## **Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment**

## CANADA-WIDE STANDARDS for MERCURY EMISSIONS from COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION PLANTS

## PREAMBLE

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) has determined that mercury levels in fish and wildlife across Canada warrant efforts to reduce mercury emissions in order to protect not only fish and wildlife, but also human health.

Mercury is a toxic, persistent, bioaccumulative substance. It converts in water to the highly toxic form, methylmercury, which accumulates in fish and other species, damaging the central nervous system and causing reproductive failure among loons and river otters.

Human exposure to mercury – primarily by eating contaminated fish – may cause neurological and developmental damage. Low exposure to mercury may cause problems, such as learning disabilities in children. Women of childbearing age, pregnant women, children, and populations who depend on fish as a traditional food source are most at risk.

CCME is committed to reducing mercury releases to the environment. Since 1998, CCME has set Canada-wide Standards (CWSs) for mercury emissions from base-metal smelters and from waste incinerators, as well as CWSs for mercury-containing lamps and dental amalgam waste.

Canada has also negotiated and signed a number of regional and international agreements with the U.S. and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe that reduce emissions to the global pool of mercury, since Canada receives ten times more mercury from the global pool than it emits each year.

In 2003, the coal-fired electric power generation (EPG) sector emitted an estimated 2,695 kilograms of mercury from an estimated 3,725 kilograms of mercury in coal burned. The EPG sector is the largest single remaining man-made source of mercury emissions in Canada. Therefore, CCME has agreed to set mercury CWSs for this sector, with the goal of reducing mercury emissions from existing plants and ensuring new plants achieve emission levels based on best available technologies economically achievable, or equivalent.

## PART I: NUMERICAL TARGETS and TIMEFRAMES

## 1. Nature and application

These Canada-wide Standards (CWSs) consist of two sets of targets:

- provincial caps on mercury emissions from existing coal-fired electric power generation (EPG) plants, with the 2010 provincial caps representing a 60%\* national capture of mercury from coal burned, or 70%\* including recognition for early action; and
- capture rates or emission limits for new plants, based on best available control technology, effective immediately.

A second phase of the CWSs may explore the capture of 80% or more of mercury from coal burned for 2018 and beyond.

## 2. Existing facilities

Existing coal-fired EPG plants will meet the following provincial caps for annual mercury emissions:

Province	Estimated Emissions <sup>1</sup>	2010 Cap
	(kg/yr)	(kg/yr)
Alberta	$1,180^{2}$	590
Saskatchewan	710	$430^{3}$
Manitoba	20	20
Ontario	495	*4*
New Brunswick	140	25
Nova Scotia	150	65
Total	2,695	1,130*

- <sup>1</sup> Based on 2002 to 2004 utility monitoring program results.
- <sup>2</sup> Alberta's commitment is through the implementation of the Clean Air Strategic Alliance Electricity Project Team recommendations. Alberta emissions are based on a 90% capacity factor.
- <sup>3</sup> Saskatchewan's early actions, between 2004 and 2009, will be used to meet its provincial caps for the years 2010 to 2013. Examples of early actions include a mercury switch collection program and early mercury controls at the Poplar River Power Station.
- <sup>4</sup> Ontario will help meet the CWS of 60% capture of mercury by 2010, and help exceed it in the near future with an ultimate Ontario goal of 0 mercury emissions from coal-fired power generation. The Lakeview coal-fired electricity generating station was closed in 2005. Ontario is committed to phasing out coal-fired

electricity, and within 12 months Ontario will finalize its mercury emission plan for 2010.

The 2010 national total represents mercury emission reductions from 2003/04 levels of approximately 52%\*, or 58%\* including recognition for early action.

