

**Media Release
For Immediate Release
September 15, 2008**

Ecology Action Centre Encourages Premiers and Governors to Cap Carbon

Bar Harbor, Maine

The Ecology Action Centre will encourage regional leaders to think green at tomorrow's New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) meetings in Bar Harbour, Maine.

Topping the green to-do-list is putting cap on carbon. A cap is a legal requirement for industry, including energy utilities and vehicle manufacturers, to cut greenhouse gas emissions. Permitting the trading of emission allowances within the cap will establish a price for carbon, while providing flexibility for each firm to identify the most cost-effective way to reduce their emissions.

Currently carbon pollution it is not considered as a cost of production and is dumped freely into the atmosphere, causing climate change. Putting a price on carbon (stick) is an essential complement to other policies proposed by the NEG/ECP, such as subsidies and incentives (carrots).

"The EAC will be closely following the release of the NEG-ECP's Transportation and Air Quality Action Plan for mention of carbon pricing, as well as for measurable targets in transportation sectors such as public transit investment, vehicle efficiency standards and community planning requirements," says Stephanie Sodero, Transportation Volunteer at the Ecology Action Centre.

Other areas for action include the development of policies and supportive programs that encourage community renewable energy projects as well as embracing a low-carbon future based on local economic development rather than via the Atlantic initiative. Cheryl Ratchford, Energy Coordinator at the Ecology Action Center says that "with the right policies and financing mechanisms in place we could see money and jobs flowing toward Nova Scotian projects rather than toward imported fossil fuels."

For a full list of the EAC's Recommendations, please see attached document. To view the NEG/ECP draft meeting agenda, please visit: <http://www.negc.org/premiers.html>

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