



Environment and Climate Change Canada Detailed Management Action Plan
For the recommendations of report 6: [Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act—2030 Emissions Reduction Plan](#)
Fall 2023 Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development

Paragraph number in report	CESD Recommendation	Departmental Response	Description of Final Expected Outcome/Result	Expected Final Completion Date	Action Plan and Key Milestones (Description/Dates)	Responsible Organization/ Contact (Division, Branch, Directorate)
31	To improve transparency and effectiveness in implementing measures, Environment and Climate Change Canada should publish timetables specifying an implementation deadline, milestones, and expected emission reductions for each of its measures. In addition, the department should ensure this information is contained in subsequent emissions reduction plans and progress reports, beginning with the 2023 progress report.	Agree. As required by subsection 10(1)(e) of the <i>Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act</i> , Environment and Climate Change Canada will publish a projected timetable for the implementation of measures included in future emissions reduction plans. As required by subsection 14(b) of the <i>Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act</i> , Environment and Climate Change Canada will provide an update on the implementation of the federal measures, sectoral strategies, and federal government operations strategies described in emissions reduction plans, including, where available, information such as final implementation deadlines and anticipated reductions. The first Progress Report associated with the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan will be completed by the end of 2023.	Emissions Reduction Plans and the progress reports are produced in accordance with the <i>Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act</i> . Subsequent Emissions Reduction Plans will include a projected timetable for the implementation of measures. Progress reports associated with Emissions Reduction Plans will also be published, which will include an update on the implementation of the federal measures, sectoral strategies, and federal government operation strategies described in emission reduction plans, and, where possible, information such as final implementation deadlines and anticipated reductions.	December 31, 2029	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emissions Reduction Plans for the years 2035, 2040, 2045, and 2050 are established per the reporting schedule of the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act. Plans include projected timetable for the implementation of measures included in the plan. The next ERP will be for the 2035 Target and be established by December 2029. 2. Progress reports on Emission Reduction Plans are established per the reporting schedule of the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act. The first progress report associated with the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan will be prepared by December 2023. 	Horizontal Policy and Coordination Division, Horizontal Policy, Engagement and Coordination Directorate (HPEC), Climate Change Branch (CCB) Interdepartmental Climate Affairs and Reporting Division, HPEC, CCB



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32	<p>To ensure that the next Emission Reduction Plan is inclusive, Environment and Climate Change Canada, working with the federal organizations implementing measures in the plan, should conduct a thorough analysis on all measures within the plan to determine how certain groups will be affected by the plan and its measures. On the basis of this analysis, the department, working with other federal organizations, should put in place measures to mitigate these effects, develop performance indicators, and collect disaggregated data to assess if the measures are working.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. Environment and Climate Change Canada, along with other departments responsible for implementing measures in the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan, will continue to leverage government-wide decision-based tools, such as the Gender-Based Analysis Plus tool, to analyze the impacts of measures on specific demographics, and to inform the development of future measures. Environment and Climate Change Canada will also apply such tools to future emissions reduction plans, and related milestones, required by the <i>Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act</i>. Environment and Climate Change Canada is not solely responsible for the development of measures, collection of disaggregated data, or development of performance indicators across the Emissions Reduction Plan, but will work collaboratively with other implementing departments, to explore options for developing indicators and for collecting data to better understand the impact of climate measures on certain groups, such as marginalized groups.</p>	<p>Based on a review of the GBA+ analysis completed for ERP measures, ECCC with implementing departments will identify opportunities for further analysis and identify indicators and data that could be collected to better understand the impact of ERP measures on marginalized groups and inform development of new measures.</p>	December 31, 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audit recommendation and workplan shared with implementing departments by December 31, 2023. 2. Establish a working group with implicated departments, and develop a workplan, which could include reviewing some existing GBA+ analysis and indicators, and identification of gaps/opportunities by January 31, 2024. 3. With implicated departments, identify indicators and data that could be collected to better understand the impact of ERP measures on marginalized groups by September 30, 2024. 4. With implicated departments, develop an action plan for collection of indicators and data by December 31, 2024. 	<p>Horizontal Policy and Coordination Division, Horizontal Policy, Engagement and Coordination Directorate (HPEC), Climate Change Branch (CCB)</p> <p>Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), CCB</p>