For the purposes of these CWSs, existing facilities include units in place at the time of endorsement at the following coal-fired power plants:

Manitoba	Brandon
Saskatchewan	Boundary Dam Poplar River Shand
Alberta	Sheerness Battle River Genesee Sundance Keephills Wabamun H.R. Milner
New Brunswick	Belledune Grand Lake
Nova Scotia	Lingan Point Tupper Trenton Point Aconi
Ontario	Atikokan Nanticoke Thunder Bay Lambton

\* These values subject to change when Ontario finalizes mercury cap.

#### *3. New facilities*

This section applies to any coal-fired EPG unit not identified above as an existing facility. A new facility includes any coal-fired steam generating unit, including a unit which replaces an existing coal-fired steam generating unit with equivalent technology or with any other steam generating technology which is based on coal combustion, for which first permit approval occurs after the signing of these standards.

Mercury emissions from new facilities are not included in the provincial caps for existing facilities.

A new coal-fired EPG unit will achieve a capture of mercury from coal burned no less than specified below or an average annual mercury emission rate no greater than specified below:

Coal type	Percent capture in coal burned* (%)	Emission rate* (kg/TWh)
Bituminous coal	85	3
Sub-bituminous coal	75	8
Lignite	75	15
Blends	85	3

\* These rates are based on best available technologies economically achievable.

## PART 2

## IMPLEMENTATION

Jurisdictions will undertake the following implementation actions:

- implement jurisdictional implementation plans to achieve the CWSs (see Annex A);
- establish and maintain testing in accordance with a Monitoring Protocol to be developed by CCME no later than 2006; and
- the federal government, with support from the provinces and territories, will aggressively pursue further reductions in the global pool of mercury.

## **REPORTING on PROGRESS**

Ministers will receive reports from jurisdictions in 2008, 2009, and 2010 and every two years thereafter until 2016 on the results of testing in accordance with the Monitoring Protocol. Ministers will ensure that a single report is prepared and posted on the CCME web site for public access.

These reports may be accompanied by other information on additional outcomes, activities, research, or other issues relevant to the standards and/or the coal-fired electric power generation sector.

## REVIEW

Based on reports on progress, the CWSs may be reviewed by 2012 to explore the capture of 80% or more of mercury from coal burned for 2018 and beyond.

## ADMINISTRATION

Jurisdictions will review and renew Part 2 five years from coming into effect.

Any party may withdraw from these CWSs upon three months' notice.

These CWSs come into effect for each jurisdiction on the date of signature by the jurisdiction.

## ANNEX A – IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment

CANADA-WIDE STANDARDS for MERCURY EMISSIONS from COAL-FIRED ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION PLANTS

## ALBERTA

**Coverage:** 2005 - 2015

#### General accountability:

New facilities: Apply new CWS plant standards as appropriate.

**Existing facilities:** Implementing the CASA-Electricity Project Team (EPT) recommendations for mercury through the new mercury emissions for coal-fired power plant regulation should result in achievement of the provincial cap for Alberta by 2010.

#### Public role:

A Mercury Best Available Technology Economically Achievable (BATEA) Multistakeholder Committee developed an approach for implementation of CASA-EPT recommendations related to mercury. This approach is being implemented through a new mercury emissions regulation for coal-fired power plants that came into effect March 2006.

#### Access to information:

The general public may contact Alberta Environment in regards to the status of implementation of the regulation. Any member of the public may request information from Alberta coal-fired operators holding approvals or required to comply with the regulation on anything that is outlined in their operating approval or outlined in the mercury regulation.

#### Verifiable progress:

Coal-fired power plant operators are required to monitor mercury emissions. This information will be available to the public upon submission to Alberta Environment.

#### **Co-benefits:**

Co-benefits will depend on the nature of the technology chosen to reduce mercury emissions (i.e. installation of activated carbon injection and a fabric filter is expected to reduce emissions of other metals, organics, and particulate matter).

#### Milestones and deliverables:

The major milestone is the expected installation of mercury control technology in the 2008-20010 timeframe.

For further information contact: Prasad Valupadas, Alberta Environment, (780) 427-8565

# CANADA

Canada's implementation plan is not yet available.

