservation plans, feasibility analysis and management programs

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NEWS

# Waterpower: Ontario's first choice

Is it any wonder that here in Ontario we use the term “hydro” interchangeably with “electricity”? Hydro- or water- power was responsible for the electrification of the province. It is the energy engine that built Ontario's original economic prosperity. It has been providing reliable, affordable electricity for more than a century. In countless towns and cities across the province, the very identity of the community is inextricably linked with the generation of electricity from falling water. There are more than 120 waterpower facilities across southern Ontario — 200 in the province. Waterpower still accounts for 75% of the generation in northern Ontario. So why, given the public and political attention on electricity, has waterpower not been at the forefront? Consider these three commonly held but inaccurate views:


**Myth 1: Ontario's waterpower resources are “tapped out”**  
In 1951 waterpower generation provided all the electricity in the province. Today, waterpower remains our primary source of renewable energy, responsible on average for one-quarter of our electricity supply. But because waterpower isn't “new”, the common perception is that there is no opportunity to expand. The fact is that Ontario has significant untapped waterpower resources.

We are currently building almost 1,000 MW and an additional 3,000 MW of practical potential exists. Realizing these opportunities would increase the relative contribution of Ontario's original renewable and moderate the province's electricity prices for decades.

**Myth 2: All forms of electricity are the same**  
The second commonly held belief is that electricity sources are interchangeable and that our choices about options are an “apples to apples” comparison. The fact is that all forms of electricity are different with respect to their value to our system. Some produce electricity constantly (e.g. nuclear, run-of-river waterpower). Some produce when their energy source is available (e.g. wind, solar). Others must balance the challenge of demand and supply by being flexible (fossil, storage waterpower). Waterpower is unique in its ability to deliver electricity both all the time and on demand. Increasing the use of made in Ontario waterpower production improves the reliability and security of the electricity system and broadens our choices about energy alternatives.

**Myth 3: Ontario doesn't need more electricity**  
Perhaps most topical is the view that the province doesn't need more generation. This view, of course, discounts the factor of

time. Had we anticipated a decade ago the addition of significant amounts of solar and wind power and the elimination of coal-fired generation, we would have undoubtedly increased emphasis on flexible waterpower such as pumped storage (Ontario has more than 1,000MW of potential). The fact is that as early as 2020, the province faces the potential for a significant deficit in energy supply. Given the long lead times for new waterpower development, decisions are needed in the near term to ensure the province has a sustainable, reliable supply of



**Paul Norris**  
President, Ontario Waterpower Association

electricity.

Correcting these commonly held views results in a conclusion that: Ontario must plan for future electricity needs now; waterpower provides uniquely valuable benefits to our energy system; and the province has significant opportunities to increase the contribution of waterpower. As importantly, and considerate of the context of this publication, is the

energy-water nexus. Expansion of waterpower in Ontario and across Canada is premised on a commitment to environmentally responsible, publically accountable sustainable development. Need and potential aside, waterpower must continue to earn and maintain a social licence in delivering a public good which most people take for granted each time they turn on the lights.

**PAUL NORRIS**  
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500,000M<sup>3</sup>

1M

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INSPIRATION



WETLAND LOSS IN CANADA IS LIKE ADDING THE EMISSIONS OF OVER 1.1 MILLION NEW CARS TO THE ATMOSPHERE EVERY YEAR

# Q&A: Guy Laliberté

PHOTO: VERONIQUE VIAL

**ONE DROP Foundation – a registered non-profit organization established in 2007 by Guy Laliberté, Founder of Cirque du Soleil – strives to ensure that water is accessible to all, today and forever, by implementing unique and sustainable water projects around the world and by harnessing creativity to inspire everyone, everywhere, to love and protect water.**

**Q: How did you personally get involved in water conservation issues? What inspired you to start the One Drop Foundation?**  
**A:** “As we were preparing to celebrate Cirque du Soleil’s 25th anniversary, I was thinking on how I wanted us to manage the celebrations. We could celebrate our success, or we could look forward and pursue our dream of a better world that inspired us in the very beginning. At first I chose water because it has always been a source of inspiration in my life. Water eases me. I started researching and I quickly understood that every single issue facing the world today, poverty, health, education, social justice, economic development, en-

vironmental issues, gender issues, food security..... all have one common source: water.”  
**Q: What is the mandate of your foundation - “One Drop”**  
**A:** “I was envisioning a totally different kind of organization. I wanted it to be somewhere between entrepreneurship and philanthropy. Our unique approach in the field is based on 3 fundamental pillars:  
■ Water access and management for drinking, production, and domestic uses.  
■ Social entrepreneurship and microfinance to help people start revenue-generating projects and eventually produce sufficient wealth to ensure that our projects are not only sustainable, but self-sustaining.  
■ Raising awareness using social arts and popular education to ensure responsible water management habits are part of people’s behaviour, giving a lasting effect.  
That is what I call the soft medicine approach. I learned that from both Cirque du Soleil and Cirque du Monde. Cirque du Monde was the first social program put in place by Cirque du Soleil almost 18 years ago.

