

Why does CEP have an energy policy?

The future of the planet is at stake

All serious scientists and community leaders today agree: **global warming is occurring and the world must take action now!** Climate change is already having a dramatic impact on our environment and economy — and this is just the beginning. Droughts, fires, flooding and extreme weather will happen more and more often in the future.

CEP: Canada's energy union

Among CEP's 150,000 members are 35,000 workers in the oil, gas, petrochemical and related industries. As Canada's energy union we have a special role to play in understanding energy issues and speaking out for workers and communities.



Canada's energy supply is under serious threat

Canadians are quickly losing control of our own energy supply, and we're putting our future generations at risk. Why is this happening? It's mainly due to **deregulation** and **privatization** of the energy sector, helped along by **free trade** agreements like **NAFTA**. This has led to **uncontrolled exports** of our energy resources to the U.S. Profit-hungry corporations are taking the regulation of Canada's energy sector out from under public control.

There has been a **huge increase in the export of our energy resources to the U.S.** Now, U.S. President George Bush Jr. wants a new energy deal with Canada. He wants new oil and natural gas pipelines from Canada to the U.S., and new power plants in Canada to send them more electricity.

Under NAFTA, Canada can't turn off the energy tap later when we need these resources for our own needs. In other words, if we increase the share of our energy being sent to the U.S., we will be **locked into that arrangement forever.**

Pretty soon, Canadians will have almost **no say** in how we use our own energy resources.



The CEP Energy Policy addresses these critical issues.

What's in the CEP Energy Policy?

Here are three of the policy's most important points:

- 1 RATIFYING THE KYOTO ACCORD** is one step in the right direction. But we must go further. We must agree to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2012. Canada must also pressure the United States, the world's biggest polluter, to join the global effort and ratify Kyoto.
- Canada must have a **JUST TRANSITION PROGRAM** for workers and communities affected by the implementation of the Kyoto Accord.
- Canada must develop a **CANADIAN ENERGY POLICY** to protect our resources — and our say in how we use them.

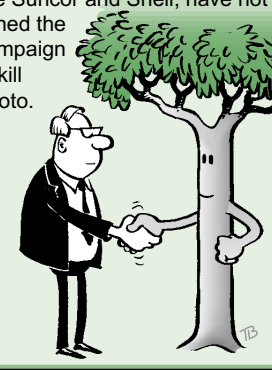
A Canadian energy policy would put Canada first by:

- giving Canadian energy grids **first dibs** on Canada's energy supply. That means that if we need energy, **we get it first** — before anybody talks about exporting to the U.S.
- taking energy **out of NAFTA** (or at least changing how NAFTA deals with it) so we're not locked into a system controlled by foreign transnational corporations and U.S. energy needs.
- creating new **petrochemical and manufacturing jobs in Canada** using energy resources, like natural gas.
- reversing the deregulation and privatization of our electrical utilities, which has led to huge rate increases in Alberta and Ontario. **Keep energy in public hands!**

Why does CEP support the Kyoto Accord when employers are opposing it?

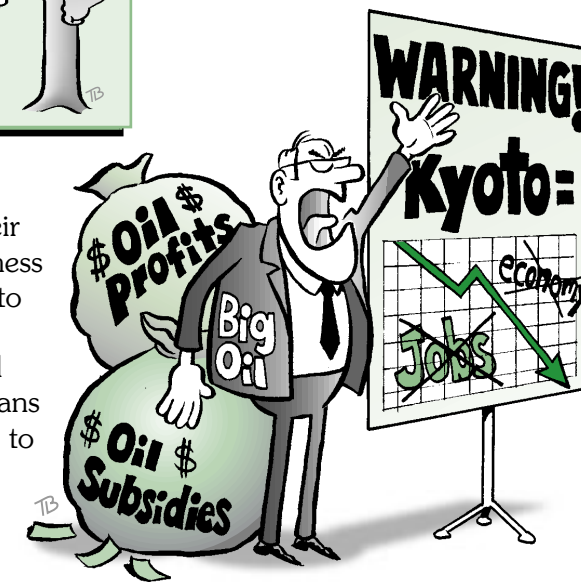
Kudos to a few corporations!

Luckily, not all employers are against Kyoto. Even some major oil and gas companies, like Suncor and Shell, have not joined the campaign to kill Kyoto.



Some oil and gas companies and other big employers have been campaigning against Kyoto because to reduce greenhouse gases we must **reduce the dependence of our economy on fossil fuels.** Companies will also have to spend money investing in energy efficiency.

To protect their interests and their profits, big business has been trying to convince the government and ordinary Canadians that we're going to face huge job losses and economic disaster.

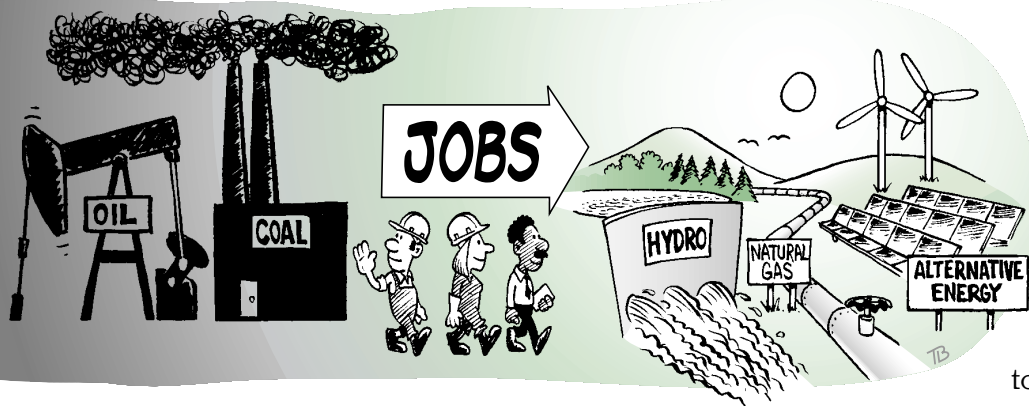


But CEP members see things a bit differently...