## MANITOBA

#### **Coverage:**

Manitoba Hydro currently has 16 generating stations: 14 hydroelectric and two thermal (only one of which is a coal-fired facility - Brandon GS - with a generation capacity of 95 MW). On average, about 98% of the generated electricity comes from the hydraulic stations; thermal operations are used intermittently for system backup and security of supply, especially during drought years. In early 2002, Manitoba Hydro converted the fuel at its former coal-fired facility in Selkirk – 126 MW capacity - from coal to natural gas. New electricity generation will continue to focus on renewable resources such as the development of additional hydraulic capacity with minimal over-land flooding.

Since electricity generation at the coal-fired facilities can vary greatly from year-to-year, mercury releases were based on 'drought' year situations. Since undertaking the fuel change at the Selkirk GS, this facility has virtually no remaining mercury releases and it is estimated that up to 17 kilograms of mercury emission has been avoided annually. The Canada-wide Standard recognizes this as a measure for early action.

#### General accountability:

#### New facilities:

Any new facility will be required to meet "new facilities" standards which would be implemented under the provincial Environment Act requirements such as Licencing.

## **Existing facilities:**

The cap of 20 kg on mercury releases from the Brandon GS by 2010 (representing an annual generation capacity of about 75%) will be instituted by an Environment Act Licence amendment or other arrangement.

#### **Public role:**

Environmental assessment, licencing and Licence review are a public process and provide an opportunity for public participation.

#### Access to information:

Information related to releases and conformance to requirements will be posted in the location-specific Public Registry associated with Manitoba's Environment Act.

#### Verifiable progress:

It is anticipated that Manitoba Hydro will be required to continue testing in accordance with the proposed Monitoring Protocol and to publicly report on the results.

#### **Co-benefits:**

Significant reductions in other air pollutants releases were associated with the early action to eliminate mercury emissions at Selkirk.

## Milestones and deliverables:

Regular test results to demonstrate achievement of annual emissions.

For further information contact:

David Bezak, Air Quality Section, Manitoba Conservation 160-123 Main Street, Winnipeg MB R3C 1A5 Tel 204-945-7046; Fax 204-948-2357; Mail to dbezak@gov.mb.ca

## **NEW BRUNSWICK**

## **EXISTING COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS**

## **General Accountability:**

In New Brunswick, the implementation of Canada-Wide Standards for existing coal-fired power plants will be achieved by incorporating the Canada-Wide Standards for Mercury into the conditions of individual facilities' Approvals to Operate issued under the *Air Quality Regulation - Clean Air Act*.

#### Milestones and Deliverables:

Currently, only two coal-fired power plants exist in New Brunswick, both of which are equipped with emission control equipment consisting of electrostatic precipitators. One of the two coal-fired power plants is also equipped with a flue gas desulphurization system (scrubber) and low NOx burners.

It is anticipated that the Approvals to Operate issued under the *Air Quality Regulation* for the two coal-fired power plants will, upon their renewal or one year in advance of the Canada-Wide Standard compliance date, include conditions stipulating the limits established under the Canada-Wide Standards for Mercury.

#### Public Role:

Under the *Clean Air Act*, a public participation process must be conducted for the issuance and renewal of Approvals to Operate for all major facilities (termed "Class 1" facilities), including coal-fired power plants. Under this public participation process, public feedback is solicited through the provision of information on the Department of the Environment and Local Government's Web site and also in hard copy via the regional offices of the Department.

#### Access to Information:

All Approvals to Operate issued under the *Air Quality Regulation – Clean Air* Act must be maintained in a Public Register, which is available in all regional offices of the Department of the Environment and Local Government. In addition, information relating to Class 1 facilities, which include coal-fired power plants, is made available on the Department's Web site. Facility-specific performance information may be made available to the general public upon request. In some cases, larger facilities may be required through the conditions of their approvals to establish local "advisory" committees with specified stakeholders including concerned citizens, where relevant facility information may be obtained.

