



Memorandum

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To Thetis Island Local Trust Committee

**From Courtney Campbell
Island Planner**

Re Implementing Bill 27: Targets and Actions for Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The Local Government Act has been amended to include the following new requirement for OCP's which must be met by May 31, 2010:

Section 877(3)

An official community plan must include targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the area covered by the plan, and policies and actions of the local government proposed with respect to achieving these targets

Inventory:

Community Energy & Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories have been prepared by the Province for each regional district. The Islands Trust is currently working with a consultant to prepare an inventory for each Local Trust Area.

An inventory will be important in identifying what sector contributes to the greatest amount of greenhouse gas emissions (such as transportation, solid waste, buildings, etc). This will allow targets, policies and actions to be focused in areas that can make the greatest impact in reducing emissions.

Setting Targets:

At least one target should be defined as a measurable emissions reduction target. This is typically expressed as either a percentage reduction or a number of tonnes reduction. Examples might include:

"By 2012, reduce GHG emissions by 33% compared with 2007 levels"

"Reduce emissions by 10,000 tonnes by the year 20xx"

"Achieve per capita emissions of 1 tonne per person by 2020".

For comparison, the Province of BC has set a GHG reduction target of 33% below 2007 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050.

Policies

Policy and process targets can also be set. Examples might include:

“convert 10% of all public parking spaces to accommodate only smart cars or electric vehicles”

“By 2012 complete an agriculture plan to promote more opportunities for locally-grown food”

Strategy and Actions:

A variety of actions can be included in the OCP, forming an overall strategy for reducing GHG emissions. Different types of actions could include: regulatory, incentives, direct, outreach, and research. For example:

Direct: Build a LEED certified Islands Trust office building.

Outreach: Partner with BC Hydro and provide educational material about the PowerSmart program.

Summary

In summary there are three components to the new information that must be in OCPs by May 31, 2010: targets, policies and actions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Greenhouse gas inventories are a useful way to being considering options for targets, policies and actions, and the Islands Trust is awaiting inventories for each Local Trust Area from a consultant. It is hoped that these will be received very soon.

September Trust Council includes a session on Bill 27 that will give trustees more information and ideas as well as an implementation strategy discussion.

cc Chris Jackson, Regional Planning Manager