

Statement

GREENPEACE

Greenpeace Canada responds to G7 climate announcement

8 June 2015 (Edmonton) – Today at their meeting in Garmisch Partenkirchen, Germany, the G7 acknowledged that in order to address climate change effectively there needs to be a phase-out of fossil fuels.

While this is a huge milestone with vast implications for Canada's energy system, more specific efforts and plans may have been blocked by Canada and Japan.

As Mike Hudema, energy campaigner with Greenpeace Canada said;

"We are glad that G7 leaders have committed to transitioning the world off fossil fuels but we are utterly embarrassed by reports that the Canadian government may have watered down the commitment and blocked other parts of the agreement. The Harper government needs to realize that taking urgent action on the climate isn't a choice, it's a necessity.

"Canada is rich in solar, wind and other forms of renewable energy, but we need national leadership to accelerate the transition away from fossil fuels. Instead of burying his head in the tar sands, Prime Minister Harper should look to the sun and build the Canada the world needs to see. The technology isn't something we need to wait for - solar and wind energy is already here. It's time Canada had a national plan for implementing it."

The G7 decision on climate change is an important step towards both the Paris agreement at the end of 2015 and the transformation of energy systems to 100% renewable energy in all countries.

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