## Verifiable Progress:

Existing coal-fired power plants shall be required, through their Approval to Operate under the *Air Quality Regulation*, to conduct mercury stack testing on a regular basis to demonstrate compliance with the Canada-Wide Standards, as well as submit annual reports on mercury emissions to the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

## **Co-Benefits:**

Approvals issued to existing coal-fired power plants will, where appropriate, specify limits for a number of contaminants, including mercury, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter. In cases where the addition of control equipment is required to meet the Canada-Wide Standards, such equipment is also likely to enable the reduction of a host of other potential contaminants.

## NEW COAL-FIRED POWER PLANTS

## **General Accountability:**

New Brunswick's overall approach to the implementation of Canada-Wide Standards for new coal-fired power plants will be to incorporate the Canada-Wide Standards for Mercury into the conditions of individual facilities' Approvals to Operate issued under the *Air Quality Regulation - Clean Air Act*.

## **Public Role:**

Under the *Clean Air Act*, a public participation process must be conducted for the issuance of Approvals to Operate for all major facilities (termed "Class 1" facilities), including new coal-fired power plants. Under this public participation processes, public feedback is solicited through the provision of information on the Department of the Environment and Local Government's Web site and also in hard copy via the regional offices of the Department.

## Access to Information:

All Approvals to Operate issued under the *Air Quality Regulation – Clean Air* Act must be maintained in a Public Register, which is available in all regional offices of the Department. In addition, information relating to Class 1 facilities, which include coalfired power plants, is made available on the Department of the Environment and Local Government's Web site. Facility-specific performance information may be made available to the general public upon request. In some cases, larger facilities may be required through the conditions of their approvals to establish local "advisory" committees with specified stakeholders including concerned citizens, where relevant facility information may be obtained.

## Verifiable Progress:

New coal-fired power plants require an Approval to Operate under the *Air Quality Regulation*, which will specify requirements for mercury stack testing to be conducted on a regular basis to demonstrate compliance with the Canada-Wide Standards, as well as specify requirements for the submission of annual reports on mercury emissions to the Department of the Environment and Local Government.

## **Co-Benefits:**

Approvals issued to any new coal-fired power plants will also specify limits for a number of contaminants, including mercury, sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particulate matter. In cases where the addition of control equipment is required to meet the Canada-Wide Standards, such equipment is also likely to enable the reduction of a host of other potential contaminants.

## **NOVA SCOTIA**

## Existing Facilities

In Nova Scotia, the Cap for Mercury Emissions from existing Coal-fired Electric Power Generation Plants applies only to facilities owned by Nova Scotia Power Incorporated (NSPI). Under the Air Quality Regulations<sup>1</sup>, Nova Scotia Power is required to reduce emissions of Sulphur Dioxide, Nitrogen Oxides and Mercury. Therefore, a regulatory framework for mercury already exists. These regulations will be amended to reflect the mercury cap for existing plants in the Canada-Wide Standard. The response from Nova Scotia Power. Implementation actions by Nova Scotia Power to meet the 2010 Mercury emissions cap under the Canada-wide Standard at existing plants will occur in a multi-pollutant context.

Specifically, for NSPI generating stations at Trenton, Point Tupper, Point Aconi and Lingan that constitute existing coal-fired facilities<sup>2</sup>, Nova Scotia will achieve its cap on Mercury emissions for 2010, by Nova Scotia Power selecting an appropriate balance among the following options to achieve the cap from the existing facilities:

- 1. Use of fuels with Mercury content and other attributes that will reduce atmospheric mercury emissions
- 2. Use of sorbents for Mercury in flue gas streams to capture Mercury with the various solids in the Particulate Collection equipment, including the modification of that equipment where necessary
- 3. Reduction in Mercury emissions as co-benefits of the installation of Air Pollution Control Devices or modified management practices intended principally for reduction in atmospheric emissions of other substances
- 4. Modification in production levels at existing coal plants from addition of lower-emitting new generation, including, but not limited to renewable energy.

