Ministry of
Energy and Mines
and Minister Responsible
for Housing

REVISED 2011/12 – 2013/14
SERVICE PLAN

May 2011
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Message from the Minister and Accountability Statement

As we continue to responsibly develop our province’s natural resources, British Columbia is poised to become a global energy powerhouse. From clean, green hydro, wind and biomass power to world-class natural gas resources, our province’s advantages promise an exciting future as a reliable supplier of energy products and services to international markets and climate-conscious consumers.

The Clean Energy Act, passed in June 2010, sets the foundation for a new future of electricity self-sufficiency, investment, job creation, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. It will ensure British Columbians continue to enjoy the benefits of clean, renewable and affordable power for decades to come.

We are taking steps to ensure BC Hydro rates remain among the lowest on the continent, while making unprecedented investments in our heritage hydro infrastructure. These investments along with competitive power procurement from clean and renewable sources and an expanded commitment to energy efficiency and conservation will help meet growing demand, improve reliability, and make B.C. self-sufficient in electricity by 2016.

Our clean energy opportunities reach well beyond B.C.’s borders. By working to develop export markets for electricity, we can attract more investment and create more jobs in rural communities across B.C. Good jobs are the foundation of strong families and we are working to strengthen job creation across the province. With our strong vision and commitment to a clean, renewable future, we are establishing a sustainable energy economy that will ensure economic prosperity, support our climate change goals, and create a proud legacy for all British Columbians.

In partnership with Alberta and Saskatchewan, we are working to develop new overseas markets for natural gas, B.C.’s largest energy commodity. Our Oil and Gas Stimulus Package helped us make it through challenging economic times and the sector remains essential to the province’s continued economic well-being.

As a result, the 2010/11 fiscal year was strong for B.C. petroleum and natural gas rights sales, reaching $817 million, despite the challenge of relatively low natural gas prices. These vital revenues support the full range of government programs, from social services to health care and education.

With an abundance of mineral resources, B.C. is one of the world’s top jurisdictions for mining. As the economy rebounds and with commodity prices predicted to remain robust, we can look forward to a bright future. More than half of Canada’s exploration and mining companies are based in the province, which has one of the most competitive tax and regulatory systems around.

Mineral exploration activity in B.C. reached $322 million in 2010. This was the third-highest total for exploration spending in the past 20 years and a 109 per cent increase over 2009. The Ministry is responsible for permitting and inspection of major mining projects and works to increase investment in B.C.’s mining sector, both in total, and relative to other jurisdictions in Canada. Mining provides
well-paying jobs in communities across the province and is a vibrant and growing part of the economy. As the economy continues to recover in 2011, we are confident mining will play a vital role in the province’s prosperity.

Through Housing Matters BC, our comprehensive housing strategy, we continue to improve the lives of British Columbians by providing safe, affordable housing options - from supportive housing for those who are homeless to affordable rentals for individuals, seniors and families with lower incomes. More than 93,000 B.C. residents benefit from provincial housing programs and our strong partnerships with local governments and community organizations continue to help increase the available housing options in B.C.

The province also has an important role in the private housing market and construction sector. The Residential Tenancy Branch educates the public on the roles and responsibilities regarding tenancies and provides a dispute resolution process that balances the needs of landlords and tenants. The province is actively working to improve regulations governing strata corporations and to seek input from the steadily growing number of British Columbians who reside in stratas. We continue to green the building code, and build on the success of the government’s modernization strategy to create a more efficient building regulatory system in the province.

The Ministry of Energy and Mines and Minister responsible for Housing’s Revised 2011/12 - 2013/14 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

Honourable Rich Coleman
Minister of Energy and Mines and Minister Responsible for Housing

May 2, 2011
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Purpose of the Ministry

The Ministry of Energy and Mines manages the responsible exploration and development of British Columbia’s energy and mining sectors, which are comprised of public and private interests involved in the development and use of electricity, clean or renewable energy (biomass, biogas, geothermal heat, hydro, solar, ocean, wind or any other prescribed alternative energy resource), petroleum and natural gas, minerals, and renewable and low carbon fuels. Through the promotion of teamwork and positive working relationships with our clients, we facilitate thriving, safe, environmentally responsible and competitive energy and mining sectors. It is through these initiatives that the Ministry will continue to contribute to the economic growth and development of communities throughout British Columbia.

