

June 2009 overview of federal regulatory framework for air emissions:

Lynne Patenaude provided a brief overview of the federal frameworks for air emissions published in 2007 and 2008, which had previously been shared with the group.

She reviewed the June 4 2009 climate change policy statement by Minister Prentice

www.ec.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=6F2DE1CA-1&news=400A4566-DA85-4A0C-B9F4-BABE2DF555C7

The federal government is working with the U.S. on the Clean Energy Dialogue focussing on clean energy technologies, smart electricity grid and clean engine research. Lynne provided a quick overview of the Waxman-Markey bill that was going through the U.S. House of Representatives in Spring 2009 (H.R. 2454, which has since passed the House). This bill proposed a U.S. cap and trade system starting with electricity sources, moving on to fuel producers and importers (covering end-use of liquid fuels and some other fuels) followed by industrial sources and local natural gas distribution companies. She noted that the U.S. bill excluded fugitive emissions (e.g. equipment leaks) and venting due to issues around data, but that treatment of flaring was not clear. (Note that a U.S. cap and trade bill has not yet been passed by the Senate, and other approaches have since been proposed.)