## **New Facilities**

Mercury emissions from new facilities are not included in the provincial cap for existing facilities. A rigorous process exists to maximize the reduction of pollutants from new sources. The design and operation of all new coal-fired electric power generation units will comply with the new plant standard established in the Canada-Wide Standards. Any new electric generating facility with a production rating of 10 megawatts or more is considered a Class II undertaking of the Environmental Assessment Regulations<sup>3</sup>. In addition, any new electric power generating facility would be required to have an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 112 of the *Environment Act* (S.N.S. 1994-95, c. 1 O.I.C. 2005-87 (February 25, 2005, effective March 1, 2005), N.S. Reg. 28/2005)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Existing coal-fired facilities for Nova Scotia means the named generating stations operating in the configuration, with the generating capacity, and using coal or coal-blends in the composition range fired, at the time of endorsement of the Canada-Wide Standards for Mercury Emissions from Coal-Fired Electric Power Generation Plants.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Section 49 of the *Environment Act* (S.N.S. 1994-95, c. 1 O.I.C.95-220 (March 21, 1995), N.S. Reg. 26/95 as amended up to O.I.C. 2003-67 (February 28, 2003), N.S. Reg. 44/2003)

Approval under the Activities Designation Regulations<sup>4</sup>. The appropriate emission rate of the Canada-Wide standards, along with monitoring requirements to ensure compliance with the standards, would be incorporated into all Approvals for new coal-fired facilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Section 66 of the *Environment Act* (S.N.S. 1994-95, c. 1 O.I.C.95-286 (April 11, 1995), N.S. Reg. 47/95)

## **ONTARIO**

## **Preamble:**

The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) has determined that mercury levels in fish and wildlife across Canada warrant efforts to reduce mercury emissions in order to protect not only fish and wildlife, but also human health. The coalfired electric power generation sector is the largest unregulated source of mercury emissions in Canada and the CCME agreed to set a Canada-wide Standard (CWS), with the goal of reducing mercury emissions from existing plants and ensuring new plants achieve emission levels based on best available technologies economically achievable, or equivalent.

#### General accountability:

Currently, Ontario has four coal-fired EPG stations that are operating: Atikokan, Lambton, Nanticoke and Thunder Bay. Lakeview generating station ceased burning coal under Ontario Regulation 396/01 in April 2005.

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) has been directed to "Plan for Coal-fired generation in Ontario to be replaced by cleaner sources in the earliest practical time frame that ensures adequate generating capacity and electricity system reliability in Ontario." The OPA is also being asked to recommend options for cost-effective measures to reduce air emissions from coal-fired generation, including mercury. The OPA plan will be released in 2007. The CWS will be updated once Ontario's plan is finalized.

#### **Public role:**

Under Ontario's Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR), all substantive policy and instrument proposals must be posted to the (electronic) Registry. Development of the CWS involved extensive stakeholder consultation at a national level. Ontario will post the final decision shortly after endorsement of the standard.

#### Access to information:

Ontario's coal-fired EPG stations conducted a voluntary mercury monitoring program from 2003 to 2005. The data was made publicly available on the Canadian Electricity Association (CEA) website: <u>http://www.ceamercuryprogram.ca/</u>. Summaries of the data will also be available on the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment website at: <u>http://www.ceme.ca/</u>. In addition, beginning for reporting year 2005, all Ontario airborne emissions data, including those reported under the authority of O.Reg. 127/01, will be available to the public through the National Pollutant Release Inventory program.

#### Verifiable progress:

Ontario will provide reports in 2008, 2009, and 2010 and every two years thereafter until 2016 on the results of testing in accordance with the Monitoring Protocol towards achieving the CWS.

