

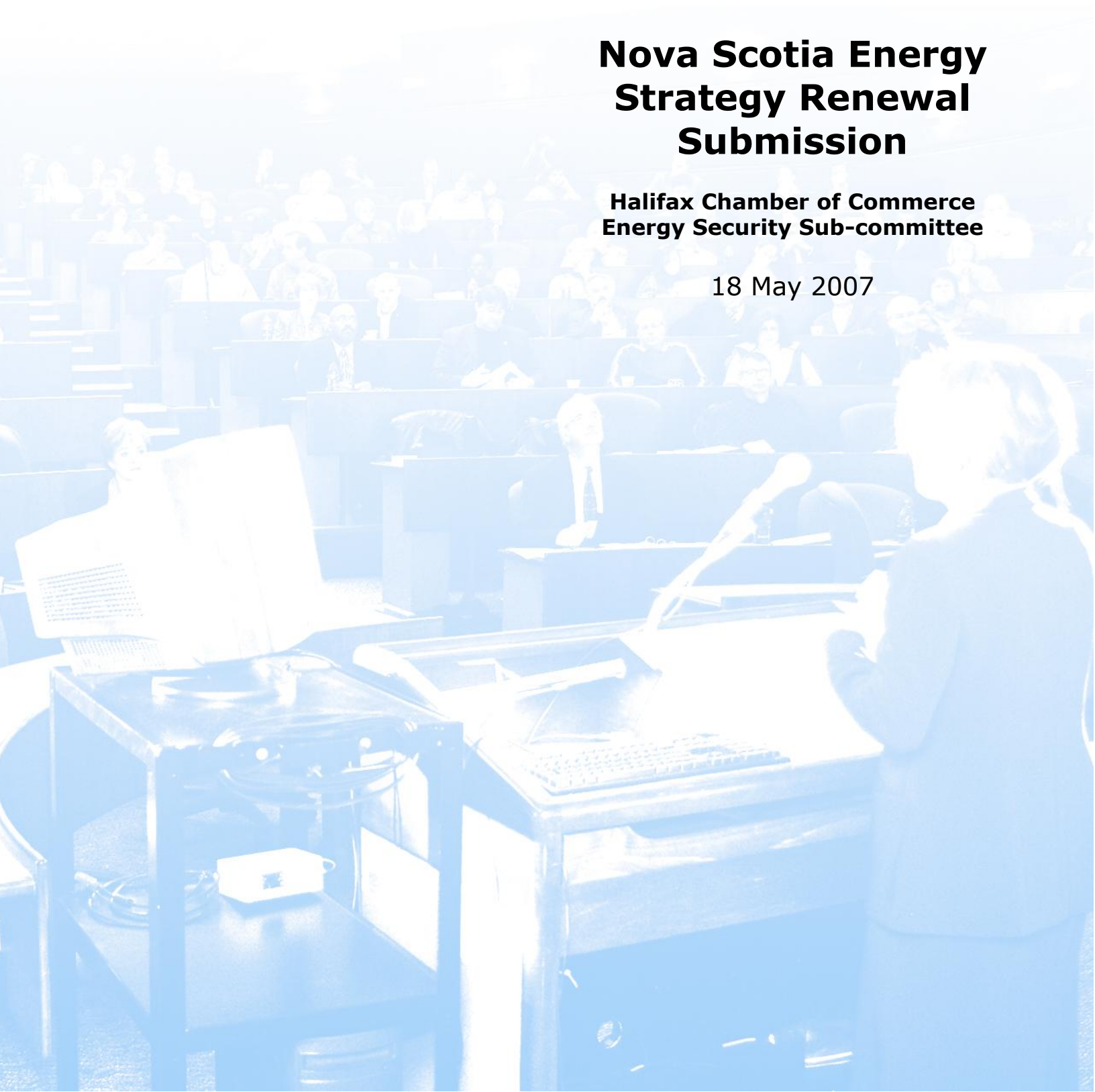


HALIFAX CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

Nova Scotia Energy Strategy Renewal Submission

**Halifax Chamber of Commerce
Energy Security Sub-committee**

18 May 2007



ENERGY SECURITY FOR NOVA SCOTIA

1. The Halifax Chamber of Commerce supports the Nova Scotia government's commitment to renew its energy strategy, particularly in light of the major shift in the global energy situation since 2001 when the current strategy was released.

