

KNOW YOUR REGULATOR



This Know your Regulator event is all about facilitating an open dialogue between community members to spread awareness about the roles and responsibilities of provincial energy regulators, when and why citizens reach out to their regulator, as well as sharing any opportunities to participate in the regulation process. This event will foster a greater connection between energy needs and consumption on a local level and how this relates to the wider provincial or national context.

▶ IMPACT

Energy regulators are mandated to govern certain important aspects of energy production and consumption, from regulating new energy projects and ensuring the safe operation of infrastructure, to regulating the price of energy that consumers pay. In Canada, there are provincial and federal energy regulators, each with differing realms of responsibility.

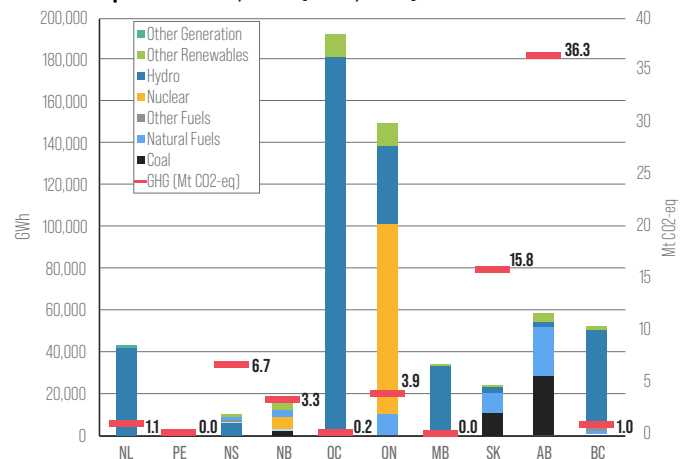
Provincial regulators have control over energy related decisions such as generation, transmission, distribution, and retail pricing within their jurisdiction; some also assess energy efficiency programs and even regulate oil and gas extraction and renewable energy projects. **Federal regulators** oversee aspects of inter-provincial and international energy projects and infrastructure. The exact duties of a provincial regulator **will differ by province**, this is because of variations in natural resources, market structures, and the source of electricity widely available in the province (see image below for the

differing sources of power generation by province). Googling your province’s energy regulator and browsing through their website will provide a good starting point to understand exactly they do. These websites often include resources to help you better understand your energy bill, the energy sources available to you in your province, and opportunities to watch or attend upcoming hearings or initiatives led by your regulator.

The path to achieving net-zero **requires individual action and community buy-in as well as government and corporate commitments**. Sharing findings about your province’s energy regulation landscape during an event like this will promote wider discussions about the energy needs of your community, how regulators can play a larger role in helping to achieve net-zero goals, and also highlight pathways for public involvement in energy regulation processes.



Provincial power generation by source and GHG emissions from the power sector, 2019 (ECCC, 2021)



Graph showing the differing sources of energy sources across Canada affecting provincial regulation processes (Pineau, 2021).

▶ HOW TO HOST KNOW YOUR REGULATOR EVENT

▶ STEP 1: PRELIMINARY RESEARCH AND EVENT PLANNING

- Start by outlining your goals for the event, what do you want people to learn about your provinces energy regulation landscape?
- Invite a group of colleagues, community members, friends, or classmates to attend your event
- Create a list of guiding questions for you and your attendees to research ahead of the event. You can be creative with these, depending on what you want to achieve from your event. Some examples include:
 - Who is your provincial energy regulator?
 - What do they regulate? What do they not regulate?
 - What is their mandate?
 - What have they regulated recently?
 - How can the public get involved? Is there an upcoming event or hearing?
- The CER (Canada's Energy Regulator) released their report on [*Canada's Energy Future 2023: Energy Supply and Demand Projections to 2050 that modeled pathways to achieving net-zero by 2050.*](#) You can assign different sections of the report for members attending your party to each review and summarize.
 - You can then go through the report and discuss its implications for local energy actors and any relations or contradictions to your research on provincial energy regulation during your event.

▶ STEP 2: HOST THE EVENT AND TRACK YOUR IMPACT

- Go through each of the questions you asked people to research ahead of time and have everyone discuss their findings, what surprised them about the research, and how they can see themselves getting involved.
- Designate a person to take notes during the event so that the information shared after the event to reinforce the discussions and topics covered
- Create a poll using a free service such as slido or mentimeter, for people to fill out after the event so you can measure your impact. Some questions to ask in the poll include:
 - Did you learn anything new from today's Energy Forum? (yes/no)
 - What is your main takeaway from today's Forum? (short answer)
 - Do you have a better understanding of [provincial or federal] energy regulation and its relation to Canada's net zero goals? (yes/ no)
- Before wrapping up, ask people to use the last 5 minutes of the event time to answer your poll. Keep and log these results, along with the number of attendees to measure your impact
- Take photos throughout the event and share them along with your impact results on social media and feel free to share your results and photos with us at research@studentenergy.org so we can see your awesome work!

Have fun!



▶ REFERENCES

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