## **Co-benefits:**

Ontario's phase out of coal-fired electric power generation plants will result in many air quality benefits including: reduced emissions of smog precursors (NOx and  $SO_2$ ), particulate matter and greenhouse gases ( $CO_2$ ).

## Milestones and deliverables:

The operator of Ontario's coal fleet was represented on the multi-stakeholder advisory group and is aware of the standard and its requirements.



SASKATCHEWAN

Canada-wide Standards (CWS) for Mercury

## For the Control of Mercury **Emissions from the Coal-Fired Electric Power Generation (EPG) Sector**

## **Implementation Plan for Saskatchewan**

**Introduction:** Mercury is a toxic, persistent, and bio-accumulative substance. It converts in water to the highly toxic form, methylmercury, which accumulates in fish and other species, damaging the central nervous system and causing reproductive failure among loons and river otters.

Human exposure to mercury, primarily by eating contaminated fish may cause neurological and developmental damage. Low exposure to mercury may cause problems, such as learning disabilities in children. Women of childbearing age, pregnant women, children, and populations who depend on fish as a traditional food source are most at risk.

In 2003, the Saskatchewan coal-fired electric power generation (EPG) sector emitted an estimated 710 kilograms of mercury from an estimated 770 kilograms of mercury in coal burned. The EPG sector is the largest single remaining man-made source of mercury emissions in Canada. Therefore, the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) including Saskatchewan has agreed to set a mercury CWS for this sector, with the goal of reducing mercury emissions from existing plants and ensuring new plants achieve emission levels based on best available technologies economically achievable, or equivalent.

Nature and Application: This Canada-wide Standard (CWS) consists of provincial caps on mercury emissions from coal-fired electric power generation plants, with the:

- 2010 provincial caps representing a 65 % national capture of • mercury from coal burned, or 70% including recognition for early actions;
- an emission limit for new plants, based on best available control technology, effective immediately.

A second phase of the CWS may explore the capture of 80% or more of mercury from coal burned for 2018.



Environment

Saskatchewan Environmental Protection Branch

**Numeric Target and Timeframe for Achieving Target for Existing Facilities:** Existing coal-fired EPG plants owned by SaskPower including Boundary Dam Power Station, Poplar River Power Station and Shand Power Station will meet the following provincial caps for annual mercury emissions:

Utility	2003/04 Emissions (kg/yr)	2010 Cap (kg/yr)
	Based on 2002 to 2004 utility monitoring program results.	
SaskPower	710	430*

\* Saskatchewan's early actions, between 2004 and 2009, will be used to meet its provincial caps for the years 2010 to 2013. Examples of early actions include a mercury switch collection program and early mercury controls at the Poplar River Power Station.

**New facilities:** This section applies to any coal-fired EPG unit not identified above as an existing facility. A new facility includes any coal-fired steam generating unit, including a unit which replaces an existing coal-fired steam generating unit with equivalent technology or with any other steam generating technology which is based on coal combustion, for which first permit approval occurs after the signing of this standard.

Mercury emissions from new facilities are not included in the provincial caps for existing facilities. SaskPower's proposed new coal-fired power generation of 350MW in 2013 must meet new facilities requirements as defined in the CWS.

## **Progress Towards Implementation**

**General accountability**: Saskatchewan's overall approach to management of emissions from new coal-fired electric power generation facilities will be to incorporate the CWS into the conditions of permits to operate issued pursuant to Saskatchewan's *Clean Air Act* and *Clean Air Regulations*. If the construction of a new facility is such that it would be considered to be a "development," during the project development and assessment stage, management of mercury emissions will be introduced in accordance with *The Environmental Assessment Act*.

As well, SaskPower and Saskatchewan Environment have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the general purpose of providing a framework to achieve harmony between the environment and industrial operations at SaskPower. This MOU is commonly referred to as the partnership agreement. The

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achievement issues that may arise from the implementation of this standard will be addressed through this partnership agreement and partnership meetings with SaskPower. Therefore, this implementation plan will be amended as required over the course of the next year so that SaskPower may meet the provincial cap in the most cost effective manner. The outcomes will be included in permits to operate.

