



**CLEAN AIR, CLIMATE CHANGE & CLEAN ENERGY IN ONTARIO
LEARN ABOUT THESE ISSUES AND MORE AT EECO 2007**

For immediate release
May 7, 2007

Toronto, ON - During the past few decades, energy and environmental issues have become a global priority. Particularly, Ontario and the Great Lakes region have been preparing for a potential crisis. As the industrial epicentre of North America, this region accounts for 12% of the world's GDP, generates 30% of US and 45% of Canada's exports' and has a population of over 48 million people. Since industry is firmly entrenched in this area, moving these activities and the people dependent on them is simply not an option; instead, the economic and environmental imperatives of this area must be reconciled. To confront this challenge, business and government leaders are working with the community to balance economic growth and energy resources with clean air. This initiative will aid the development of sustainable, competitive solutions for the reality of climate change.

Ontario's Energy Challenge

It would not be an exaggeration to suggest that Ontario has been experiencing an energy crisis. Fortunately, the provincial government has initiated a plan to make substantial changes to the energy supply. The Ontario Power Authority's long-term plan includes gaining approximately 15,000 megawatts (MW) of a new or refurbished supply and conservation resources that will be required to meet energy demands before 2015. This goal will make Ontario North America's leading renewable energy producer, with 15,700 MW installed by 2025.

Clean Air and Climate Change

Ontario's long-term energy plan will do a great deal to address the province's high greenhouse gas emissions that affect cities on either side of the US-Canada border. The Ontario Ministry of Environment estimates that transboundary air pollution is responsible for over 2,700 premature deaths, almost 14,000 emergency room visits and more than \$5.2 billion in health and environmental damages each year. Accordingly, Ontario is working with Northeast States to address issues such as smog, airborne toxics, acid deposition and climate change. This follows a long history of regional collaboration, highlighted by an international agreement to reduce air pollution that leads to acid rain.

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An Opportunity to Connect

Emissions trading, urban smog, renewable energy, nuclear power, coal, industrial growth and population expansion – there is no doubt that Ontario is at the nexus of energy and the environment. Businesses, governments and individuals are seeking creative solutions to these challenges, pushing the province and the region towards a sustainable economy. The enormity of this task necessitates dialogue among all stakeholders. The opportunity for such discussion will take place at the **EECO Environment & Energy Conference**. This premier bi-national business and environment forum, **June 19 and 20 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre**, will put a spotlight on critical market risks, climate change issues and opportunities in the region.

EECO is focused on three issues that require new solutions and innovative approaches to maintain sustainable development in Ontario and the Great Lakes Region: Clean Energy, Climate Change, Clean Air.

Through a highly dynamic and influential conference, exposition and Awards Gala, EECO presents Tier One speakers, interactive sessions and up-to-the-minute market intelligence regarding the nexus of business competitiveness, environmental protection and technology innovation. EECO is all about good business.

Confirmed speakers for EECO include: Elyse Allan, President and CEO, General Electric (GE) Canada, Dan Bakal, Director of Electric Power Programs, Ceres, Boston, MA, Cara Clairman, VP Sustainable, Development, Ontario Power Generation, Tom Heintzman, President, Bullfrog Power, Toronto, John Keating, CEO, Canadian Hydro Developers, Calgary, AB, Robin C. Rotenberg, President, BASF Canada

For registration information, a full list of speakers and a conference program, visit www.eeco2007.com.

Join over 700 senior corporate and government leaders from both sides of the border as they connect with their peers to explore three key issues critical to Ontario and the Great Lakes Region.

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Reference:

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