THE CANADIAN ENERGY EFFICIENCY SCORECARD

SASKATCHEWAN



INDUSTRY



STUCK AT THE STARTING LINE

Saskatchewan reported no electricity savings and modest—though still last place—savings from natural gas efficiency programs. It also spends the second lowest per capita on energy efficiency. There is no active transportation strategy, and the province limits support for industrial energy efficiency to consultation and technical support.

Saskatchewan slips into last place in this year's Scorecard, having earned 16 out of 100 points. The province has been last or second last for four years in a row.

However, new energy efficiency initiatives are emerging. SaskEnergy expanded its program portfolio in 2022. The City of Regina's net-zero carbon emissions plan's first aim is to reduce energy consumption. It began by launching a program that matched incentives from the federal Greener Homes Program.

Its electricity system is the third most emissions-intensive in the country. Further, the province is looking at the upcoming federal Clean Electricity Standard requiring net-zero emissions by 2035. As such, Saskatchewan should ramp up energy efficiency to save people money and make hitting zero-emission electricity targets easier.

STRENGTHS

Building Science Research: 26 per cent of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council energy-related research grants went to energy efficiency in 2020–2021. University of Saskatchewan professor Carey Simonson is studying how to make HVAC systems more efficient while preventing COVID-19 transmission.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Net-zero building codes: Saskatchewan has adopted the more up-to-date 2017 National Energy Code for Buildings. Now, Saskatchewan should adopt the 2020 version of the code, which provides a framework to move toward net-zero energy ready buildings.

Increase electricity saving programs: Saskatchewan achieved no electricity savings and has no energy efficiency targets. The province is committed to reducing the carbon intensity of its electricity grid. Energy efficiency programs can help by reducing emissions now and lowering demand into the future.



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