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41	<p>To improve the transparency and credibility of its modelling, Environment and Climate Change Canada should work with independent scientists, engineers, and economists and apply their expertise in a pan-Canadian modelling forum. The forum could integrate the Energy Modelling Hub into its framework to avoid overlap. Collaboration should include a timely in-depth peer review of the department's modelling assumptions, structures, and interactions. The review should also improve the model's input data and assumed values to make them as realistic as possible. Environment and Climate Change Canada should formalize this collaboration and make the results public.</p>	<p>Partially Agree. Environment and Climate Change Canada continues to enhance the transparency and credibility of its emissions modelling. This has been recognized by third parties, who noted that the Emissions Reduction Plan includes more transparency on the modelling and analysis used to develop the projections than we've seen before, develops sector-by-sector emissions projections that could form the basis of sectoral road maps to aid with implementation, and provides insight on how the plan is to be executed.</p> <p>Environment and Climate Change Canada recently concluded an expert-led process to provide independent advice on its modelling. The Action Plan developed to address the recommendations received through this modelling review will include early actions such as establishing a Canadian version of the Stanford University Energy Modeling Forum, which will provide regular opportunities to formally collaborate with external modelling experts. The recommendations received through this modelling review will be made public as will results of the new Modelling Forum.</p> <p>Environment and Climate Change Canada shares the goals of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development with differences of emphasis in certain areas such as the specifics of the interactions with experts.</p>	<p>Through the implementation of its Action Plan, Environment and Climate Change Canada will further enhance the transparency and credibility of its models by providing greater details on its assumptions and model documentation.</p> <p>Environment and Climate Change Canada will also collaborate with the appropriate organizations to create a network of modellers that will provide a venue for greater collaboration among Canadian modellers and for in-depth peer review of the models, including how they are built, how they interact with each other, and the assumptions.</p> <p>This collaboration will begin with a net-zero workshop in the Fall of 2023 to support better alignment between the energy/environment modelling community's (government, academia, and civil society) work to assess what are the appropriate models to assist policymakers in achieving the Government of Canada's net-zero by 2050 target. This workshop will bring together experts from the energy/environment modelling community where their expert views will be solicited and help inform how to best evolve net-zero modelling and approaches in Canada.</p>	July 1, 2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2023 ERP Progress Report and/or 2023 Emissions Projections Report (publication in Fall 2023) will include an enhanced level of detail on the assumptions underlying all modelled policies and measures; links to model documentation where possible; and more detailed GHG emissions results. (December 31, 2023) 2. Net-Zero Modelling Workshop (September 20 and 21, 2023) 3. Modelling Network initial Workshop (January 1, 2025) 4. Modelling Network Workshop – Project Modelling Exercise (March 30, 2025) 5. Modelling Network Workshop – Project Results Comparison (July 1, 2026) 6. Bi-annual status reports to Assistant Deputy Minister of ECCC's Strategic Policy Branch on implementation of the action plan (March 31, 2024). 	Economic Analysis Directorate, Strategic Policy Branch



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			<p>Environment and Climate Change Canada will also initiate the establishment of a Canadian Modelling Forum that would bring together leading experts and decision makers from government, industry, universities, and other research organizations to study important energy and environmental issues. For each study, the Modelling Forum would organize a working group to develop the study design, analyze and compare each model's results and discuss key conclusions. The Forum would provide a non-partisan platform for objective discussion of important issues. The objective of each study group would be to share research and to discuss modelling results.</p>			
50	<p>To help ensure timely implementation of climate measures, Environment and Climate Change Canada should monitor that the information in the climate data hub is complete, accurate, concise, and relevant. When it is not, Environment and Climate Change Canada should promptly follow up with implementing organizations. It should also align the information in the hub with the Horizontal Results Framework for Climate Mitigation by 2024.</p>	<p>Agree. Environment and Climate Change Canada will review the data collected from implementing departments to identify and address any gaps and ensure ongoing consistency between the climate data hub and the Horizontal Results Framework for Climate Change Mitigation.</p>	<p>The climate data hub is complete, accurate, concise and relevant and aligned with the Horizontal Results Framework for Climate Change Mitigation.</p>	June 30, 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review climate data hub gaps by December 31, 2023. 2. Implement any required changes to the process of gathering and validating information, and any changes to improve the relevance of the information requested, by March 31, 2024. 3. Align with the revised Horizontal Results Framework by June 30, 2024. 	<p>Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), Climate Change Branch (CCB)</p>



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57	Environment and Climate Change Canada, in coordination with implementing federal organizations and the interdepartmental climate-plan-implementation committees, should systematically identify the key measures needed to meet Canada's 2030 and 2050 emission reduction targets and prioritize their implementation. It should also publish this information in the 2025 Progress Report.	Agree. Environment and Climate Change Canada, along with other departments responsible for implementing measures in the 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan, through the auspices of the Climate Plan Implementation Committee will systematically identify and prioritize key measures.	The Climate Plan Implementation committees will identify key measures and prioritize their implementation.	December 31, 2025	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop approach to identify and prioritize key measures, in collaboration with implementing departments by January 31, 2024. 2. Seek approval from DM Committee on Climate Plan Implementation on identification and prioritization of key measures by March 31, 2024. 3. Initial internal reporting on progress of key measures by October 31, 2024. 4. Publish information in the next 2030 ERP Progress Report in 2025. 	Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), Climate Change Branch (CCB)
72	Building on existing tools, Environment and Climate Change Canada, working with implementing federal organizations, should develop a complete monitoring framework to enable timely assessment of whether results are on track. The framework should include multiple performance indicators for sectors and measures, with targets and interim milestones, developed in coordination with the department's modeling group.	Agree. Environment and Climate Change Canada will further develop the existing Horizontal Results Framework for Climate Change Mitigation and the climate data hub, in complementary and consistent ways, to include more indicators, targets and interim milestones.	The Horizontal Results Framework for Climate Change Mitigation, published annually as a supplementary table to the ECCC Departmental Results Plans and Reports, and the climate data hub, will have more indicators, targets and interim milestones in the 2024-25 reporting period compared to the 2023-2024 reporting period.	June 30, 2024	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audit recommendation and plan of action shared with implementing departments by December 31, 2023. 2. Development of additional indicators, targets and interim milestones through collaboration with implementing departments and coordination with 	Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), Climate Change Branch (CCB)