Some key things CEP members have learned:

- After two years studying climate change and the economic impacts of the Kyoto Accord, CEP found **no evidence** that ratifying and implementing Kyoto will mean layoffs for our members, or an economic disaster for Canada.
- Stopping climate change is not only an economic and environmental issue — it is a **community health** issue.
- We are **citizens**, not “investors” and we reject the false choice between “jobs” and the “environment”. There are no jobs on a dead planet.

There won't be economic disaster, but there will be big changes...



Predicting the impact of Kyoto on the energy industries is complicated. Oil and gas companies have been cutting jobs for years, and they will be only too happy to blame Kyoto for future job losses. However, changing consumer choices and switching energy production away from thermal coal and oil to natural gas, hydro and renewable energy will have an impact on some workers and communities. Some jobs may be lost to attrition, while many new jobs are being created.

We need a Just Transition Fund

With these changes in mind, we think that the government must create a **just transition fund** to assist workers and communities that are affected by the implementation of Kyoto. And we want the federal government to work with us in establishing this fund as part of an **implementation plan** for Kyoto.

A transition fund and plan will:

- protect some existing jobs while creating new jobs
- assist workers who are moving on to new jobs by offering income support, training, relocation assistance, and more

CEP has plenty of experience with transition programs, and we have many good ideas to make them work.

How will we pay for a just transition fund?

CEP has estimated that in a “worst case scenario,” a full transition program to help us adjust to the Kyoto Accord could cost up to \$1 billion over 10 years. But it would likely be much less. Still, **this is an affordable cost** for government and for the big energy companies. After all, the federal government currently subsidizes fossil fuel production with an estimated \$250 million per year — **that's \$2.5 billion over 10 years!**



With government still subsidizing fossil fuels at an obscene rate, don't let anyone tell you a transition fund would not be affordable!

What is CEP doing to promote our Energy Policy?

We're educating communities – and putting pressure on the government

CEP has been educating and campaigning for ratification of Kyoto and for a Just Transition program for workers and communities. We have been successful in getting a commitment from the federal government that it will work with CEP and the Canadian Labour Congress to establish a transition program.

“ I look forward to working with labour representatives, particularly the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union, in a partnership to anticipate changes that may occur because of Kyoto measures, and to identify how we can smoothly have a transition...”

— David Anderson,
Minister of Environment,
House of Commons,
October 24, 2002

We're organizing and networking

To make sure that we go beyond political commitments and actually put in place an effective Just Transition program, CEP is continuing its cross-Canada campaign. We are asking other unions, municipal councils, environmental groups, community organizations, and many others to endorse a statement and resolution calling on the federal government to provide meaningful assistance for jobs, income, training and other transitional help.

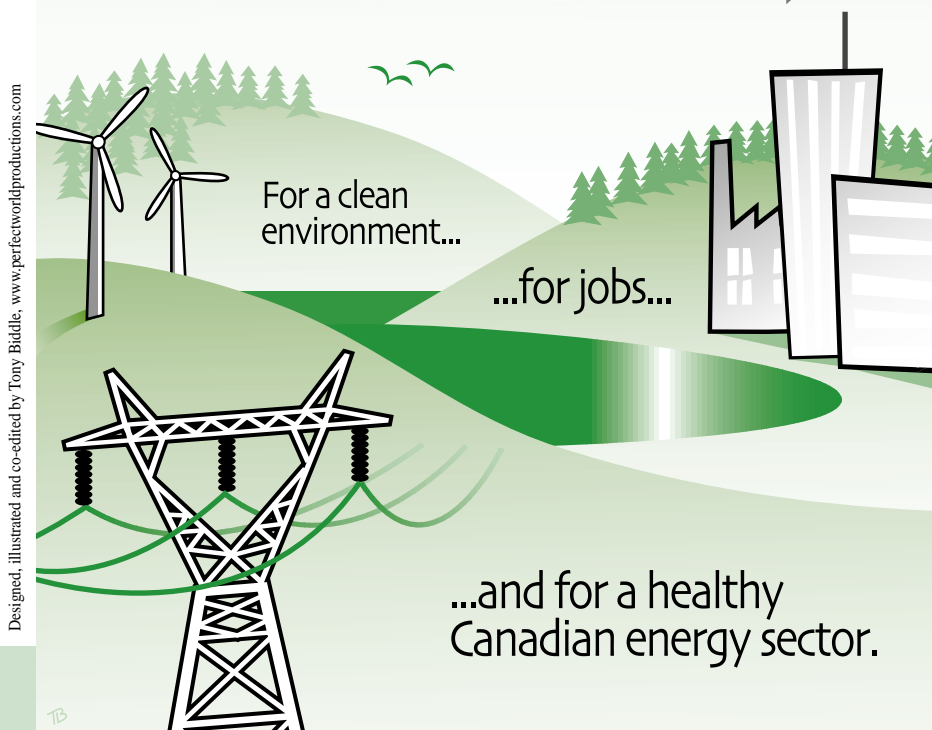
What can you do?

Get informed. Stay informed. Read the CEP Energy Policy (available on line at CEP.ca or from your local CEP office). And watch for updates on our campaign.

For more information visit www.cep.ca or contact your nearest CEP regional office.

INTRODUCING

The CEP Energy Policy



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