

**Methane to Markets Partnership – Agriculture Subcommittee
Country Report – Canada
January 29, 2009**

Legislative and policy environment

The electric grid in Canada is under the jurisdiction of the ten provinces. Legislation and policy vary widely between provinces in terms of:

What percentage of the electricity is from renewable sources (Quebec and British Columbia use predominantly hydro-electricity, while Alberta and Saskatchewan use coal: other provinces have a variety of sources)

Commitment to the promotion of renewable energy sources (Ontario has recently passed aggressive renewable energy goals and supportive legislation.)

Access to the grid by small electricity producers (Ontario and Alberta have policies allowing small producers relatively easy access)

Electricity pricing, and premiums paid for renewable energy (Alberta pays a 6.5 cent premium beyond market price, per kWh; Ontario has fixed pricing with higher rates paid for wind, solar and biogas energy)

Programs to help with feasibility studies and capital costs (Ontario has the most aggressive program.)

There are currently no significant renewable energy incentives from the federal government that impact anaerobic digestion adoption in the agriculture and food sectors.

Current adoption rates

Currently there are 16 operating agriculture and food industry anaerobic digesters in Canada. An additional 16 digesters are under construction in Ontario. Sizes range from 45 kW to over 1MW. All are equipped with co-generators, with some of the heat used in the digester, and some in farm buildings and homes. A significant surplus of heat energy is generated.

Information Sources

The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Development has started a new internet “blog” on biogas, with local and international information:

<http://www.gobiogas.blogspot.com>

An important upcoming conference in Canada: *Canadian Farm and Food Biogas Conference and Exhibition March 10-13 2009, London, ON.*

The update of Canada’s Country profile and strategy plan is not yet completed. It will be provided to the sub-Committee co-chairs once it is finalized.