



**Nova Scotia Environment  
Statement of Mandate  
2014-2015**

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## Message from the Minister and Deputy Minister of Environment

Nova Scotia Environment works with departments, governments, organizations and individuals through the delivery of programs and services aimed at protecting the Province's land, water and air. The pages that follow represent Nova Scotia Environment's Statement of Mandate for 2014-2015, which reflects the Department's guiding pieces of legislation that help to advance government priorities.

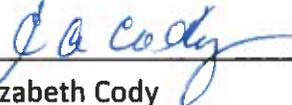
In 2014-2015, the Department will continue its work to modernize regulations under the *Environment Act*, aimed at focusing resources on areas posing greatest potential risk to the environment and reducing administrative burden. A key component of this work will be to consult with industry and other stakeholders on proposed changes to the On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Regulation.

During the year, Nova Scotia Environment will also continue its work to update the Province's Solid Waste Regulation aimed at diverting more waste from landfills, to legally protect lands as outlined in the Province's "Parks and Protected Areas Plan – A Plan for Nova Scotia" and to promote the vital connection between a healthy environment and sustainable economic growth.



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Honourable Randy Delorey  
Minister of Environment



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Elizabeth Cody  
Deputy Minister of Environment

## **1. Mandate/Mission/Vision**

### **Mandate**

The mandate of Nova Scotia Environment is to:

- Support and promote the protection, enhancement and prudent use of the environment (*Environment Act*).
- Provide for the establishment, management, protection and use of wilderness areas (*Wilderness Areas Protection Act*).
- Provide for the preservation, protection and study of ecological sites that are considered important parts of the natural heritage of the Province and promote understanding and appreciation of same among the people of the Province (*Special Places Protection Act*).
- Promote the interconnections between the health of the economy, the environment and the people of the Province and promote the Province's environmental assets as essential to the long-term prosperity of the Province (*Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act*).

### **Vision**

Nova Scotia will have a healthy environment that sustains our communities and supports our economy.

### **Mission**

Nova Scotia Environment provides leadership through science based decision making and regulation to ensure that our environment is valued, protected and improved.

## 2. Strategic Outcomes and Government Priorities<sup>1</sup>

Nova Scotia Environment's (NSE) strategic outcomes are based on its Mandate and linked to the Vision, Mission, Performance Measures and Government's priorities.

NSE aligns resources to priority projects and performance measures each year that are designed to show progress in the ultimate protection of the environment for future generations and, as well, contribute to responsible fiscal management, economic prosperity and the health of the people.

Below are NSE's strategic outcomes for fiscal 2014-2015 with a sampling of priority projects for each strategic outcome. Where applicable, NSE will also show how these priority projects contribute to Government priorities for the coming year.

### Strategic Outcome #1:

**Protection, enhancement and prudent use of the environment**

#### Government Priorities Supported:

- Responsible fiscal management
- Prosperous businesses of all sizes - creating jobs across the Province

Protecting the environment through its legislation, collaboration with other departments, municipalities, federal government, public and stakeholder consultation and engagement, NSE works to ensure that Nova Scotians have safe, healthy, and prosperous communities in which to work and live. Also, many of NSE's acts, regulations and policies are aimed at improving and sustaining human health.

#### Priority Projects Description:

- **Modernization of the Regulations**

In 2014-2015, NSE will continue to modernize regulations to align our resources with those activities that pose the greatest risk to our environment, while also introducing new efficient processes to ensure more routine and lower risk activities can be responsibly carried out by qualified individuals, with intervention by NSE as necessary to ensure compliance with environmental requirements.

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the examples/priorities used in this Statement of Mandate may support more than one government priority or more than one strategic outcome.

These efforts will help us ensure the most sustainable, cost-effective delivery of our services in the coming years while creating jobs across the Province.

- **Implementation of Contaminated Sites Regulation**

Implementing the Contaminated Sites Regulation, which became effective in July 2013, allows for further protection, timely cleanups, and enhancement of the environment. Through this Regulation, NSE will explore incentives and funding for Brownfield redevelopment. This creates both environmental and economic benefits at the same time.

- **Solid Waste Regulation Review**

NSE is reviewing its Solid Waste Regulation to encourage greater waste diversion. Diverting waste from disposal not only protects the environment but also increases economic activity and job creation. Additional consultation and engagement with municipalities and other key stakeholders is planned for 2014-2015.

