

Attention News Editors:**Moving Forward On Coal Replacement**

McGuinty Government Cuts Harmful Greenhouse Gases Further By 2011

TORONTO, May 16 /CNW/ -

NEWS

The McGuinty government has introduced strict, new limits on coal plant emissions to ensure they're cut by two-thirds below 2003 levels by 2011.

Ontario Power Generation will be required to limit greenhouse gas emissions from its coal plants to 11.5 megatonnes in 2011, down from 34.5 megatonnes in 2003. OPG will also be directed to show annual progress in 2009 and 2010 toward the 2011 target.

Ontario is the only jurisdiction in North America committed to completely eliminating coal-fired generation. Replacing coal by 2014 represents the single largest greenhouse gas reduction in North America. Its impact will be equivalent to taking almost 7 million cars off our roads.

Moving forward on coal replacement is a key component of the government's 20-year plan to secure a reliable and sustainable supply of electricity for Ontario. The plan is a balanced approach for bringing on new supply, building a culture of conservation and generating more renewable power.

QUOTES

"We owe it to ourselves - and future generations of Ontarians - to switch off coal, turn on conservation and plug in cleaner sources of electricity," said Energy Minister Gerry Phillips.

"We're phasing out coal and that means less pollution in the air we breathe," said Environment Minister John Gerretsen. "Ontario is using more renewable sources of energy to tackle climate change, and consumers can help by using electricity wisely."

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QUICK FACTS

- The closure of the coal-fired Lakeview Generating Station in 2005 eliminated emissions equivalent to taking 500,000 cars off Ontario roads
- Closing coal plants by 2014 will be the single biggest contributor (44 per cent) to reducing Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions as part of its Go Green climate change plan
- Ontario's Go Green climate change plan will make Ontario a leader on the environment by fighting climate change, greening the economy, tackling the environmental causes of illness, and providing stronger protection for the natural environment

LEARN MORE

Read more about Go Green, Ontario's action plan on climate change (www.gogreenontario.ca).

Learn about Ontario's plan to replace coal-fired power with cleaner,

greener electricity by visiting the Renewable Energy section at
www.energy.gov.on.ca

Learn more about Ontario's 20 year power plan

(www.energy.gov.on.ca/index.cfm?fuseaction=english.news&back=yes&news_id=173&backgrounder_id=131)

View the regulation at www.ebr.gov.on.ca by entering registry number
010-3530

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