

MANITOBA ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK NEWS



the manitoba environmental

NETWORK

JANUARY 1988

MANITOBA CONSERVATION STRATEGY

During the past six months or so effort has been made by a group largely composed of representatives from environmental interest bodies, government and the public to form an organization to promote the development and implementation of a Manitoba Conservation Strategy.

Since the initial meeting of the group (about 30 members) May 23, 1987, sponsored by the Manitoba Environmental Council, an Ad Hoc Committee of 8 to 10 members has recalled the original group on January 16, 1988 to consider Committee recommendations concerning formal organization. A major recommendation is incorporation as an independent, non-profit organization by April 12, 1988.

Membership in the organization will be solicited from a broad spectrum of public interests; sponsorship from government, industry and the public will be encouraged.

The objectives and activities of the organization will be based on the principles established by the United Nations Environmental Program, the Brundtland Commission Report (Our Common Future) and the National Task Force Report on Environment and the Economy.

by H. C. R. Gavin, Chairperson
Ad Hoc Committee
Manitoba Conservation Strategy

PROVINCIAL SECRETARIAT'S UPDATE PUBLIC MEETING

The Department of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health has just released an information package outlining plans for a series of public meetings regarding proposed regulations under the new Environment Act. The purpose of these meetings is to explain the Department's process and ideas, and to garner feedback from the participants.

A summary of Ministerial Agreements - a provision for delegating responsibility for the assessment/approval process to other government departments - has also been included in the package.

The public meetings began on Jan. 18 in Dauphin and will conclude on Feb. 10 in Morden. The Winnipeg meeting is scheduled for Feb. 2.

If you would like to receive a copy of the information package or have any questions regarding the Act or regulations, contact R. A. (Dick) Stephens at the Department of Environment and Workplace Safety and Health, 2-139 Tuxedo Avenue, Winnipeg, R3N 0H6 or phone 945-8132.

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THE MANITOBA ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK OFFICE IS LOCATED AT 302-128 JAMES AVE.
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA. MAILING ADDRESS - P.O. BOX 3125, R3C 4E6. PH: (204) 956-1468

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

Federally, the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (Bill C-74) has reached the Committee stage. If you have any final comments to make, written submissions are being accepted until Jan. 22. Send your comments to:

Mr. Sandy Birch
Clerk of the Legislative
Committee for Bill C-74
Committees Directorate
6th floor, South Block
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario

ENVIRONMENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS

On a related matter, Lynn McDonald, the NDP Environment Critic is planning to introduce a private member's Environmental Bill of Rights in the House of Commons. She welcomes any suggestions or input from the public. You can write to Ms McDonald at the House of Commons, Ottawa, K1A 0A6.

ENVIRONMENTAL CAUCUSES

The Canadian Environmental Network annual meeting will take place in mid May this year. The proceedings will include caucus meetings likely in the following areas; pesticides, energy, forestry, water, and environmental assessment.

If you or your organization is interested in participating in this process, now is the time to start planning. The Manitoba Environmental Network is available to facilitate the formation of working groups in these or any other area of environmental concern.

The formation of a caucus need not be solely for the purpose of the CEN annual meeting. Many of these topics are of concern locally, and working groups could be established to address Manitoba issues.

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK EARP CAUCUS

In preparation for the national Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office consultation meeting in Ottawa in March, the CEN has established a national EARP caucus.

This group will be meeting in Toronto in early February. Hamish Gavin, a participant in the recent Winnipeg FEARO consultation, will represent Manitoba.

If you want to ensure that your concerns are heard or would like to assist Hamish, please call him at 783-3333

INVENTORY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Last November a questionnaire was mailed to environmental groups in the province. The reason for this is so that we can identify the issues that are of concern to each group, and ensure that you receive any pertinent information.

More specifically, should Environment Canada ask us to facilitate participation in a public consultation process, we could more readily identify the appropriate interest groups.

If you haven't completed the questionnaire, please take a few moments to do so, and if it has been misplaced or you never received it, please contact the Network office.

The Manitoba Environmental Network exists to facilitate communication among environmentalists, especially in Manitoba, and between environmentalists and government decision-makers. Membership is open to any non-government, non-profit group that has as one of its objectives the enhancing or furthering of environmental quality, protecting the environment or carrying out environmental education. Provincial Secretariat.....John Barker
Executive
Provincial Coordinator.....Jack Dubois
Vice-President.....Brian Pannell
Secretary-Treasurer.....vacant

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 25 Public consultation meeting to examine draft regulations under the province's new Environment Act. 7:30 p.m., Victoria Inn, 3550 Victoria W., Brandon. For further info call Dick Stephens, Special Projects Officer, Department of Environment at 945-8132.