- **Drinking Water Program Renewal**

NSE is renewing the 2002 Drinking Water Strategy and will develop a ten-year implementation plan to ensure continuous improvement of the drinking water program. Protecting human health and the environment by renewing the drinking water program helps to ensure that individuals will continue to have clean and safe water for consumption, recreation, and livelihoods.

**Performance Measures:**

The Performance Measures in this document that show progress in meeting strategic outcome #1 include the clean air measures, responsible waste management, clean and safe drinking water, and the wastewater treatment measure.

**Strategic Outcome #2:**

**Establishment and management of wilderness areas and nature reserves for protection of biodiversity, for public understanding and appreciation and for prudent use**

**Government Priorities Supported:**

- Responsible fiscal management
- Prosperous businesses of all sizes - creating jobs across the Province

NSE's mandate to protect wilderness areas and nature reserves is governed by the *Wilderness Areas Protection Act* and the *Special Places Protection Act*. Working with the Department of Natural Resources, in August 2013, "Our Parks and Protected Areas – A Plan for Nova Scotia" was released. The Plan identified lands to be protected, as well as specific goals for an integrated parks and protected areas system. This Plan supports the goal contained in the *Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act* to protect at least 12 per cent of the total land mass of the Province by 2015.

#### **Priority Projects Description:**

- **Implementation of Parks and Protected Areas Plan**

This Plan proposes to protect more than 13 per cent of our Province's land. The first priority project for 2014-2015 is to continue the legal protection of areas included in the Plan.

Protecting our provincial lands ensures that these areas continue to thrive and also that Nova Scotia's park system is updated to secure and strengthen its long-term success. As well, protecting at least 12 per cent of provincial lands contributes to economic growth by providing a range of natural services, supporting outdoor recreation and tourism industries, and helping to brand Nova Scotia as a clean, green place in which to live, work, and do business.

- **Protected Areas Management**

Another priority project in 2014-2015 is to identify, prioritize, and address legal commitments, threats to biodiversity and opportunities for safe public use.

#### **Performance Measure:**

The Performance Measure in this document that shows progress in meeting strategic outcome #2 is the measure of total hectares of land protected through NSE's program options (*Wilderness Areas Protection Act*, *Special Places Protection Act* – ecological sites).

#### **Strategic Outcome #3:**

**Recognition of the interdependence of economic, environmental and social health and the significance of environmental assets to long-term prosperity**

#### **Government Priorities Supported:**

- Responsible fiscal management
- Prosperous businesses of all sizes - creating jobs across the Province

One way NSE's work of protecting the environment and human health is closely linked to economic outcomes is through the *Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act*. The overall long-term objective of the *Act* is to achieve sustainable prosperity. The 2012 amendments to the *Act* included the addition of new goals which exemplify the interconnectedness of the environment and economy. The new goals were around cleaner sources and sustainable uses of energy, local food production and consumption, and a strategy to advance the growth of the green economy.

**Priority Projects Description:**

- **Equivalency Agreement-Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Regulation**

Nova Scotia is negotiating with the federal government on an equivalency agreement on their proposed Coal-Fired GHG Electricity Regulation. The goal is to minimize the financial impacts of the Federal Coal-Fired GHG Electricity Regulation in Nova Scotia while maximizing emissions reductions for protection of the environment and human health. The Agreement will ensure the same or better GHG reductions as the Federal Regulation but in a less costly way for business and households than the Federal Regulation.

- **Green Economy Strategy**

Through the *Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act* amendments in 2012, a new goal was added for government to develop a strategy by the end of 2014 to further expand and promote our green economy to address the *EGSPA* vision of integrating our economy and environment. The goal of a proposed Green Economy Strategy is to provide guidance and strategies for furthering the "greening" of our overall economy. This goal supports the growing recognition that "greening" the overall economy brings not only environmental and resource sustainability, but also long-term economic benefits.

- **Wastewater Standards for Nova Scotia**

Nova Scotia is developing a provincial wastewater standard that will incorporate the objectives of the Municipal Wastewater Effluent (MWWE) Strategy. Nova Scotia signed this Canada-wide strategy, developed by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME), in 2009. The main objectives of the strategy are to improve human health and environmental performance and improve clarity about the way municipal wastewater is managed and regulated. These new Wastewater Standards for Nova Scotia will improve treatment of wastewater before it is discharged to the environment and reduce the risks posed to human and environmental health.

