

*For Immediate Release*  
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## **McGUINTY GOVERNMENT PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ONTARIO** *Phasing Out Chillers Will Reduce Electricity Demand And Help Clean The Air*

TORONTO—The McGuinty government is proposing regulatory changes that will promote energy efficiency and reduce electricity demand, Environment Minister Laurel Broten announced today.

“Across Ontario, large buildings are being cooled by old, inefficient cooling units,” said Broten. By phasing out their use, we are helping manage the province’s energy usage and improving the air we breathe.”

The proposed regulation would require owners to either replace older industrial, commercial and institutional refrigeration and air condition units and chillers, or retrofit them to be more energy efficient and use alternative refrigerants.

These proposed changes could save up to 50 megawatts of electricity – enough to power over 11,000 homes and will help protect the environment by phasing out the use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). The proposed changes also support industry stewardship programs, which will help to ensure the safe collection, storage and disposal of surplus CFCs in the most environmentally friendly way.

“Energy conservation is a key part of Ontario's new energy future,” said Jeff Leal, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Energy. “This is another example of our government’s comprehensive approach to achieve aggressive electricity conservation targets.”

“Replacing old, inefficient chillers helps protect the environment, and ultimately, our health,” said Peter Love, Ontario's Chief Energy Conservation Officer. “New energy efficient equipment reduces peak electricity demand in the summer and costs less to operate. This is a great step towards achieving a culture of conservation.”

New technology is up to 50 per cent more energy-efficient and is less expensive to maintain and operate. Many owners have already replaced old equipment to take advantage of the energy and cost savings.

“We are pleased that the largest remaining users of CFCs, commercial chillers, will be regulated for an orderly change-out of equipment along with collection and disposal of the chemical,” says Beatrice Olivastri, Chief Executive Officer, Friends of the Earth Canada. “Ontarians and citizens of the planet win on this amendment – protecting the ozone layer helps to protect against skin cancer, eye disease and weakened immune systems.”

This initiative is just one more way the McGuinty government is protecting Ontario communities and the environment. Other initiatives include:

- A plan to include an annual average of five per cent ethanol in gasoline that takes effect January 1, 2007. Ontario's 2007 target for ethanol will reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions by about 800,000 tonnes, equivalent to removing 200,000 cars from the road.
- Contracts for 1,300 megawatts of wind power – enough power for 300,000 homes.
- Set a target to produce five per cent of our electricity from renewable sources by 2007 and ten per cent by 2010, putting us at the forefront in North America.

The proposed amendments are available for public comment for 60 days on Ontario's Environmental Registry: <http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/envregistry/027883er.htm>.

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