The Ministry develops and implements British Columbia’s policies with regard to electrical power generation and transmission. The Ministry is responsible for initiatives that promote new energy technologies, energy efficiency and conservation and alternative energy resources. The Clean Energy Act sets the foundation for a new future of electricity self-sufficiency, job creation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, powered by unprecedented investments in clean, renewable energy across the province. This Act builds upon British Columbia’s unique wealth of clean, renewable energy resources. Through the Innovative Clean Energy Fund, the Ministry is helping to invest in new technologies to respond to British Columbia’s energy and environmental challenges.

Another important part of the Ministry’s mandate is to develop tenure, royalty and regulatory policy for British Columbia’s petroleum and natural gas industry, thereby ensuring the effective and environmentally responsible management of the Province’s petroleum and natural gas resources. The Ministry provides a range of petroleum and natural gas related services including the issuance of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights, royalty programs, public geoscience and policies to address potential future resource opportunities, such as unconventional petroleum and natural gas. The Ministry also develops policy and manages tenures in relation to development of the provinces geothermal resources.

Working with all stakeholders, the Ministry develops policies, programs and legislation to promote industry competitiveness and encourage investment in, and development of, mining. The Ministry develops and delivers geoscience databases and surveys and provides funding to other organizations to collect and publish geoscience information. The Ministry is responsible for permitting and inspections of major mining projects, promotes mineral exploration and provides assistance and advice to prospectors and exploration companies.

As the Minister is responsible for housing, the Ministry’s portfolio includes provincial housing and homeless policy, residential tenancy information and dispute resolution, strata property regulation, building and technical safety policy and standards development, and housing services delivered through the British Columbia Housing Management Commission1.

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1 On March 14, 2011, responsibility for all program areas related to housing was transferred to the Ministry from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.
In developing energy and mining sector policies, legislation and guidelines, the Ministry consults with its clients in the petroleum and natural gas, electricity, alternative energy, mining, mineral exploration, energy technology and energy conservation industries, as well as First Nations, communities and environmental and industry organizations.

With regard to housing issues, the Ministry’s stakeholders are the citizens of British Columbia and their representatives at all levels of government, community groups, non-profit societies, schools, service organizations, businesses and industry associations. Key to the Ministry’s success is its ability to maintain strong, collaborative relationships with stakeholders, partner agencies and other levels of government.

The Ministry conducts its business in a manner that upholds government’s values as identified in the Province of British Columbia Strategic Plan, and continues to focus on the priorities that will ensure the Ministry’s success in meeting its goals.

The Ministry is responsible for administering all or parts of 39 statutes pertaining to the energy, mining and housing sectors, and has policy responsibilities under the Utilities Commission Act.

The Ministry is responsible for the following four Crown Corporations: the British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority (BC Hydro), the Columbia Power Corporation, the Oil and Gas Commission and the British Columbia Housing Management Commission (BC Housing).
Strategic Context

British Columbia is in the fortunate position of having both abundant energy and mineral resources and innovative, growing energy and mining sectors. People, resources and technology combine to provide the energy and mineral products and services required by British Columbians and our export customers, create business and investment opportunities, and develop and market new products and technologies for energy production, use and conservation. The energy and mining sectors are important elements of the British Columbia economy, in meeting the daily needs of residents and businesses, as an input to industrial and manufacturing processes and in generating jobs, investment and government revenue. The Ministry is committed to working with communities, First Nations, industry and environmental organizations to ensure that the continued growth, exploration efforts, and development of our energy and mining sectors and resources are socially and environmentally responsible.

British Columbia's electricity prices remain among the lowest in North America, thanks to the Province's heritage assets, which include historic electricity facilities such as those on the Peace and Columbia Rivers. The establishment of the Heritage Contract ensures British Columbia ratepayers continue to benefit from the low cost electricity from these assets. The B.C. Utilities Commission sets domestic rates based on costs.

The W.A.C. Bennett Dam, at the head of the Peace River Canyon, is key to the multiple uses of Peace River water for power generation. Completed in 1967, it is one of the world's largest earthfill structures, stretching 2 kilometers across the head of the canyon and measuring 183 meters in height. Behind the dam is Williston Lake, British Columbia's largest reservoir.

British Columbia's estimated natural gas resources are substantial. Despite the difficult conditions posed by the recent recession and low natural gas prices, natural gas activity levels have remained robust in the British Columbia portion of the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin. It is expected that the petroleum and natural gas industry will maintain current levels of activity, however if North
American natural gas prices continue to remain low, this may present challenges to maintaining activity levels in remote areas in the near future. Future growth is still expected to come from significant investment and development in the Province’s large shale gas deposits in the Montney, Horn River and other areas in northeast B.C.