**Performance Measures:**

The Performance Measures in this document that show progress in meeting strategic outcome #3 are the measures around the GHG targets and the wastewater treatment facilities.

### 3. Budget Context

<b>Nova Scotia Environment</b>			
	<b>2013-2014 Estimate</b>	<b>2013-2014 Forecast</b>	<b>2014-2015 Estimate</b>
Program & Service Area	(\$thousands)	(\$thousands)	(\$thousands)
<b>Gross Departmental Expenses:</b>			
Administration	787	1,015	963
Policy	4,774	4,796	4,838
Compliance	11,079	11,048	12,345
Science	3,542	3,152	3,559
Sustainability and Innovation	4,772	4,882	4,779
<b>Total Gross Departmental Expenses</b>	<b>24,954</b>	<b>24,893</b>	<b>26,484</b>
<b>Additional Information:</b>			
<b>Ordinary Revenues, Fees and Recoveries</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>4,912</b>	<b>4,534</b>
<b>TCA Purchase Requirements</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>5,489</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Provincial Funded Staff (FTEs)</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>250</b>

#### 4. Performance Measures

Our performance measures are intended to demonstrate the progress we make in achieving our mandate and government's priorities.

<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENT ACT</b>	
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean air.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Annual total sulphur dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> ) air emissions (tonnes) by Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI).
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	<b>1995 cap - 145,000 tonnes.</b>
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	SO <sub>2</sub> contributes to the formation of smog and acid precipitation, which have negative effects on human health and the environment. In Nova Scotia, most of the SO <sub>2</sub> emissions are produced by thermal electric power generation. The purpose of this measure and targets is to limit NSPI's (the largest emitter in the Province) SO <sub>2</sub> emissions to reduce smog and acid precipitation.
<b>TARGET</b>	<p><b>Annual Target:</b> NSPI to achieve a level of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions no greater than 72,500 tonnes by 2010. This represents a 50 per cent reduction in SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from their 1995 cap.</p> <p><b>Ultimate Target:</b> NSPI to achieve a level of SO<sub>2</sub> emissions no greater than 60,900 tonnes by 2015, and no greater than 36,250 tonnes by 2020 (75 per cent less than their 1995 cap).</p>
<b>TRENDS</b>	<p>131,677 tonnes (2002)</p> <p>137,300 tonnes (2003)</p> <p>136,021 tonnes (2004)</p> <p>103,732 tonnes (2005)</p> <p>106,616 tonnes (2006)</p> <p>108,544 tonnes (2007)</p> <p>107,472 tonnes (2008)</p> <p>100,868 tonnes (2009)</p> <p>61,904 tonnes (2010)</p> <p>64,812 tonnes (2011)</p> <p>66,260 tonnes (2012)</p> <p>67,806 tonnes (2013)</p>
<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with NSPI to ensure their emissions are below the regulated cap and that they are still able to meet other emission targets.</li> </ul>