2. Currently two pillars are being considered by the Department of Energy for the Energy Strategy Renewal Business Plan: *Creating Winning Conditions* and *Seizing New Economic Opportunities*. The Chamber proposes adding a third pillar - *Securing Energy Supply*. This pillar will address the three major themes of the current strategy - *Powering the Economy*, *Improving the Environment* and *Securing the Future*. Because energy security deals with securing clean, reliable and affordable energy supply, this third pillar would strongly support the two currently proposed business plan pillars.

Nova Scotia's energy future should be seen in the framework of sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation. To guarantee security, stability and prosperity in Nova Scotia, establishing an ambitious and coherent energy security policy is a crucial next step in the renewal of the energy strategy. Such a policy should seek to ensure security of energy supply, economic growth, sustainable development, employment, technological development, and to address climate change.

3. The current energy issues list presented to stakeholders is limited to the following:

- Tidal Power
- Electricity
- Conservation and Efficiency
- Offshore Exploration
- Onshore Opportunities (LNG/Petrochemicals)
- Climate Change

The Chamber supports the development of a strategic vision of the energy landscape in Nova Scotia. To realize fully the potential of the major strategy renewal pillars, the Chamber proposes expanding and restructuring the energy issues list so that it reflects the comprehensive energy demand and supply balance in the Province.

The recommended Energy Issues list for the renewed Strategy should include:

- Energy end uses – with major needs, limitations and priorities defined;
- Indigenous Primary Energy Sources - both offshore and onshore, including fossil and renewable components;
- Secondary Energy Sources for each end use - with imported energy share and export potential clearly defined;
- Strategy implementation wedges for developing and applying the energy resources needed - including energy reduction and replacement measures (understanding wedges as transitioning actions that implement the change toward a long term strategy vision and are designed to gradually increase in size over the strategy implementation period).

The recommended Strategy Renewal scoping should include:

- heating and transportation, as these are the major energy end uses in Nova Scotia (only power supply is currently listed)
 - a complete list of major indigenous primary energy sources – for instance solar energy for residential and commercial water and space heating (only tidal power is listed)
 - proposed match between secondary energy sources (i.e. electricity) and energy end uses
 - a system of wedges and the associated milestones to achieve secure and sustainable energy supply (i.e. use of indigenous renewable resources in heating applications)
4. The Chamber believes that energy end use should be the cornerstone of the renewed energy strategy. The “Four ‘R’s of Energy Security” approach: Review, Reduce, Replace and Report – is recommended as a template for addressing energy needs in the province:

Review: all energy supplies, sources, and services in Nova Scotia should be reviewed based on the established long-term energy security policy.

Reduce: all energy end uses and services should be audited to eliminate energy waste or improve waste energy management, and to identify and implement energy reduction programs to reduce energy expenses and intensity – thus increasing energy productivity.

Replace: Nova Scotia should turn to indigenous energy sources,

including natural gas, coal, tidal, solar, biomass, geothermal, and wind for the diverse creation of energy for Nova Scotia to improve the Province’s energy security. The Chamber believes this will create more business opportunities in Nova Scotia for energy service companies to develop and produce products and services for the growing global energy industry.

Report: appropriate measures should be established to monitor, manage and communicate the progress being made in meeting the energy strategy objectives.

By building a long-term energy security policy, increasing energy productivity, and increasing our reliance on indigenous energy sources we can improve the sustainability of our environment and strengthen our business community.

This policy will create winning conditions for Nova Scotia in the globally competitive business climate and help its businesses to seize new economic opportunities by becoming leaders in the clean and green economy.

CHAMBER ADVOCACY WORK

More information about the Chamber and its advocacy work can be accessed by contacting the office or visiting the Chamber web site:

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