We used circus arts to help street kids regain self-esteem. By touching people’s hearts, the connection is so much more lasting and deep. Using any type of art form, music, theatre, circus arts, puppets or dance to communicate, we stimulate beneficial and long-lasting transformations in the communities.”  
“I was envisioning a totally different kind of organization. I wanted it to be somewhere between entrepreneurship and philanthropy.”  
**Q: Why is water important to you? What are some major concerns?**  
**A:** “I am not a water specialist. I am an artist and an entrepreneur. But since 2007 when I started ONE DROP, I have of course researched and been informed of many issues all linked to water and the situation is critical. But my fundamental concern is still linked with that

first observation that every single issue facing humanity today, poverty, education, health, etc. is linked to water.”  
**Q: Tell us about the less water diet**  
**A:** “As I explained, one of the pillars of ONE DROP is raising awareness to water issues using a soft medicine approach. So last year, for World Water Day we rolled out a web-based information campaign based on the amount of water that is contained in our plate. It was a fact based information campaign that highlighted the impact of agriculture on our water consumption worldwide. It represents 70 percent of the world water consumption. For any person’s daily need for food, between 2-5 thousand liters of water is required. The water diet targeted a change in consumer habits to reduce waste and reduce meat consumption.”  
**Q: What can we do in our daily lives to make a positive impact?**  
**A:** “I grew up in Québec where water is taken for granted. It is abundant, it is clean, and it is accessible. It is really easy to lose focus on its scarcity in other parts of the world. It is true that if you

don’t have water; you care much more about water. But this is a global issue. It has a global impact. We need to be much more aware and more careful of water as a resource. Being aware will also conduct you to a more responsible attitude about your water consumption. Finding easy ways to reduce your consumption and improve water quality.”  
**Q: What does the future of water look like?**  
**A:** “The situation of water is critical. Many experts predict dramatic impacts in the next 25 years. But I am not an alarmist or a pessimist. I am concerned. I believe that we need to collectively, as one planet and as one species, look into this issue very seriously because we have the responsibility to do so but also the issues can be resolved. Water is also a very powerful catalyst for human, social and economic development. It can be a source of peace, solidarity and social cooperation. We have witnessed that in our ONE DROP projects; let’s hope to witness it on a larger scale. Let’s dream of water for all, today and forever.”

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## Conserving Canada’s water

Water is the lifeblood of planet earth, vital for all aspects of industrial production and domesticity. Unless human habits change, however, fresh water levels will begin to decline and there will be a scramble over the world’s supplies.  
Business has a big part to play in water conservation. Through the environmental audit process, a business can be assessed for water efficiency and given instructions on how to decrease water wastage. “All solutions start with an audit,” explained Scott Freiburger, Principal, Technical Director at AET Consultants. “An audit can provide the information that enables a company to implement policies that are wrapped around conservation and sustainability.”

### Regulations in place

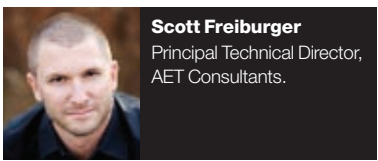
Canada is fortunate to have a relatively large amount of fresh water, but this shouldn’t encourage complacency. Countries without fresh water protection acts in place struggle to retain clean, drinking water and are forced to import water, which is a

massive cost. It’s important for Canada to adhere to acts like Bill 72, the Water Opportunities and Water Conservation Act, to ensure that fresh water levels do not become depleted.  
Even with these regulations in place, Larry Freiburger, Principal, Director of Operations at AET, believes that Canada can do more to protect its fresh water supplies. He said, “There’s nothing there to educate people on water conservation, it’s very much over looked. There’s an encouragement, even at the residential level, for people to reduce their electric consumption, and to upgrade the efficiency of their homes in terms of electricity and natural gas, but there’s not as much encouragement for them to reduce the amount of domestic water they consume.”