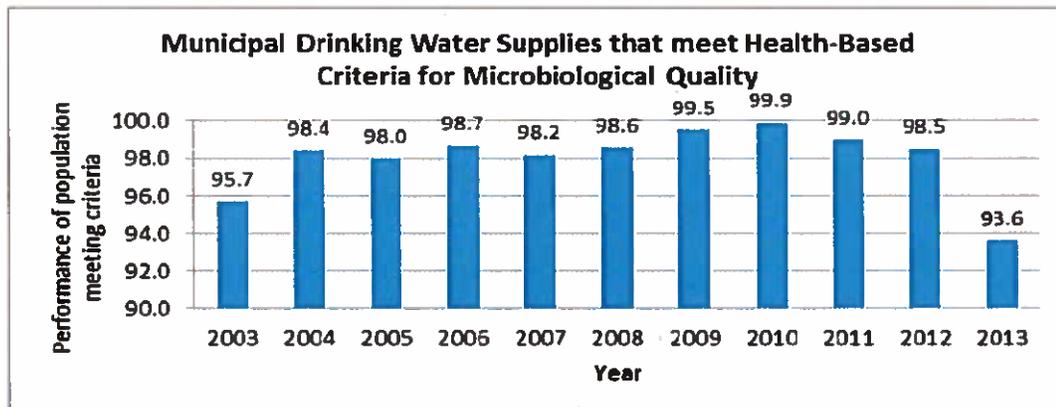
<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENT ACT</b>	
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean air.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Annual total nitrogen oxide (NO <sub>x</sub> ) air emissions (tonnes) by NSPI.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	NO <sub>x</sub> contributes to the formation of smog and acid precipitation, which have negative effects on human health and the environment. In Nova Scotia, NO <sub>x</sub> emissions are produced by a variety of sources, including thermal electric power generation. The purpose of this measure and targets is to limit NSPI's NO <sub>x</sub> emissions to reduce smog and acid precipitation. NSPI is a significant emitter of NO <sub>x</sub> in the Province.
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	<b>26,706 (2000) tonnes</b>
<b>TARGET</b>	<p><b>Annual Target:</b> NSPI's annual NO<sub>x</sub> emissions cap starting in 2009 is 21,365 tonnes, or 20 per cent less than the base year.</p> <p><b>Ultimate Target:</b> NSPI to achieve a level of NO<sub>x</sub> emissions no greater than 19,288 tons by 2015 and no greater than 14,955 tonnes by 2020 (44 per cent less than base year emissions).</p>
<b>TRENDS</b>	<p>30,280 tonnes (2002)  32,067 tonnes (2003)  33,499 tonnes (2004)  32,300 tonnes (2005)  28,087 tonnes (2006)  25,853 tonnes (2007)  21,381 tonnes (2008)  17,075 tonnes (2009)  18,230 tonnes (2010)  18,013 tonnes (2011)  15,640 tonnes (2012)  16,998 tonnes (2013)</p>
<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with NSPI to ensure their emissions are below the regulated cap and that they are still able to meet other emission targets.</li> </ul>

<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENT ACT</b>	
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean air.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Meet progressive declining caps for mercury air emissions (kg) from NSPI's coal-fired electrical power stations.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	Mercury is a neurotoxin that persists in the environment and accumulates in the food chain. It can have negative effects on human health. Coal-fired electric power generation plants account for the vast majority of mercury emissions in Nova Scotia. The purpose of the target is to reduce the negative impacts of mercury on the environment and human health. NSPI is the largest mercury emitter in the Province.
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	<b>267 kg (2000)</b>
<b>TARGET</b>	Maintain the emission cap for NSPI's coal-fired electrical power stations. 168 kg - 2005 cap 168 kg - 2006 cap 168 kg - 2007 cap 168 kg - 2008 cap 168 kg - 2009 cap 110 kg - 2010 cap 100 kg - 2011 cap 100 kg - 2012 cap 85 kg - 2013 cap 65 kg - 2014 cap 35 kg - 2020 cap
<b>TRENDS</b>	105 kg - 2005 162 kg - 2006 156 kg - 2007 163 kg - 2008 140 kg - 2009 81.5 kg - 2010 94.6 kg - 2011 93.9 kg - 2012 72.5 kg – 2013
<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with NSPI to ensure their emissions are below the regulated cap and that they are still able to meet other emission targets.</li> </ul>

**MANDATE: ENVIRONMENT ACT**

<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean and safe drinking water.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Percentage of population served by municipal drinking water supplies that meet health-based criteria for microbiological quality.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	Approximately 60 per cent of Nova Scotians obtain their drinking water from municipal drinking water supplies. Health Canada, together with provincial health and environment ministries, has established the "Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality." This document specifies the health-based criteria for a number of parameters, including maximum acceptable concentrations for total coliforms and <i>E. coli</i> bacteria. NSE tracks the proportion of people serviced by municipal drinking water supplies who have access to drinking water that meets the health-based criteria for microbiological quality. This measure and target below demonstrates NSE's commitment to clean and safe drinking water for Nova Scotians.
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	96.5 % of population (2001)
<b>TARGET</b>	All municipal drinking water supplies meet the health-based criteria for microbiological quality at all times during the calendar year.

**TRENDS**



The percentage of the population served by municipal drinking water supplies that meet the health-based criteria for microbiological quality for 2013 was 93.6 per cent, which is lower than in past years. This is because a boil water advisory was issued at a water supply that serves a large population. The larger 'population affected' has a notable effect on reducing the

percentage of the total population served. This indicates water quality at that particular supply was affected, but is not an indication of poorer water quality for water supplies overall.

