



Ministerial Response

Manitoba's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goal for 2023 to 2027

Purpose

This policy establishes the provincial greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the 2023 to 2027 period in fulfillment of Section 3 provisions of The Climate and Green Plan Act.

The Expert Advisory Council's report entitled "Recommendations on Manitoba's Second Carbon Savings Account - 2023 to 2027" was delivered in December 2022. Through this report, the Council provided its advice and recommendations regarding Manitoba's greenhouse-gas reduction goal for 2023 to 2027, along with supplementary advice to the Minister.

Establishing the second carbon savings account demonstrates Manitoba's ongoing commitment to implementing the Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan to address climate change and transition toward a low-carbon economy. By reporting on progress and continuing to set five-year emission reduction goals that build from the previous account periods, Manitoba is committing to bending the emissions curve downward in a meaningful, practical and measurable way. This ensures that the Government of Manitoba is accountable for outcomes today and into the future.

Provincial Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goal for 2023 to 2027

The provincial greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal for the January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2027 period is 5.6 megatonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent, relative to the total greenhouse gas emissions that would have occurred in that period based on Environment and Climate Change Canada's 2022 Reference Case projection. The 5.6 megatonne reduction goal is a cumulative reduction target amount over the five-year period.

The reference case is an emissions projection forecast estimating the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions that would have occurred in Manitoba in that five-year period if no additional greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures had been implemented in that period. The reference case forecast is Environment and Climate Change Canada's 2022 Reference Case, available at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/climate-change/greenhouse-gas-emissions/projections.html>.

Implementing the 2023 to 2027 Carbon Savings Account

Upon establishing the greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal, the Government of Manitoba will maintain a carbon savings account over the period to track and report emissions reductions achieved in relation to the goal.

The actual provincial emissions for the 2023 to 2027 period will be measured using Environment and Climate Change Canada's National Inventory Report, which includes a breakdown of provincial emissions. Emissions data are published two years following the end of each calendar year (e.g., emissions from calendar year 2023 will be reported by spring 2025).

As per Section 6 of The Climate and Green Plan Implementation Act, the Government of Manitoba will prepare five-year greenhouse gas emissions reports at the end of each carbon savings account period. Reports must be completed no later than 18 months after the five-year period to which reports relate, and in a form consistent with the Act.

If at the end of the 2023 to 2027 period the province has not achieved its emissions reduction goal, the reduction shortfall will be added to the next five-year period (i.e., the 2028 to 2032 reduction goal).

Additional Considerations

Manitoba is the first jurisdiction in North America to establish a carbon savings account approach to setting greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and measuring progress. As recommended by the Expert Advisory Council, the Government of Manitoba will continue to report progress and learnings regarding tracking and reporting of the carbon savings account to the Expert Advisory Council to help inform the approach applied in establishing future five-year reduction goals.