- Jan. 26 Manitoba Environmentalists Inc. Ecological Tuesdays "Environmental Control: Enforcing environmental legislation in Manitoba," by L. Strachan, Chief, Environmental Control Programs, Manitoba Department of Environment. 7:30 p.m., room 1L11 Lockhart Hall, University of Winnipeg. For further info call Brian Pannell at 452-5695.

- Jan. 27 Free Trade Forum. See page 8 for further information.

- Jan. 28 The Recycling Council of Manitoba regular monthly meeting. Topic: continuation of the discussion re: beverage container recycling in Manitoba. 7:30 p.m., Westminster United Church. For further info call Bob Fenton at 786-7811.

- Feb. 1 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Program "Members Night." 8:00 p.m., Basic Medical Sciences Building Theatre A, corner of Bannatyne and Emily. For further info call the M.N.S. at 943-9029.

- Feb. 2 Public consultation meeting to examine draft regulations under the province's new Environment Act. 7:30 p.m. W. M. Ward Technical Services Laboratory, 745 Logan Ave., Winnipeg. See Jan. 25 above.

- Feb. 2 Manitoba Environmentalists Inc. Ecological Tuesdays "Manitoba and the Nuclear Question," by Anne Wieser, Concerned Citizens of Manitoba. For further info see Jan. 26. SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION.

- Feb. 8 Wilderness Workshop. The M.N.S. workshop, originally scheduled for Jan. 11 has been rescheduled. The panel will include Val Werier and Nick Carter. 7:30 p.m., the Fort Whyte Centre. For further info call Harvey Williams at 269-7477 or the Network office.

- Feb. 9 Manitoba Environmentalists Inc. Ecological Tuesdays "Establishing Environmental Standards: How many parts per million is safe?" by Max Morelli, Chief of Environmental Standards and Studies, Manitoba Department of Environment. For further info see Jan. 26.

- Feb. 15 Manitoba Naturalists Society Indoor Program "Too Late for our Tall Prairie?" For further info see Feb. 1.

- Feb. 16 Manitoba Environmentalists Inc. Ecological Tuesdays "Hazardous Waste Management in Manitoba: the project's status and future," by Rick Cooke, Chief Executive Officer and Edwin Yee, Manager of Systems Development of the Manitoba Hazardous Wastes Corporation. For further info see Jan. 26.

- Feb. 19 Deadline for submissions of funding requests for Environment Week projects. See page 4 for further info.

- Feb. 23 Manitoba Environmentalists Inc. Ecological Tuesdays "Manitoba's Reforestation Program," by Forestry Branch, Department of Natural Resources. For further info see Jan. 26.

Mar. 20/25 Environmental Conflict Resolution - Seminar. Banff, Alberta. For further info contact Felicity Edwards, Program Manager, Banff Centre School of Management, Box 1020, Banff, Alberta, T0L 0C0 or phone (403) 762-6137.

Apr. 26/27 The Public's Role in Environmental Decision Making. Edmonton, or May 3/4 Alberta. For further info contact Symposium Coordinator, Canadian Society of Environmental Biologists - Alberta Chapter, P.O. Box 12, Substation 11, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E0.

THE RECYCLING COUNCIL OF MANITOBA

The next meeting of the Recycling Council will be held Thursday, January 28.

The Council will review a recommendation for a policy statement to be issued by the Council on container legislation, and will approve or amend that recommendation.

Memberships are now due!

There will again be a collection of recyclable materials on April 9. There will be 2 depots this time - one in Tuxedo, and one in the North End of the city. Pritchard Place Drop-in Centre will share in the project at the latter location. The usual items will be accepted:

- NEWSPRINT
- CLEAR GLASS
- ALUMINUM CANS
- P.E.T. SOFT DRINK BOTTLES
- WINE BOTTLES THAT WERE SOLD WITH CORKS
- MISC. SCRAP METAL

by June Cowan

ENVIRONMENT WEEK 1988

Environment Canada advises that Environment Week 1988 will take place the week of May 30 to June 5.

The national theme this year is "Our Common Future", and is based on the World Commission on Environment and Development report (the Brundtland Commission) released in the spring of 1987.

As in previous years, federal funds are available to assist qualifying groups and organizations to carry out Environment Week projects and activities.