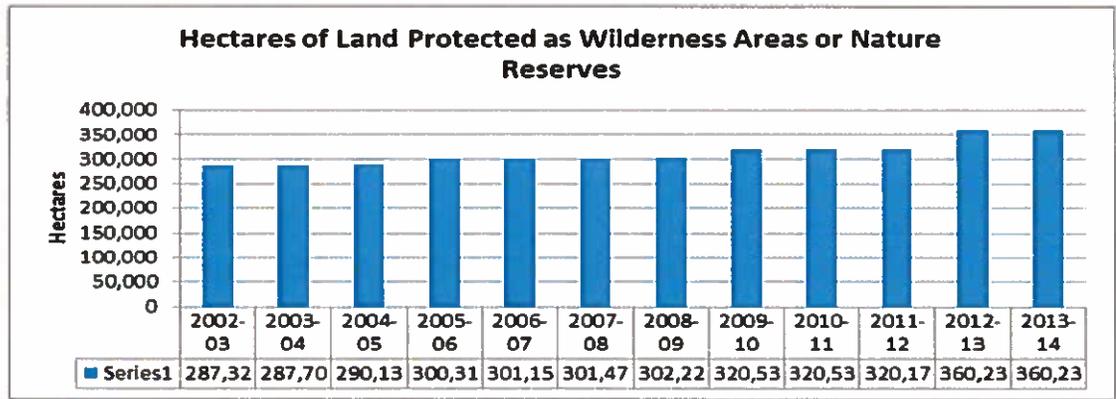
**STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO  
ACHIEVE TARGET**

- Continue to implement "Water For Life: Nova Scotia's Water Resource Management Strategy."
- Review how Nova Scotia implemented the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry and identify areas for continuous improvement.
- Update the Drinking Water Strategy.
- Support development of municipal water supply protection plans.

**Mandate: Wilderness Areas Protection Act and Special Places Protection Act**

<b>OUTCOME</b>	Protected natural areas.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Total hectares of land protected through NSE's program options. (Wilderness Areas Protection Act, Special Places Protection Act – ecological sites).
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	<p>This measure tells us how much land is legally protected as wilderness areas under the <i>Wilderness Areas Protection Act</i>, and as ecological sites (nature reserves) under the <i>Special Places Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>Measuring the hectares of provincial land protected through departmental programs helps track the progress made in meeting provincial and national commitments to establish systems of protected areas. This measure also provides an indication of the state of biodiversity conservation in the Province, as protected areas provide habitat for a wide range of species.</p>
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	287,028 ha (2001)
<b>TARGET</b>	<p><b>Annual:</b> Increase the hectares of land under various protection options.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Government has set a target to protect at least 12 per cent (662,360 ha) of Nova Scotia's total land mass by 2015. This includes NSE options as well as other qualifying legal protection.</p>

**TRENDS**



**STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO  
ACHIEVE TARGET**

Our "Parks and Protected Areas - A Plan for Nova Scotia" was released in August 2013, providing for the protection of an additional 206,020 hectares of land by 2015 (13.04 per cent). It also includes an additional 10,610 hectares to be protected after 2015 and 36,800 hectares for potential protection if certain conditions are met.

Strategic actions to advance this Plan:

- Where required by the Plan, complete wood supply analysis, and address recreational access and third party rights such as mineral exploration, and drinking water and electrical infrastructure management.
- Make strategic land acquisitions.
- Complete survey plans and legal requirements and seek Government approval to transfer new protected areas under appropriate protection legislation.
- License activities associated with existing rights and interests.
- Advance discussions with Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq in relation to protected areas access and use.

