

MEDIA ADVISORY

A Comprehensive Guide to Electricity Generation Options in Canada

Calgary, Alberta (February 12, 2018) ... The Canadian Energy Research Institute has released its most recent study "A Comprehensive Guide to Electricity Generation Options in Canada".

Canada's electricity generation mix consists of hydro, gas, oil, coal, nuclear, biomass, wind, solar and tidal sources. Each province's unique mix will vary based on its natural resource availability and accessibility. In 2015, renewables (mostly hydro) accounted for 66% of the electricity generation, with the majority of hydro power production coming from Quebec, British Columbia, Ontario, Manitoba and Newfoundland (NEB, 2017).

Canada has the opportunity to move away from more traditional electricity generation options to produce low cost electricity with fewer greenhouse gas emissions. While there are other elements associated with the management of Canada's electricity systems, such as smart grids and demand-side management, generation is still a key component of the system which provides the services Canadians have come to depend on in modern society.

The study findings will provide insights into the economics of different generation technologies by considering the resource potential of each province, the technical maturity of each option and technical improvements in generation equipment.

Table E.1: Provincial Results

Province	Least Cost Intermittent Power (cents/kWh)	Least Cost Firm Power (cents/kWh)	Cost of Reduced CO ₂ Emissions of the Firm Power Option (\$/tonne)
NL	Wind – 6.1	Wind + Hydro – 7.6	N/A
PE	Wind – 6.3	Wind + NGCC – 7.2	-57
NS	Wind – 6.4	Wind + NGCC – 7.8	-110
NB	Wind – 6.8	Wind + NGCC – 7.4	-44
QC	Wind – 6.8	Biomass – 5.2	-88
ON	Wind – 6.6	Biomass – 5.1	-93
MB	Wind – 6.4	Biomass – 5.1	-17
SK	Wind – 5.6	Biomass – 5.0	-17
AB	Wind – 5.7	Biomass – 4.9	-20
BC	Wind – 7.5	Biomass – 4.3	-40

To download a copy of the report, please visit: <https://www.ceri.ca/studies/latest>

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