To be eligible for funding, proposed projects:

- must conform to the objectives for Environment Week 1988
- must occur or have significant public impact during Environment Week
- should be of broad interest and application
- should encourage the involvement of as many sectors as possible (i.e. youth, environmental, health, industry, labour, etc.) working together on behalf of the environment.
- high impact, original, educational and creative efforts will merit special consideration.
- the maximum amount funded for any individual project is \$20,000.00

The deadline for receipt of funding requests is February 19. Requests or any questions regarding project proposal development should be directed to:

Nancy Hnatiuk
Communications Branch
Environment Canada
c/o Atmospheric Environment Service
1000-266 Graham Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 3V4

Phone (204) 983-4819

ENERGY POLICY FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE: THE CORE ELEMENTS

Prepared for the environmental groups
Energy Caucus for Energy, Mines and Resources Canada's
Energy Options Review
by Susan Holtz
Senior Researcher for Ecology Action Centre

September 1987

INTRODUCTION

Energy production and use in the world today represent a huge sector of human activity, with correspondingly extensive environmental effects. These impacts are both direct - that is, they result from the harvesting, extraction and processing of energy resources and from emissions when energy resources are converted to use - and they are also indirect. Examples of the latter are land use changes (which may include the loss of wildlife habitat and farmland) and pollution problems caused by transmission lines, roads, airports, pipelines and other energy-dependent facilities. Human settlement patterns which are constructed around particular energy-using technologies or resource developments are another instance of these indirect environmental effects.

Both categories of impacts must be addressed if environmental concerns are to be incorporated in energy planning. But much energy-related environmental degradation can only be reduced by decisions made at the policy level. For instance, the amount of energy use is the major determinant of the overall degree of environmental stress, and particularly of indirect consequences.

Or, as another example, certain technologies cause particularly intractable environmental problems, while other options are "softer" on the environment. Aspects of policy with a bearing on levels of energy demand or support for supply technologies - for example, pricing, financing, and research and development programs - must, therefore, come under scrutiny in an environmentally sensitive review of energy. An approach that is limited to considering mitigative measures on a project-by-project basis is wholly inadequate to the task.

RECOMMENDATION 1: A COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY REVIEW

The single most important innovation in bringing an environmental perspective to energy planning is the requirement that environmental values must be incorporated in all areas of energy policy, from pricing to government assistance programs. Only through comprehensive and consistent policy development at this level will real reductions in environmental stress from energy use and development become possible over time.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRINCIPLES IN ENERGY POLICY

THE POLICY FRAMEWORK

The first step in developing an energy policy which incorporates an environmental perspective is to clarify what that policy should address.

Historically, energy policy has been concerned with a variety of interests. These have included the financial well-being of various energy supply industries; consumer prices for energy; the level of tax revenues and their split between federal and provincial governments (as well as the actual

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ownership of the resources in question); the balance of payments from energy projects; security of energy supplies; native land claims; and the environmental acceptability of certain projects.

Two fundamentally different approaches to arranging these elements into a framework for energy policy can be discerned. One view is to regard the core of energy policy as synonymous with the economic health of the industry sector that develops energy resources as commodities; many tax benefits and other incentive programs flow from this approach. The second perspective is to view policy in this field in terms of analyzing how best to provide needed services to Canadians. This latter focus permits greater consideration of all possible options, including demand reduction. It also allows a more comprehensive review of environmental and other implications in such areas as pricing, tax incentives, and so forth. Governments, however, have attempted to use both frameworks simultaneously as the focus for policy decisions. The result has been inconsistency and sometimes the cancelling of one policy goal (like improved efficiency) by another (like the "rate stabilization fund" in Nova Scotia, which kept the price of electricity artificially low).

One example of this confusion about the content of energy policy is that, considered as a "source" of energy, demand reduction has been consistently treated less favourably than conventional energy supply industries in terms of investment criteria, tax benefits, research and development, and program support, even when the amount of energy that could be supplied was comparable. And on the energy supply side, different industries often have not received the same treatment. An "uneven playing field" for various energy alternatives has been the result.

RECOMMENDATION 2: POLICY FOCUS MUST BE ON END-USE ENERGY SERVICES

An environmental perspective regards the appropriate focus of energy policy be the provision of end-use services; other considerations, such as jobs and the fate of individual energy industries, while valid topics for review, must be examined within this basic framework. Energy policy, in other words, must first and foremost be about how to analyze, modify, and supply this country's physical requirements for energy services.