<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENT ACT AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY ACT</b>																			
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Responsible waste management.																		
<b>MEASURE</b>	Annual solid waste disposal rate per capita* (Kg/person). Our goal is 300 kg/person by 2015 and it is tracked by using the reports from the seven Nova Scotia municipal solid waste regions.																		
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	A goal of 300 kg/person was adopted as a challenging but realistic goal that will allow Nova Scotia to maintain and strengthen its claim to having the lowest disposal rate in Canada. This demonstrates our desire to divert resources from disposal sites in order to protect the environment and create new jobs and businesses. We are currently 50 per cent below the national average.																		
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	488 kg/capita (2006 )																		
<b>TARGET</b>	Achieve a disposal rate of no greater than 300 kg per person by 2015.																		
<b>TRENDS<sup>2</sup></b>																			
<table border="1"> <caption>Annual Solid Waste Disposal Rate (kg/person)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Disposal Rate (kg/person)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2006</td> <td>488</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2007</td> <td>477</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2008</td> <td>429</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2009</td> <td>417</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010</td> <td>401</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011</td> <td>401</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2012</td> <td>394</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013</td> <td>378</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Year	Disposal Rate (kg/person)	2006	488	2007	477	2008	429	2009	417	2010	401	2011	401	2012	394	2013	378
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<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulatory review of the Solid Waste Regulation is underway, with draft changes identified by staff.</li> <li>Additional consultation to be undertaken when the draft Regulation is available in 2014.</li> </ul>																		

<sup>2</sup> Provincial per capita average determined from achievement reported by the seven Nova Scotia municipal solid waste regions.

**MANDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY ACT**

<b>OUTCOME</b>	Nova Scotia Economy-wide Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) must be at least 10 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020 (EGSPA).
<b>MEASURE</b>	Annual provincial GHG output, measured by the National GHG Inventory Release (NIR). Beginning with the report for year 2010, NSE uses electricity GHG data reported directly to NSE by Nova Scotia Power Inc. (independently verified), as it is more precise than NIR estimates for that sector. For GHG from all other sectors, NSE will continue using NIR data to compile the total.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	Continued warming from the release of GHGs into the atmosphere is expected to have substantial negative impacts on the environment, human health and the economy. The target of 17.1 mega (m) tonnes is 10 per cent below 1990 GHG emissions levels in Nova Scotia. This target was adopted from the regional target in the New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers 2001 "Climate Change Action Plan." Nova Scotia, as well as the other eastern Canadian provinces and New England states, made a commitment to meet this regional target.
<b>BASELINE YEAR</b>	<b>1990: 19.1 m tonnes (NIR)</b>
<b>TARGET</b>	<b>2020: 17.1 m tonnes or less (i.e. 10 per cent below 1990 level)</b>
<b>TRENDS:</b>	23.4 m tonnes (2005) - Source NIR 23.3 m tonnes (2007) - Source NIR 21.3 m tonnes (2008) - Source NIR 20.7 m tonnes (2009) - Source NIR 20.4 m tonnes (2010) -Source NIR; NSPI annual GHG report 20.8 m tonnes (2011) - Source NIR; NSPI annual GHG report 19.8 m tonnes (2012 estimate) - final data to be released May 2014  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• GHG from Nova Scotia electricity production, the Province's largest single source of GHG, is regulated with progressively steeper reductions beginning in the year 2010. This Regulation combined with the Renewable Energy Standard</li></ul>

	<p>(2007) for electricity generation has reduced electricity GHG from peak of 11.4 m tonnes in 2005, to 8.6 m tonnes in 2011. Electricity GHG reduction is on target to meet or exceed our 2020 goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total GHG increased slightly in 2011 due to the general recovery from the 2008 recession. As the economy recovers, there is generally more energy demand, which creates more emissions unless cleaner sources are used. However, the downward trend in the Province’s GHG output is expected to continue; the GHG reductions are the result of using cleaner energy sources to meet the increasing stringency in Nova Scotia’s regulated targets for electricity GHG (NSE), plus the Renewable Energy Standard (Department of Energy).</li> </ul>
<p><b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete commitments of the 2009 “Climate Change Action Plan” (currently over 90 per cent complete): e.g. monitor and report annual results of our Electricity GHG Regulation.</li> <li>• Complete an “Equivalency” agreement with the federal government regarding their proposed Coal-Fired GHG Electricity Regulation.</li> <li>• Monitor and contribute to the development of the Federal Coal-Fired GHG Regulation for industry as needed (e.g. oil and gas, cement, pulp and paper).</li> <li>• Support the implementation of the Nova Scotia Sustainable Transportation Strategy, led by the Department of Energy.</li> <li>• Incorporate GHG emissions as a consideration in Environmental Assessments of large industrial projects.</li> <li>• Increase understanding of GHG sinks, sources, and opportunities in the Nova Scotia forestry and agriculture sectors.</li> </ul>

