

NEB Environmental Policy and Environmental Management Program

The National Energy Board (the Board or NEB) has long recognized the critical importance of environmental protection and respect for individual rights of Canadians. As part of its 1999-2002 Strategic Plan, the Board identified four critical goals, one of which focuses specifically on environmental protection and states:

NEB-regulated facilities are built and operated in a manner that protects the environment and respects individuals' rights.

The Board is taking this opportunity to present the **NEB Environmental Policy**. Establishing an environmental policy is the first of many key activities that will contribute to the achievement of the environmental goal. Centred around the core values of the Board, the policy reflects its overall environmental direction and aligns management and staff with common principles of operation.

The Board believes that effective management systems are an integral part of managing safety and protection of the environment. Management systems ensure that a comprehensive approach to managing risk is taken while allowing for flexibility. The development of its own management system is another key activity the Board is undertaking to contribute to the achievement of the environmental goal.

The Board's management system is called the **Environmental Management Program** and is based on ISO 14000 principles, an international standard for management systems, as illustrated in Figure 1. Composed of five primary phases, the Environmental Management Program will help to focus and integrate the Board's environmental efforts as well as assist in clarifying its role, expectations and responsibilities regarding environmental protection for all interested parties.

**Figure 1
Environmental Management System Model**



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For a copy of the NEB Environmental Policy:

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National Energy
Board



Office national
de l'énergie

Environmental Policy

The National Energy Board (NEB) strives to ensure, for projects under its jurisdiction, that activities are undertaken and facilities are designed, constructed, operated and decommissioned in a way that promotes environmental protection.

The NEB promotes sound environmental decision-making throughout its activities, consistent with the principles of sustainable development, prevention of pollution, cost effectiveness and in compliance with all applicable environmental legislation and other requirements.

The NEB promotes responsible environmental management.

The NEB regulates the implementation of, and assesses the effectiveness of, environmental requirements such as mitigative measures, environmental conditions attached to project approvals and environmental protection programs.

The NEB collaborates with other regulators, the energy industry and the public to develop approaches that improve environmental protection in respect of its regulatory activities.

The NEB provides appropriate resources and training to meet its environmental commitments.

The NEB commits to continual improvement of its environmental performance to ensure compliance with its Environmental Policy and to communicate its policy and environmental performance to all employees and the public.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Vollman'.

Kenneth W. Vollman
Chairman

September 2000

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