ENVIRONMENT QUALITY CRITERIA

It is vitally important that all significant environmental concerns be addressed in energy policy development. One of the most comprehensive formulations of environmental objectives is found in the conservation goals of the World Conservation Strategy, which the Canadian government endorsed in 1981. Energy policy in Canada should, in theory, already be consistent with these objectives, but to date little attention has been paid to implementing the Conservation Strategy in any sector.

Criteria based on these objectives should be used in reviewing all options for energy planning and development, and should include all stages, from extraction or harvesting through processing, production and transmission to end use conversion, and finally, to waste processing and shut-down. It must be recognized that these environmental goals are, in a physical sense, absolute constraints on human activities. In specifics, this will mean that some projects and technologies will be allowed to proceed. On the other hand, these criteria are not intended to rule out all new economic development; innovation can be welcome and useful. Also important to develop will be mechanisms for public input and dispute resolution to deal with the different interpretations

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these criteria that will be certain to arise in actual situations.

RECOMMENDATION 3: WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

In general terms, then, Canada must adopt an energy policy that is consistent with the World Conservation Strategy (to which this country is already formally committed). The environmental objectives of the strategy are as follows:

- * the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life-support systems;
- * the preservation of genetic diversity; and
- * the sustainable utilization of species and ecosystems.

These objectives must be the guiding environmental criteria for energy policy.

HUMAN VALUES

In analyzing the demand for energy services such as heat, mobility, and electro-mechanical power, it must always be remembered that these requirements have their ultimate origins in fundamental human needs. Thus, a values oriented critique of the ways - and the alternatives - by which societies and institutions satisfy these needs is appropriate as a starting point for energy policy analysis. Specific projects and technologies have social, political, and economic implications, and these and other human dimensions of energy may also legitimately constrain an energy-related project or (when constraint with environmental goals) provide reasons to promote it.

RECOMMENDATION 4: CENTRALITY OF HUMAN NEEDS AND VALUES

Energy is profoundly tied to human and global survival, and energy policy must be rooted in - and explicitly concerned about - human needs; policy considerations must include a respect for basic values such as healthy human communities and human dignity, both in Canada and abroad.

SPECIFIC PRIORITIES AND PROPOSED MECHANISMS FOR REACHING ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES IN ENERGY POLICY

Implicit in this section is an approach that, for environmental reasons, places demand reduction ahead of increasing energy supply through any forms of energy or specific technologies. By far the greatest attention should be directed to this side of the energy equation. When we do turn to the supply side, however, and try to apply criteria based on Conservation Strategy objectives and human needs, we come up with a hierarchy of options. In refining these further, when government investment and other support is being considered, specific assessment mechanisms must be developed to ensure that all options are evaluated and are fairly assessed. In particular, the same decision criteria must apply to all options (including demand reduction).

As well, certain individual projects may not be acceptable because of local environmental impacts (certain hydro dams, for instance), or specific technological, social, political, or economic concerns. Consequently, there must be the opportunity for public involvement in energy decision-making at all levels.

RECOMMENDATION 5: THE PRIORITY OF ENERGY CONSERVATION

Efficiency improvements and other means of demand reduction must be given priority in all areas of energy policy. Specifically, this goal must be pursued in program development, financing, pricing, and other aspects of

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UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA CELEBRATION '88
SPEAKERS PANEL
THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE CANADIAN-AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON
NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRIES IN CANADA

RELEVANCE TO CELEBRATION '88 THEME OF "ENRICHING TODAY-EMBRACING
TOMORROW"

The proposed Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement sets a new economic context for natural resource-based industries in Canada. The Agreement's specific provisions have only recently been defined and its various impacts remain uncertain. This speakers panel is intended to promote an understanding of the Agreement's implications for four resource-based industries operating in Manitoba.

The panel has been organized by the Natural Resources Institute Students Association with financial support from the Canadian Association of Resource Managers (CARM) and the University of Manitoba Students Association.

PANEL FORMAT AND SPEAKERS

The panel comprises representatives of agriculture, energy, fishery, and mining industries and is structured to allow representation from privately and publicly-managed firms operating regionally, nationally, and internationally.

- a moderator will introduce each panelist who will speak for 15 minutes on the advantages and disadvantages of the Agreement for the respective industry;
- 5 minutes of cross-panel questions/discussion will follow each presentation;
- the moderator will open the forum for audience questions/comments.

Formal discussions will be adjourned and attendants invited to refreshments and a cash bar.