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					<p>ECCC modelling group by March 31, 2024.</p> <p>3. Approval of updated Horizontal Results Framework and update to climate data hub by June 30, 2024.</p>	
73	<p>To support timely course correction, Environment and Climate Change Canada, working with federal organizations including Statistics Canada, should develop methods for estimating greenhouse gas emissions data with a lag of no more than a year and ideally less.</p>	<p>Agree. Earlier greenhouse gas emission estimates could be valuable in policy development, if it is assured that the development of the estimates is done in a consistent and complementary manner to the National Inventory Report.</p> <p>The development of methods for estimating greenhouse gas emissions data with a lag of at most a year should be accompanied by a cost-benefit analysis to confirm whether there is good value for the necessary resources. Environment and Climate Change Canada's collaboration with Statistics Canada will ensure the expertise in both departments is optimized to produce the most accurate and timely greenhouse gas emissions data for Canada.</p>	<p>A method has been developed for estimating GHG emissions data with a lag of at most a year.</p>	December 31, 2025	<p>The National Inventory Report is largely constructed based on several prerequisites, including a mature data supply chain, which has been developed over many years. The Inventory is reliant on many partners and data providers to develop a complete inventory. A coordinated effort with these partners is needed, noting that these partners may also have data supply issues or other limitations themselves, and so on.</p> <p>Under this action plan the following tasks are proposed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review data supply chain arrangements and work with federal partners, including Statistics Canada, to identify what early data can be provided from key data suppliers (Sept 30, 2024) 	<p>Pollutant Inventories and Reporting Division, Science and Risk Assessment Directorate, Science and Technology Branch</p>



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					<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Identify options to develop a method for estimating timelier GHG emissions, including resource requirements (March 31, 2025) 3. Based on the options, develop a method for estimating timelier GHG emissions (Dec 31, 2025) 	
84	<p>Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Privy Council Office should make substantive information from the integrated climate lens analyses publicly available in order to meet the intent of the lens. The 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan states that the lens is to take into account climate and economic considerations to inform policy development and decision making across federal organizations.</p>	<p>Agree. Enhancing public trust in the conduct of environmental assessment is an important objective of the integrated climate lens, as it has been in the application of Strategic Environmental Assessments.</p> <p>As the integrated climate lens evolves beyond its pilot phase, Environment and Climate Change Canada is committed to making climate change information readily available. In modernizing the Strategic Environmental Assessment regime, the government intends to formalize a reporting mechanism among departments to demonstrate publicly how climate and other environmental impacts were taken into account. The mechanism may build on and update the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals, which requires the preparation of a public statement of environmental effects on select proposals.</p>	<p>Strategic Environmental Assessment practices are updated to integrate economic and environmental assessment and applied across the federal government. Transparency elements are enhanced to ensure that departments release public statements summarising their assessment findings and report annually on how environmental and economic considerations are incorporated into decision-making processes.</p>	March 31, 2026	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Changes will be proposed to Strategic Environmental Assessment practices across government departments, applying lessons from the Integrated Climate Lens pilot. This includes the requirement for departments to issue public statement of the environmental and economic effects for all proposals that have been implemented or announced. Departments would also report on their integrated environment and economic assessment practices through their respective 	<p>Integrated Climate Lens Center of Expertise, Strategic Policy Branch</p>



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					<p>Departmental Sustainable Development Strategy reporting. Completion by March 31, 2024.</p> <p>2. ECCC will provide guidance to departments and agencies on transparency requirements related to Strategic Environmental Assessment. This includes support in improving the overall quality and timeliness of public information on how key environmental and economic considerations are incorporated into decision-making processes. Initial guidance to be provided to departments by April 1, 2024</p> <p>3. ECCC undertakes initial stock-take of enhanced Strategic Environmental Assessment practices, including with respect to transparency requirements. Completion by March 31, 2025.</p>	



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					4. ECCC will undertake a dedicated review of whether the guidance and support around transparency is achieving the desired outcome. Guidance on transparency requirements updated as appropriate. Completion by March 31, 2026.	

Note:

- The Audit and Evaluation Branch will refer to this management action plan in its periodical follow-up with each Branch Head and in its report to the Deputy Minister on the progress made in implementing the OAG or CESD recommendations.