### Thinking of the future

Although positive steps have been made in recent years with water conservation, Canada still has room for improvement. Data released by the Government of Ontario puts the situation into clearer perspective, it states, “in 2004, Canadians were ranked one of the largest users of water in the world, using 343 litres of water per day. This is roughly double the usage of water by residential

users in Europe.”  
Stephen O’Brien, Director, Water & Wastewater Group, The Municipal Infrastructure Group, believes that delivering education on water conservancy, at a community level, is key. “One solution that supports education is water meters. When a household is aware of how much they consume, they tend to be far more vigilant of their usage, particularly in municipalities where tiered water rates have been introduced,” he said.  
O’Brien believes that Canadians are realizing the importance of conservation, and that with the help of technological advances, improvements in water efficiency can be made. He said, “communities seem to be coming to the realization of the importance of water and we anticipate that there will be a growing appetite to incorporate more innovative engineering systems to reuse water.”  
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Scott Freiburger  
Principal Technical Director,  
AET Consultants.

## HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE OAK RIDGES MORaine

Often referred to as Ontario’s rain barrel, the Oak Ridges Moraine serves as a source of healthy water for people and the environment. Not only does it replenish lakes, streams and rivers during periods of drought but people are benefactors as they use it for recreation, agriculture, industry and most importantly drinking water.  
In 2015, the Province of Ontario will review the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan to determine whether changes are needed. The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation in partnership with the Conservation Authorities Moraine Coalition is stepping up to the plate in advance of this date to start collecting the necessary data and stakeholder feedback to obtain an accurate assessment of where things stand on the Oak Ridges Moraine.  
The Oak Ridges Moraine is a vital and irreplaceable landscape that contributes strongly to the well-being of local communities. By working together, we can put the Oak Ridges Moraine on solid ground.



FOR MORE INFO  
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INSIGHT

# Canada’s beer industry: helping with water conservation

Recycling and reusing are fundamental aspects of conservation. As well as minimizing the amount of fresh water required for the production of household items, these practices reduce the energy consumption and environmental impact associated with industrial processes.

Canada’s beer industry is doing its bit; the bottle deposit-return scheme that has been in place sees close to 95 percent of beer bottles being returned by customers and then reused.

History of conservation

“The scheme has an 85 year pedigree in Canada, and it was first instituted for economic reasons,” said Brian Zeiler-Kligman, Director, Sustainability, Canada’s National Brewers. “It just so happens that, as we’ve looked into being a more environmentally friendly industry, it’s also turned-out to be the most environmentally productive way of going about things.”

As well as offering customers an economic incentive to get their bottles reused, bottle-return schemes like Returns 4 Leukemia have been implemented to help good causes in the community. “We’ve been able to use it to fund charitable donations. Last year we raised over \$1.6 million for the leukemia program that we take part in each year,” Zeiler-Kligman said.

Using less, costing less

Although Zeiler-Kligman believes that conservancy initiatives instigated by business and indus-



try, like the bottle deposit-return scheme, have the best results, he also feels that business can do more to support the environmental movement. “For a lot of companies, their reluctance to get started is because of an expectation that recycling has a cost. Recycling is about using resources more effectively, or frankly, using less, which, ultimately, ends up costing less.”

Green future

Water conservation is becoming more of an expectation and less of an afterthought. There is a growing awareness surrounding the importance of conservation and sustainability amongst Canadian consumers, but Zeiler-Kligman believes that for Canada to make further steps towards a green future, an even stronger sense of consumer responsibility is needed.

“The best thing that regular consumers can do is to educate themselves on environmental issues. If a consumer is buying a drink product they should be thinking: ‘what is the most effective packaging that it can be in? And who makes it in that kind of packaging?’”

JOE ROSENGARTEN  
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DID YOU KNOW?

- Wetlands filter and purify water, prevent flooding, replenish and store groundwater, reduce erosion, protect shorelines and provide many tourism and recreational opportunities.
- One-third of Canada’s species at risk depend on wetlands for all or part of their lifecycle.
- Research shows 72 percent or 1.4 million hectares, of southern Ontario’s large, in-land wetlands have been lost or significantly degraded over the last 200 years.
- Every time you drink a glass of water, you’re benefiting from wetlands. The many types of plants, bacteria and animals that live in wetlands remove many harmful impurities.
- It is estimated that Canada has roughly 25 per cent of the world’s remaining wetlands.
- Wetlands - such as marshes and ponds - provide habitat for thousands of species of plants and animals including fish, shellfish, mammals and birds.
- The decline to the wetland base has been most drastic in southwestern Ontario, parts of eastern Ontario, Niagara and the Greater Toronto Area, where in some regions the loss is greater than 90 per cent.