SaskPower will be required to perform annual emissions testing, as detailed in the Annex - Monitoring Protocol of the CWS, to verify compliance with the caps and to increase the knowledge of these emissions in the sector.

**Public role/Transparency:** Under sections 11, 12 and 13 of Saskatchewan's *Environmental Assessment Act*, the public may inspect environmental impact statements, submit written comments and attend public meetings regarding new projects classified as "developments" as proposed by the EPG sector. Public feedback may be obtained through these means during the assessment phase for new facilities. Public meetings may be held as appropriate to afford local stakeholders the opportunity to have input to the assessment process. In this way the public will have the ability to ensure that the CWS will be met at any new facility that meets the definition of a "development."

At existing facilities, the results of testing for mercury will be posted to the company's website on an annual basis.

Access to information: Facility performance information is generally made available to the general public upon request. Once operational, information on mercury emissions may be obtained through direct request to the department in accordance with provisions of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

## **Next Steps**

#### Short Term (2004 – 2009)

- Saskatchewan Environment will allow Recognition for Early Action (REA) for the collection of mercury switches up to 2010 and beyond. It is anticipated that most mercury switches from vehicles will be removed or because of phase out will be exhausted by 2010.
- Saskatchewan Environment and SaskPower may consider other mercury collection programs that will reduce the mercury burden on the natural environment.

SE's website: www.se.gov.sk.ca

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• Saskatchewan Environment will allow REA for any mercury reductions as a result of controls at Poplar River prior to 2010.

## Long Term (2010 – 2015)

- A CWS will be implemented in this timeframe, whereby a provincial cap for mercury will be 430 kg/yr based on emissions.
- From 2010 to 2015 implement controls for the reduction of mercury and to meet the proposed CWS. These reductions will fall short in the early years but with the use of REA these shortfalls will be overcome to meet the standard annually. Long-term reductions will be met with the installation of controls, increased efficiencies, and retirements that will sustain those reductions by 2015.

## **Ongoing Commitments**

- Saskatchewan Environment will continue to support and encourage SaskPower to pursue the implementation of a mercury switch collection program in partnership with IPSCO.
- Saskatchewan Environment will continue to support and pursue options for REA at the national level. Other similar activities that result in a net reduction of mercury into the natural environment may also be considered for recognition.
- SaskPower will participate in a significant R&D program to determine the most suitable way to manage mercury emissions from lignite-fired power plants.
- SaskPower will continue to monitor and report on mercury emissions.

**Reporting on Progress:** Ministers will receive reports from jurisdictions in 2008, 2009 and 2010 and every two years thereafter on the results of testing in accordance with the Monitoring Protocol. Ministers will ensure that a single report is prepared and posted on the CCME web site for public access.

**Review:** The CWS will be reviewed in 2016 to assess the need to set new standards for 2018 and beyond.

## Canada-wide Standards for Mercury Emissions from Coal-Fired Electric Power Generation Plants

Signed by:

Saskatchewan	Honourable John T. Nilson
New Brunswick	Honourable Roland Haché
Yukon	Honourable Dennis Fentie
Ontario	Honourable Laurel C. Broten
Newfoundland and Labrador	Honourable Clyde Jackman
	Honourable John Ottenheimer
Northwest Territories	Honourable J. Michael Miltenberger
Alberta	Honourable Guy Boutilier
Nunavut	Honourable Patterk Netser
Manitoba	Honourable Stan Struthers
Prince Edward Island	Honourable Jamie Ballem
British Columbia	Honourable Barry Penner
Environment Canada	Honourable Rona Ambrose
Nova Scotia	Honourable Mark Parent

Note: Québec has not endorsed the Canada-wide Accord on Environmental Harmonization or the Canada-wide Environmental Standards Subagreement.