The panel will be moderated by Mr. David Young. Panel members are:

Mr. Ian Gillies	Cargill Limited
Mr. Marc Eliesen	Manitoba Hydro
Mr. Alex Drobot	Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation
Mr. Winton Newman	Manitoba Mining Association

***** TIME AND LOCATION *****

January 27, 1988 : Panel 7:00-9:00 PM
Refreshments 9:15-11:00.

University Of Manitoba : Drake Building (Management/Transport
Institute in southeast quadrant
of campus on Freedman Crescent)
Room Number 343

Recycle



WINNIPEG RECYCLOMOBILE SCHEDULE

Aluminum Beverage Containers and Plastic Soft Drink Bottles

	Day	Time	Jan. \ Feb. \ Mar.
<u>Charleswood</u>			
Safeway Forest Park 3900 Grant Ave. Superstore Parkwest 6650 Roblin Blvd.	Wed.	3pm-6pm	6,20 \ 3,17 \ 2,16,30
	Fri.	3pm-6pm	8,22 \ 5,19 \ 4,18
<u>Downtown</u>			
Safeway River & Osborne. 600 Sargent Ave.	Wed.	10am-1pm	6,20 \ 3,17 \ 2,16,30
	Tues.	3pm-6pm	12,26 \ 9,23 \ 8,22
<u>East Kildonan</u>			
Family Fare 1795 Henderson Hwy. Superstore Gateway & McLeod	Fri.	3pm-6pm	15,29 \ 12,26 \ 11,25
	Tues.	10am-1pm	12,26 \ 9,23 \ 8,22
<u>Fort Garry</u>			
Safeway Ft. Richmond 2860 Pembina Hwy. Safeway 2155 Pembina Hwy.	Wed.	10am-1pm	13,27 \ 10,24 \ 9,23
	Sat.	9am-12pm	2,16,30 \ 13,27 \ 12,26
<u>St. Boniface</u>			
Safeway 77 Vermillion	Tues.	3pm-6pm	5,19 \ 2,16 \ 1,15,29
<u>St. James</u>			
Safeway Unicity Safeway Westwood Mall 3292 Portage Ave. Safeway Polo Park 1485 Portage Ave.	Sat.	2pm-5pm	9,23 \ 6,20 \ 5,19
	Thur.	3pm-6pm	14,28 \ 11,25 \ 10,24
	Thur.	10am-1pm	14,28 \ 11,25 \ 10,24
<u>St. Vital</u>			
Safeway St. Vital Mall Superstore 215 St. Annes Road	Fri.	10am-1pm.	8,22 \ 5,19 \ 4,18
	Fri.	10am-1pm.	15,29 \ 12,26 \ 11,25
<u>Transcona</u>			
Crossroads Center	Wed.	3pm-6pm.	13,27 \ 10,24 \ 9,23
<u>Tuxedo</u>			
Superstore Grant & Kenaston Safeway Grant Park 1160 Grant Ave.	Sat.	9am-12pm	9,23 \ 6,20 \ 5,19
	Thur.	10am-1pm	7,21 \ 4,18 \ 3,17,31
<u>West Kildonan</u>			
Safeway Garden City 2305 McPhillips St. Superstore 2132 McPhillips St.	Thurs.	3pm-6pm	7,21 \ 4,18 \ 3,17,31
	Sat.	2pm-5pm	2,16,30 \ 13,27 \ 12,26

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.02 cents/lb. for a quantity over 100 lbs.

RECYCLING MAKES "CENTS" IN MANITOBA

policy. Not only does demand reduction lessen environmental stress more than any other option, it also has permanent, widely shared economic benefits for individuals and all regions of the country. By minimizing demand, we also create resilience to economic and supply disruptions.

RECOMMENDATION 6: LEGISLATED PRIORITIES FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The federal government can show leadership in incorporating environmental concerns into energy policy by creating enabling legislation for an Energy Policy Act that would require a priority ranking for program, investment, and other support for the best options in terms of environmental criteria.

The priority list should be as follows:

- * end-use reduction and energy efficiency improvements;
- * co-generation and waste heat utilization (i.e., for uses external to the plant, such as district heating);
- * renewable sources, excluding mega-project scale sources, and resources of high fuel conversion efficiency;
- * other resources.

It should be noted that all specific projects should still be subject to site-specific assessment.

RECOMMENDATION 7: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

Any proposal for energy development must explicitly set out why and how that project is more beneficial environmentally and socially than any other development, or the "no-go option; as well, it should demonstrate that it is the most economically efficient way to achieve its benefits. Public participation in such project review and assessment is vital.

MANITOBA ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

P.O. BOX 3125

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

R3C 4E6