

Interview with Christopher Huskison, Outgoing Chair of Canadian MC



Christopher Huskison
Outgoing Chair of
Canadian Member
Committee (Energy
Council of Canada) and
President and CEO of
Emera Inc.

What are the challenges of clean energy generation?

There are a number of challenges, but the two that we face right now are the development of renewable technology and its geographic footprint. Much of the technology that will enable us to achieve low impact generation is still in the early stages of development, and getting it right will be costly. In Nova Scotia, for example, we built North America's first – and to date, only – tidal barrage dam in 1984 at the mouth of the Annapolis River, to tap into the energy of the world's highest tides. We learned though, that the environmental impacts of that technology were too large, so hopes for large scale tidal development were shelved.

It has taken 25 years to develop new, in-stream tidal technology to try to generate tidal power in a better way - and it is still in the experimental phase. Nova Scotia Power and OpenHydro of Ireland deployed a turbine in the Minas Passage in November and the world will be watching over the next two years as we test its performance and impact.

Achieving the right balance between the technology and the footprint is difficult. The public is used to thermal generation, with its small geographic and large environmental footprint;

only a few people live next to coal mines and generation stations, so few are impacted. Conversely, new, low impact technologies such as wind and solar, have a small environmental but large geographic footprint, to provide the same amount of energy. Adjusting to that intrusion on a larger number of people is a big challenge for the public.

And what are the opportunities?

Right now, natural gas presents a real opportunity. With shale-source gas and new LNG supply, natural gas could be a lower cost fuel for the foreseeable future. This makes it a great option as a transition fuel. Natural gas produces less than 30% the carbon dioxide of oil and 50% that of coal, which makes it a cleaner option to use now, while we develop lower carbon technology.

Of course, the development of renewable technologies also presents opportunities for new investment and high-skilled jobs. Emera has invested in OpenHydro as well as Atlantic Hydrogen, a New Brunswick company that is developing technology to remove the carbon from natural gas before it is burned. It's an exciting time in our industry, because challenges met with innovation produce opportunities.

What can WEC do help overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities?

Next year, the world is "coming to Canada" starting with the Olympics. It will be an exciting time. On the energy front, only ten months after Copenhagen and two months after the G8 and G20 meetings, the World Energy Congress in Montreal will be the first major opportunity for discussion on a global level. We will have heard what government wants, and it will be our opportunity to discuss how best to make it happen. The WEC can ensure that the dialogue emerging from Montreal turns into the appropriate policy and research work needed to achieve a low-emission world.

WEC Debriefing

WEC Side Event at COP15

On 10th December, on the occasion of the UN Climate Change Conference, COP15, in Copenhagen, WEC held an official side event in partnership with the International Chamber of Commerce. A total of 180 delegates came together to discuss "Energy and Climate Change Policies".

While the speakers repeatedly expressed the Energy industry's commitment to a successful outcome of the Copenhagen Climate negotiations, there was a shared understanding that the industry would largely benefit from a new generation of CDM's in which prices are more predictable and transparent than before. In particular, it was highlighted that the proof of additionality was a difficult barrier that needed to be overcome and that there is a need to move from a project-by-project approach to a more programmatic, possibly sectoral, approach.

With the 2009 World Energy and Climate Policy Assessment (WECPA) as the main topic of the discussion, WEC positioned itself successfully as the global public-private partnership platform in energy, which brings together the private sector, governments, experts and the media. WEC's commitment to further develop its WECPA with an update at the 2010 World Energy Congress in Montreal, Canada, has been well received.



The panel, moderated by Fiona Harvey, consisted of: Peter Brun, VP Government affairs, Vestas Wind Systems A/S; Pierre Gadonneix, WEC Chair; Andrei Marcu, Senior VP of Regulatory & Policy, Climate Change & Environment, Mercuria Energy; Jean Rozwadowski, the Secretary General of ICC.

