THE CANADIAN ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

NOVA SCOTIA





Nova Scotia has committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050 under its landmark Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act. While the province is a leader in energy efficiency programs and policies, it has not yet directed these long-standing strengths towards its netzero emission objectives. For instance, there is no plan to implement a net-zero energy ready building code, and Efficiency Nova Scotia programs are held back by outdated cost-effectiveness rules that fail to encourage broad participation in efficiency solutions.

Nova Scotia surpassed Quebec to place second overall in this year's Scorecard, having earned 50 out of 100 points. The province's rank was propelled by improvements in energy efficiency programs and the strength of their results.

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Having created the first energy efficiency utility in Canada, Nova Scotia is a pioneer in the field. The province could become a trailblazer again by showing how to use energy efficiency to achieve net-zero emissions in an affordable and equitable way.

STRENGTHS

Low-income energy efficiency: Efficiency Nova Scotia's approved 2023–2025 demand-side management plan will triple investments in low-income, Mi'kmaw and diverse communities.

Peak electricity savings: Nova Scotia leads in shaving its peak electricity consumption through long-lasting energy efficiency measures. These also reduce power bills and GHGs by saving energy throughout the year.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Energy efficiency resource standard: Mandatory renewable energy targets are decarbonizing the province's electricity grid. Similar targets for energy savings are needed to achieve net zero emissions.

Net zero building codes: The province has committed to adopting the 2020 national energy code for buildings sooner than most other provinces. However, it should align its use of this code with its net zero emission goals.

Performance-based utility regulation: Linking Nova Scotia Power revenues to achieving an affordable and equitable net zero emissions future would follow leading energy efficiency jurisdictions in the U.S.



READ THE FULL REPORT: www.scorecard.efficiencycanada.org