

More actions.....

2. Use Alternative Energy (Become more energy self-reliant!)

- Install a solar water heating system to heat your water.
- Explore opportunities to install solar panels for heating your home.
- Explore opportunities to install a small wind energy system for your home or farm.

3. Reduce / Reuse / Recycle

- Compost organic wastes in your garden or with a worm composter in your school or office.
- Reuse products wherever possible instead of buying new ones.
- Buy products with minimal or recyclable packaging.

JOIN TEAM POWER SMART!

Commit to reducing your energy use by 10% and help BC become energy self-sufficient by 2016.

www.bchydro.com/powersmart/

MORE INFORMATION

For further information about the Peace River Regional District Community Energy Plan, please contact:

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Watch our website for updates and listings of events relating to the Community Energy Plan at:
www.prrd.bc.ca



DISTRICT OF TUMBLER RIDGE COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN (CEP)?

A community energy plan clarifies the community's desire for energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the next 10 to 20 years. Together the Peace River Regional District, the Districts of Taylor, Tumbler Ridge, Chetwynd, and the Village of Pouce Coupe are initiating a process to develop Community Energy Plans (CEPs). The CEPs will define:

- An inventory of current energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Targets to reduce energy consumption and/or GHG emissions from the baseline;
- Actions that we can take to help us achieve these targets, and
- An implementation strategy to ensure the plan is a success.

The District of Tumbler Ridge CEP will focus on the rural areas that lie outside municipal boundaries. Each municipality will also have its own CEP.

WHY ARE WE CREATING A CEP?

There is growing evidence that climate change is having an impact on the ecology of the planet. The science tells us that climate change is largely the result of a rapid build-up of greenhouse house gases (GHGs) in our atmosphere. We create GHGs when:

- we drive our cars,
- we heat and cool our buildings,
- we transport our goods,
- our garbage decomposes in our landfills,
- we grow our food - through fertilizer use, manure management and animal digestion, and
- we cut down trees that aren't replaced



In 2007, the Provincial government set a province-wide target to reduce our total GHG emissions by 33% by 2020 and 80% by 2050 (from 2007 levels).

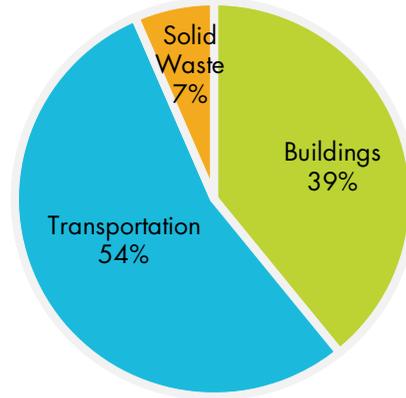
Communities across British Columbia are undertaking community energy plans in an effort to address legislation that requires municipal governments to set GHG reduction targets and incorporate these into Official Community Plans.



OUR CURRENT SITUATION

An energy and GHG emissions inventory helps us to understand how much we emit and where our emissions come from. Once we know what the inventory is, we can set targets and develop actions to reduce the energy consumption and GHG emissions. In 2007, our energy consumption and GHG emissions for all activities in The District of Tumbler Ridge were approximately 21,446 tonnes of CO₂e. The figure below shows these emissions broken down by sector³.

- **Buildings:** This includes the energy to heat and cool residential, commercial and industrial buildings, as well as the activities that occur within these residences and facilities. This data is obtained through the Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) initiative from utility records and includes electricity and natural gas consumption. Other sources such as wood, fuel oil, or propane tank heat have not been quantified in the inventory.
- **Transportation:** Vehicular emissions estimates are based on a count of the vehicles registered in the region, an estimate of fuel consumption based on type of vehicle, and an estimate of the number of kilometres driven. This data is obtained through the CEEI initiative and includes data sources from ICBC and Natural Resources Canada.
- **Solid Waste:** Waste does not directly consume energy but when deposited into landfills, it decomposes and releases methane gas which is a greenhouse gas stronger than carbon dioxide.



**District of Taylor
Emissions in 2007:
21,446
tonnes CO₂e**

PRRD Regional Emissions in
2007: 650,998 tonnes CO₂e

What is a Greenhouse Gas (GHG)? GHGs are gases in the air like carbon dioxide, water vapour, nitrous oxide and methane that trap heat in the atmosphere. Humans add GHGs to the air primarily by burning fossil fuels (gasoline, natural gas, oil, etc) that emit carbon dioxide. Some other human activities, like landfilling solid waste, emit methane.

WHAT IS 1 TONNE OF CO₂e?

Rural residents in the District of Tumbler Ridge emit about 9 tonnes of CO₂ equivalents per capita.

One tonne is equivalent to using:

- 385 litres of gasoline (or 10 fill-ups)
- \$200 of natural gas (20 Gigajoules)
- Electricity to heat 3 homes for a year (38,000 kW hours)

OUR CHALLENGE

Our challenge as a community is to reduce our energy consumption and GHG emissions. How much can we reduce? Where will we set our GHG emissions reduction targets? What will we commit to in our OCPs? These questions will be addressed during the development of the Community Energy Plans.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

There are a number of actions – both big and small – that we can undertake as individuals and organizations. Here are some ideas:

Actions to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

1. Reduce Energy Consumption (Save Money on Utility Bills!):

- Make energy efficiency improvements to your home or office (e.g., improving insulation; replacing windows; caulking around vents, windows and doors; etc).
- Turn down the heat in your home or office by 2°C in the winter.
- Install a programmable thermostat at home or at work.
- Upgrade to a high efficiency furnace with a variable speed motor.
- Set your water heater to 49°C.
- Wash your clothes in cold water and hang your laundry to dry.
- Install low flow fixtures and faucets in your home or office.
- Telecommute to work at least one day week.
- Schedule or perform regular maintenance checks for your car.
- Carpool to work or school.
- Turn off your vehicle instead of idling.
- Buy a hybrid or a more efficient vehicle.
- Combine trips to drive less.

³These figures are based on DRAFT data provided through the Province of BC's Community Energy and Emissions Inventory (CEEI) initiative: <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/climate/ceei/index.htm>. Through this Community Energy Plan project, the numbers will be updated to more accurately reflect the estimated emissions for the Peace River Regional District rural areas.