<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY ACT</b>	
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean Air: Meet the Canada-Wide Standard (CWS) for particulate matter.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Ambient fine particulate matter (PM 2.5 = less than 2.5 microns – i.e. airborne particles that are 2.5 microns or less in diameter), measured annually and averaged over three consecutive years.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	Fine particulate matter is a pollutant that contributes to degraded air quality, which has negative effects on human health and the environment. The target for this measure is to meet the CWS for particulate matter. The purpose of the measure is to reduce smog.
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	HRM: 14 µg/m <sup>3</sup> (2003-05)
<b>TARGET</b>	30 µg/m <sup>3</sup> or less of PM 2.5, within a 24-hour averaging time, by 2010 (µg/m <sup>3</sup> means micrograms per cubic meter and is a measurement of density of PM 2.5 in ambient air.)
<b>TRENDS</b>	<p><b>HRM:</b>  14.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2004-06)  15.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2005-07)  14.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2006-08)  13.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2007-09)  14.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2008-10)  15.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2009-11)  15.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2010-12)</p> <p><b>CBRM:</b>  11.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> (2010-2012)</p> <p><b>Note:</b> The above numbers have been revised to reflect a previous error in calculations.</p>
<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with emitters to reduce the emissions (e.g. - sulphur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide) that contribute to the formation of particulate matter.</li> <li>• Maintain the provincial ambient air monitoring network to allow for the measuring of achievement.</li> </ul>

**MANDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY ACT**

<b>OUTCOME</b>	Clean Air: Meet the Canada-Wide Standard for ozone.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Ambient ground level ozone, averaged over three years, in parts per billion (ppb)
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	Ozone is a pollutant that contributes to the formation of smog, which has negative effects on human health and the environment. The purpose of the measure is to reduce smog.
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	<b>HRM:</b> 57 ppb (2000-02)  <b>CBRM:</b> 49 ppb (2000-02)
<b>TARGET</b>	65 ppb ground ozone or less, with 8 hour averaging, by 2010.
<b>TRENDS</b>	<b>HRM:</b> 53 ppb (2001-03) 51 ppb (2002-04) 46 ppb (2003-05) 48 ppb (2004-06) 47 ppb (2005-07) 51 ppb (2006-08) 52 ppb (2007-09) 52 ppb (2008-10) 51 ppb (2009-11) 50 ppb (2010-12)  <b>CBRM:</b> 49 ppb (2001-03) 46 ppb (2002-04) 46 ppb (2003-05) 48 ppb (2004-06) 50 ppb (2005-07) 55 ppb (2006-08) 55 ppb (2007-09) 53 ppb (2008-10) 50 ppb (2009-11) 49 ppb (2010-12)

**STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO  
ACHIEVE TARGET**

- Work with emitters to reduce the emissions (e.g. nitrogen oxide that contribute to the formation of ozone).
- Maintain the provincial ambient air monitoring network to allow for the measuring of achievement.

<b>MANDATE: ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS AND SUSTAINABLE PROSPERITY ACT</b>	
<b>OUTCOME</b>	All municipal wastewater treatment facilities provide at least primary treatment by 2020.
<b>MEASURE</b>	Percentage of wastewater treatment facilities that provide at least primary treatment.
<b>WHY THIS MEASURE?</b>	<p>In Nova Scotia, the discharge of untreated wastewater results in beaches closed to swimming, waters closed to shellfish harvesting, and the aesthetics associated with raw discharges affecting our ecotourism potential. Our streams, estuaries and coastal waters can be threatened by the substances found in inadequately treated wastewater and drinking water can become contaminated.</p> <p>By ensuring that all facilities have at least primary treatment, we ensure a level of protection against the adverse effects of wastewater discharges.</p>
<b>DATA – BASE YEAR</b>	<b>90% (2009)</b>
<b>TARGET</b>	All municipal wastewater treatment facilities provide at least primary treatment by 2020.
<b>TRENDS</b>	90% (2010) 91% (2011) 92% (2012) 92% (2013)
<b>STRATEGIC ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE TARGET</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with municipalities to implement the Canada-wide Municipal Wastewater Effluent (MWWWE) Strategy.</li> <li>• Complete the new Provincial Wastewater Standard.</li> <li>• Work with the federal government to discuss roles and responsibilities related to the Federal Wastewater Regulation.</li> </ul>