

Sustainable Development in Communities Workshop – Closing Plenary

November 26, 2007

Peter Love, Chief Conservation Officer - Ontario Power Authority

Good afternoon, it is a pleasure to speak to so many people interested in conservation and sustainable development.

As you know, we have been successful in establishing a goal of saving 6,300 MW of electricity by 2025, which represents 75% of the expected growth. We are on track, but it has been easy so far. We will be investing \$10 billion in conservation (\$500 million per year) to achieve our goals by working with partners, including Hydro One, the local distribution companies (LDCs), the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), and others.

This investment in energy efficiency is not tax dollars, but will come from the electricity bills of consumers in the province. It is important to keep in mind that energy efficiency is cost effective; energy efficiency is labour intensive, which is good for employment; and 82% of our greenhouse gas emissions come from energy usage, so it is good for the environment.

Making energy efficiency irreversible through codes and standards are among the most effective ways to achieve the province's conservation goals. The OPA will be pursuing enhanced codes and standards in 2008. Other changes being pursued under the Energy Conservation Leadership Act include designating combined heat and power projects, clotheslines and solar collectors so that they may be used where there are restrictions that would otherwise impede their use.

The OPA need everyone's help to achieve our conservation goals. We must unify energy conservation efforts across the province to include all levels of government, institutions, businesses, and consumers. It is time for everyone to: "Think, Believe, Act" when it comes to energy conservation --Think about conservation; Believe they can make a difference and Act to make it happen.

As a means of extending the provincial drive to the local level of government, I encourage the appointment of a *Chief Energy Conservation Officer* in every municipality to empower all of the province's communities to conserve energy. To date there are four appointments, including: Region of Peel, Markham, Toronto and Hamilton.

Thank you for your attention