

CANADIAN STANDARDS – A BALANCING ACT

John Overall, Union Gas Ltd Workshop W5, IGRC 2011 October 19, 2011



Some Canadian Background



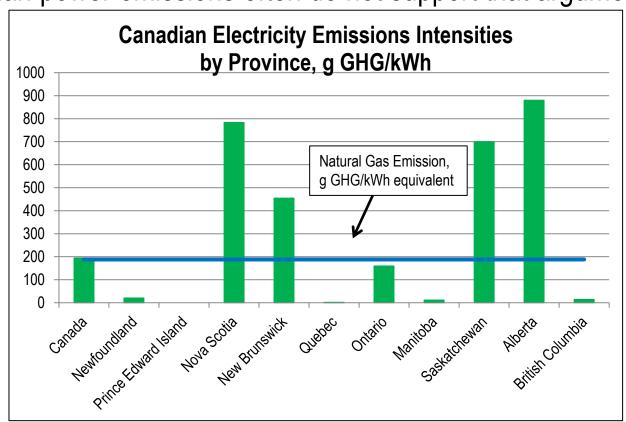
- Canada shares safety standards with US & has provincial regulators for appliance safety standards & installation codes
- Federal government regulates appliance efficiency for products crossing provincial & international borders
- Individual provinces regulate appliance efficiency for product made and sold within province
- Most appliances manufactured outside province where sold so federal regulations dominate
- Federal government regulates on point-of-use efficiency intends to change the market – proposing EF 0.8 minimum regardless of heater size or type
- Safety & Efficiency regulators often have different & conflicting objectives

Efficiency & the Emissions Argument



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- Full fuel cycle analysis often proposed to support use of gas over electricity
- Canadian power emissions often do not support that argument



Coordinated Industry Response



- New mechanism for coordinated gas industry action in Canada
- Mandate to develop new technologies and industry research
- Will also support standards initiatives such as thermal metering initiative to support district energy/cogeneration projects
 - Intend to work with regulators & industry partners to produce standards & regulation that will support thermal metering & billing in Canada
- Other research initiatives under development:
 - Micro cogen demonstration
 - High efficiency residential water heater field test



Appliance Efficiency Standards



- CSA, national fuels standards agency formed new Fuels Energy
 Efficiency Committee
- Balanced matrix committee with natural gas, oil & wood interests
- Includes national & provincial regulators, utilities, trade associations & independent members
- Responsible for efficiency & performance-related standards for gas, oil & wood
- Challenges include harmonization with US requirements, requirements of multiple regulators vs utility DSM interests & trade association objectives

Standards – A Balancing Act



- Canadian gas utilities balance;
 - Desire to be seen as environmental stewards
 - therefore want to support regulator drive for increased efficiency through efficiency standards & regulation
 - Desire to operate successful DSM programs
 - which requires a balance between regulated minimum efficiency and high efficiency appliances, but still requires reliable efficiency standards
 - Protecting market share
 - Prevent over-zealous regulation & fuel switching resulting from narrow regulator view of energy issues
 - Helping residential & commercial customers make wise energy decisions
 - By providing accurate information "advisor of choice"



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