

Resolution:**[#A00-7, Air Pollution in Ontario's Electrical Sector](#)**

The operative clause of this resolution supports the following recommendations of the Ontario Clean Air Alliance:

1. The Government of Ontario should establish emission caps that will reduce Ontario's total (domestic and imported) electricity-related sulphur dioxide and cancer-causing (arsenic, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, lead and nickel) emissions by 83% between 2002 and 2014 relative to business as usual. Furthermore, the Government of Ontario should establish emission caps that reduce Ontario's total (domestic and imported) electricity-related nitrogen oxides and carbon dioxide emissions by 64% and 40% respectively between 2002 and 2014 relative to business as usual;
2. If emissions trading is permitted, only companies that are subject to legally binding emission caps should be allowed to buy and sell emission credits.

Recent Developments:**March 8, 2005**

alPHA's Advocacy Committee made a motion to recommend that resolution A00-7 be closed, as the pledge to close Ontario's coal-fired plants by 2007 satisfies the operative clause.

January 14th, 2004

Report of the Electricity Conservation and Supply Task Force is released by Energy Minister Dwight Duncan. It is a detailed analysis of the future of power generation in Ontario, which assumes that the government will keep its commitment to phasing out coal-fired generation by 2007. Click on the link to the Ministry's Web site to download the report

<http://www.energy.gov.on.ca/index.cfm?fuseaction=english.main>

June 27, 2002

Ontario's Minister of Environment and Energy, the Honourable Chris Stockwell, endorsed the phase-out of Ontario Power Generation's five coal-fired power plants. Minister Stockwell told the Legislature: "Nobody really wants to see coal-fired power plants operating...They are one of the worst polluters". Minister Stockwell went on to state that a coal phase-out is "a good idea" and that Ontario may be able to phase-out its coal-fired power plants within four to five years.

June 5, 2002

The Ontario Legislature's Select Committee on Alternative Fuel Sources called for the complete phase-out of Ontario Power Generation's (OPG's) coal-fired power plants by 2015. In particular, the Committee called for the phase-out of the Atikokan and Thunder Bay coal-fired power plants by 2005 (The Ontario Clean Air Alliance is calling for a phase-out of all of OPG's coal

plants by 2010). The Committee also said that the Ontario Energy Board should require Ontario's municipal electric utilities (e.g. Toronto Hydro, Pickering Hydro) to promote energy conservation. Moreover, the Committee recommended that the municipal electric utilities' profits should be linked to their success at reducing their customers' bills by promoting energy efficiency. The Committee also endorsed a renewable portfolio standard to promote renewable energy. The Committee was chaired by Dr. Doug Galt (M.P.P. Northumberland). The Committee included representatives from all three political parties. All of the Committee's recommendations were adopted unanimously. To view the Committee's report, visit the web site: <http://www.cleanair.web.ca/> and click on "What's New".

March 26, 2001

Minister Witmer announced that the Mississauga Lakeview coal plant will be taken off-line in the Spring of 2005.

December 15, 2000

Environment Canada reports that OPG is the #1 emitter of mercury, at 19.5% of Ontario's total, up from 3.5% in 1998. Conversion to natural gas would eliminate these emissions.

October 26, 2000

Letter received from the MOE reiterating the proposed caps on nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide with reductions of 45 and 50% respectively. It also refers to the credit trading proposal, but offers no details.

October 13, 2000

Canada-US agreement to reduce fossil-fuel emissions of nitrogen oxides by 50% by 2007.

September 18, 2000

alPHA executive director Andy Papadopoulos and staff member Gordon Fleming met with Jack Gibbons to explore alPHA membership in the OCCA. Andy to recommend membership to the alPHA Board of Directors on Friday September 22.

Notes:

- OCCA has a narrow focus on eliminating coal-fired electricity generation, e.g. lobbying for conversion to natural gas and other alternatives.
- OPHA, an OCCA member, adopted a resolution similar to #A00-7 at their November 1999 AGM.

Federal Minister of Environment David Anderson has sent a letter to Minister Newman requesting that his Ministry make greater efforts to reduce air

pollution: it can be viewed at

<http://www.cleanair.web.ca/whatsnew/minofenvt.html>