

REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN

The Saskatchewan government has developed new output-based performance standards that will be applied to more than 40 industrial facilities in Saskatchewan. Together these facilities currently emit **11%** of Saskatchewan's greenhouse gas emissions.

The Saskatchewan government's stated goal is to achieve a 10% reduction in these overall emissions by 2030. GHG intensity reductions of 5% are being set for potash, coal mining, uranium mining, iron and steel mills, fertilizer manufacturing, pulp mills and ethanol production. A 10% reduction is being set for refining and upgrading, while a 15% reduction is being set for combustion in the upstream oil and gas sector. These performance standards are being applied to industrial facilities that emit more than 12,000 tonnes of greenhouse emissions (CO₂e) per year.

The SES position is that much tougher performance standards need to be set, and the standards need to be applied to a larger number of industrial facilities.

When setting tougher performance standards there are 2 options worth examining:

- a.** Expect each large industrial facility to achieve emissions reductions that align with Canada's commitment under the Paris Agreement (30% below 2005 emissions levels by 2030).
- b.** Allow performance standards to continue to vary by industry category, but be much more ambitious for each industrial category than is currently the case. Variation in performance standards may be necessary to take account of circumstances where Saskatchewan needs to avoid 'carbon leakage' – shifting production and the resulting emissions to another jurisdiction.

SES holds the view that **all industrial facilities in Saskatchewan that emit more than 10,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent** per year should have **provincial government performance standards** set for them. That would greatly increase the number of industrial facilities that are expected to meet performance standards.



Source: "Prairie Resilience" is Not Enough, Peter Prebble, Margret Asmuss, Ann Coxworth and Bob Halliday, Saskatchewan Environmental Society, December 2018.

Read the **Saskatchewan Environmental Society's** other recommendations for the Government of Saskatchewan at:
www.environmentalsociety.ca

