



News Release

Protecting the Environment One Sweater at a Time

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February 5, 2014 10:00 a.m. | Ministry of the Environment

Ontario is encouraging everyone to help fight climate change by making smart choices about energy use.

On Feb. 6, 2014, [Ontario is joining WWF-Canada](#) for National Sweater Day, which encourages Canadians to conserve energy. Ontarians can play an important role in fighting climate change by:

- Putting on a sweater and turning down the thermostat. If every Canadian turned down their thermostat in the winter we could save 2.2 megatonnes of carbon dioxide per year -- equal to taking 350,000 cars off the road.
- Using less water. There is a close connection between water use and energy use. Many pumps and equipment are needed to get water to your home and to heat it up.
- Replacing all those old light bulbs with new compact fluorescents or LED lights. They last and last and save you money too.
- Installing power bars for your appliances and turning them off when not in use.

Ontario is also making major strides against climate change by closing all coal-fired electricity plants by the end of 2014. The proposed [Ending Coal for Cleaner Air Act](#) would ensure that once coal facilities stop operating, coal-burning generation on the electricity grid will never happen again.

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Learn More

[Read about the proposed Ending Coal for Cleaner Air Act.](#)

[Find out how little actions can make a big difference in protecting the environment.](#)

[Join National Sweater Day.](#)

Protecting the environment while providing clean, reliable and affordable power is part of the government's plan to invest in people, build modern infrastructure and support a dynamic and innovative business climate across Ontario.

Quick Facts

- By the end of 2014, Ontario will be the first jurisdiction in North America to eliminate coal as a source of electricity production.
- Closing the dirty coal-fired Lambton and Nanticoke plants one year ahead of schedule is saving the province's electricity customers \$95 million through reduced project and maintenance costs.
- Replacing coal with cleaner generation, renewables and conservation will reduce Ontario emissions by up to 30 megatonnes per year and reduce the carbon footprint from electricity use by 75 per cent.

Quotes



“Just one act symbolizes the difference we can all make in fighting climate change. Simple actions like turning down the thermostat and wearing a sweater demonstrate we are all united in tackling this environmental challenge.”

Jim Bradley
Minister of the Environment



“Ontarians are benefitting from a clean, reliable and affordable energy system. As we plan for our future energy needs, conservation will be the first resource considered. Conservation is environmentally friendly and it can help lower our electricity bills.”



Bob Chiarelli
Minister of Energy

“Getting serious about tackling climate change means getting serious about energy conservation. The good news is that there are practical solutions that individuals, communities and our leaders can help drive. It is great to see so many people coming together to show their commitment to saving energy and fighting climate change.”

David Miller
president and CEO, WWF-Canada

Media Contacts

Kate Jordan
Communications Branch
Kate.Jordan@ontario.ca
416-314-6666

Contact information for the general public
416-325-4000
1-800-565-4923

Lyndsay Miller
Minister's Office
Lyndsay.Miller@ontario.ca
416-314-6739

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