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A+

Returns Program Report Card	
Taxpayer Savings	\$40 Million Annually
Performance	2.1 Billion Alcohol Containers Recovered <small>*Equivalent to 53% of all the material collected in the Blue Box</small>
Effectiveness	94% Beer Return Rate 81% Wine & Spirits Return Rate
Responsible	We take back all our packaging: bottles, cans, kegs, plastic, cardboard etc.
Commitment	85 Years and Counting

A+

A+

A+

A+

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# Green Before Green was Cool

## Part of our business. Part of our values.





# Ontario Needs Sound Energy Planning



**By Don MacKinnon**  
President  
Power Workers' Union

Boosting renewable energy to create economic growth and establish a culture of conservation are centerpieces of Ontario's long-term energy plan. While both options have a role to play, their benefits have been oversold to the detriment of consumers and Ontario's proven energy advantages.

Billions of dollars have been spent on: ratepayer subsidized long-term contracts for wind and solar developments that deliver electricity less than 30 percent of the time; new price volatile, greenhouse gas (GHG) emitting, import dependent natural gas plants to back up this intermittent power; and, smart meters and time-of-use pricing to shift electricity usage to off-peak periods.

Now Ontario's electricity prices are on the way to being among the highest in North America. Unfortunately, consumers still face billions of dollars in hidden costs for numerous ill-conceived plans like the compensation being paid for two cancelled, and then relocated, gas plants and the taxpayer-funded "Clean Energy Benefit".

According to the province's Environment Commissioner, even with the closure of Ontario's coal stations, the switch to natural gas generation compromises Ontario's ability to meet its GHG targets. It also increases Ontario's dependency on imported natural gas, including environmentally questionable shale gas, which means higher GHG emissions.

Experience indicates that consumers have to work very hard at changing their patterns of electricity usage for modest results. To make matters worse, there is no transparent methodology or reporting procedures in place to effectively validate conservation investments. Yet some conservation advocates want higher peak prices, three to five times the current differential to incent consumers to conserve more.

Results so far suggest these are not the best ways for Ontario to sustain and create jobs or enhance its global competitiveness.

Ontario needs a sensible energy strategy that can deliver economic growth, sustainable environmental benefits, and energy security. The focus should be on leveraging Ontario's energy advantages — an established and successful nuclear industry, vast biomass resources and valuable provincially owned generation and transmission assets.

On a positive note, the province's hydroelectric generation is being renewed and expanded. Ontario's plan also calls for the refurbishment of the province's GHG emission-free nuclear

fleet and construction of two new nuclear reactors at Darlington. The latter investments are particularly important since nuclear energy provides about half of Ontario's electricity and 3,000 megawatts of that will disappear in 2020 when the Pickering Nuclear Station goes off line.

Historically, Ontario's hydroelectric and nuclear generation, which together provide over 70 percent of the province's electricity, have formed the foundation for our province's economic prosperity. They also provide one of the lowest-carbon electricity system footprints in the world.

Ontario hosts most of Canada's \$6 bil-

lion plus a year nuclear industry, its 160 supply chain companies and its 60,000 high value jobs. New nuclear investments, including building two Enhanced CANDU (EC6) reactors at Darlington, could drive an estimated 40 percent growth in Canadian nuclear industry employment over the next five years.

For over 50 years, CANDU reactors have helped avoid substantial GHG emissions in Canada. Since 1972, over 2.4 billion tonnes — that is 90 million tonnes per year, the equivalent to the emissions from 18 million cars — have been avoided.

Carbon-neutral biomass from Ontario's forests and farms represents

another opportunity to create more jobs and economic growth while helping to further reduce GHG emissions. Converting Ontario's coal stations to utilize this domestically sourced renewable fuel along with natural gas would provide electricity for peak production and improve our energy security by reducing natural gas imports. Converting our existing coal stations is also much less costly than building new natural gas plants.

Ontario needs sound energy planning that works for the benefit of all Ontarians — strategic planning that will produce a low-GHG, affordable, reliable and secure electricity supply mix to sustain our economy and our environment.



## ELECTRICITY CONSERVATION —FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE!

Conservation is touted as an effective way to balance supply and demand and is cheaper than adding new generation.

But like any policy option, there are caveats.

Conservation can help, but economic growth depends on low-carbon, reliable generation like nuclear, hydroelectric and biomass.

Billions of dollars have been spent on smart meters and time of use rates.

Billions more are committed for new initiatives.

Yet results to date are fuzzy and difficult to verify.

Consumers deserve to know the real costs and benefits.

Consultation, transparency and validation are key.

For more information go to [www.abetterenergyplan.ca](http://www.abetterenergyplan.ca)

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