[The Rapid Response Committee's statement on COP15 and an interview with Christoph Frei can be viewed at: http://www.worldenergy.org/news_events/news/2724.asp](http://www.worldenergy.org/news_events/news/2724.asp)

Congress Update

Future Energy Leaders Programme – Apply now!

The World Energy Council believes in giving the energy leaders of tomorrow an opportunity to exchange opinions and ideas on our energy future.

The Future Energy Leaders Programme (FELP) at the Montreal Congress will provide young people, aged from 25 to 32 and already employed in the energy industry, with an opportunity to bring their ideas and concerns before their peers from around the world. The FELP will run in parallel with the general Congress program and participants will benefit from full access to Congress events, including high level Round Tables, Keynote and Special Addresses, plus the Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Prospective participants need to apply through their relevant national Member Committee, before February 26, 2010.

For more details, please see the following link:

<http://www.wecmontreal2010.ca/en/program/felp-future-energy-leaders-program.html>

WEC Agenda

We invite our members to attend the following events:

January 31 – February 2, 2010; New Delhi, India

-India Energy Congress 2010, 'Energy Challenges for a Sustainable Future':

-Programme includes a pre-Congress networking dinner, a Plenary Ministerial Forum to be graced by the key energy sector Ministers, and four roundtable discussions which will address the challenges of WEC's 4As of Sustainability.

-Contact: info@indiaworldenergy.org

February 22 – 24, 2010; Wellington, New Zealand

-WEC Asia & Asia Pacific Regional Meeting

-Contact: energy.fed@crl.co.nz

February 23 - 26, 2010; Johannesburg, South Africa

-WEC Africa Regional Meeting & ENERGY INDABA 2010 Conference & Exhibition, 'A Time for Innovations, Solutions & Alternatives'

-Contact: fall@worldenergy.org / info@siyenza.za.com

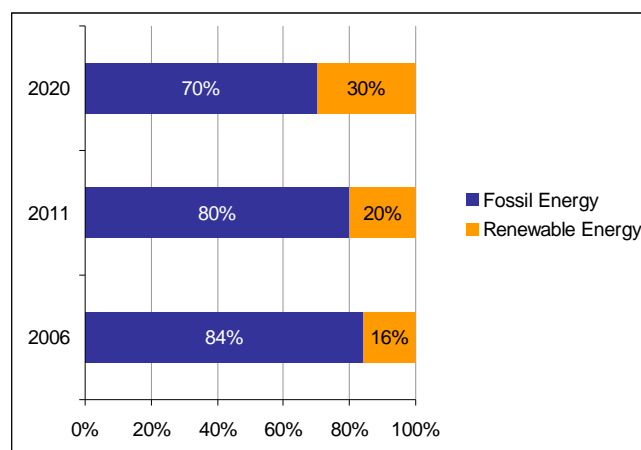
For further events and more details, please check the Events page on the WEC website...

Inside Insight

Denmark: 16 percent renewable – and rising

Denmark, host of the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, currently being held in Copenhagen, is in a strong position to help the world mitigate and adapt to climate change as well as to handle other economic challenges. Denmark is one of the top performing countries in WEC's latest Assessment of Energy and Climate Policy, and has increased the share of renewable energy in its total energy supply mix despite a scarcity of hydropower resources.

In 2006, 16 percent of the total energy consumption in Denmark came from renewable sources of energy. A large source is wind energy, but the largest part of the Danish production of renewable energy comes from the burning of biomass, including biodegradable waste. (Renewable Energy - Danish Solutions, Danish Energy Authority).



In February 2008, the parliament agreed on a policy for Denmark's future energy mix, aiming to increase the proportion of renewable energy to 20 percent in 2011 and 30 percent in 2020 – the EU target is 20 percent.

Please note that the WEC London Office will be closed from 12.00hrs on Thursday, December 24, until 09.00hrs on Monday, January 4, 2010. As such, there will not be a January 1 edition of the WEC Inside.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy holiday season and a prosperous 2010!

**Christoph Frei, Secretary General
World Energy Council**

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