With the heightened awareness of the need to address climate change, consumers continue to focus on reducing their consumption, improving energy efficiency, and supporting cleaner energy supply options. British Columbia has the opportunity to harness its significant renewable energy resources and become a clean-energy powerhouse. Both electricity and natural gas have the potential to help people in British Columbia and other jurisdictions reduce their carbon emissions.

B.C.’s mining sector is a key economic driver, contributing $6.0 billion to the provincial economy and employing 11,400 people in 2010. Mining uses less than one half of one percent of B.C.’s land base, a very small footprint. About 18,190 hectares of former mines have been reclaimed back to productive use. Overall, B.C.’s mining and minerals sector employs about 28,400 people (direct and indirect employees) in more than 50 communities throughout the province, and those numbers are set to grow. Due to rising commodity prices, B.C. metals are in high demand. Expected mineral tax revenues are on the rise despite a difficult economic climate in 2009. Two new major metal mines are under construction, providing jobs and economic opportunities to B.C.’s rural communities. The Copper Mountain Mine outside Princeton is expected to provide about 200 jobs during construction and another 270 when the mine is fully operational. At the New Afton Mine outside Kamloops, up to 550 jobs will be created during construction and 250 when the mine is fully operational. Construction is also set to begin this year at the Mount Milligan mine site, northwest of Prince George and also at Dome Mountain mine site, east of Smithers.

The housing needs of the vast majority of British Columbians are served through the private market. However, local governments are increasingly innovative and involved in affordable housing, looking for greater diversity in housing type and form. The Ministry is working with local government and other key stakeholders to develop initiatives to increase the supply of small, low-cost housing. In addition, with approximately one million British Columbians now living in strata title properties, and continued development of new stratas, the need to ensure effective regulation is increasingly essential.

The construction sector in British Columbia accounts for approximately seven per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) and eight per cent of employment in the province. Rising construction costs and reduced affordability of housing have focused attention on the need to reduce the regulatory burden. A smarter regulatory system allows for a reduction in process and administration while meeting the public’s expectations for safe and healthy buildings.

The Ministry assesses its risks and opportunities annually as part of its strategic planning process. Once risks/opportunities have been identified, they are addressed through a range of strategies that the Ministry implements in order to achieve its goals and objectives. The following is a discussion of the Ministry’s risks and opportunities.
**Risks**

Financial — Volatility in world financial and commodity markets can have significant impacts on investment levels in the province. In recent years, Canada has benefited from U.S. demand for electricity, petroleum products and natural gas. The Ministry is closely monitoring the emerging recovery in economic activity to gauge the demand for the province’s energy exports. In particular, the Ministry is exploring new opportunities for exporting electricity as mandated in the *Clean Energy Act*. Lower natural gas and electricity prices, may negatively impact the Province’s resource revenue in the near term. However, the emergence of new shale gas resources in Northeast British Columbia and the potential to export natural gas to Asia through a proposed Liquefied Natural Gas export facility near Kitimat will help diversify B.C.’s export markets, while maintaining a steady supply to our traditional natural gas clients (the rest of Canada and the U.S.).

Competition — Investment dollars move readily around the globe to the jurisdictions that provide the highest net return for given levels of risk. The Ministry monitors changes in British Columbia’s competitiveness as compared to other jurisdictions and implements strategies to maintain our competitive position and investment attractiveness. The Ministry continues to streamline and update legislative and policy frameworks to minimize the regulatory burden while increasing British Columbia’s competitiveness and maintaining environmental protection.

Skilled Workers — In the last decade, the rapid expansion of our energy sector has resulted in a growing number of permanent, well-paying employment opportunities for British Columbians. One of the challenges facing resource-based industries today is attracting young people into their workforces as the supply of older workers declines with the aging population. The BC Energy Plan outlines approaches to skills training and labour which focus on attracting, developing, retaining, and informing workers about employment opportunities in the province’s resource sectors.

Mining Sector — The Federal and B.C. governments have made progress towards shared co-ordination of environmental assessments for major mine development and expansion projects. However, there continues to be duplication of efforts by governments and challenges regarding legislated government timelines. This results in added cost and uncertainty for industry proponents when a harmonized “one project, one review” process could remove these problems while delivering the required environmental and socio-economic assessments.

Geoscience — Public geoscience data, geological maps, geophysical and geochemical surveys and other studies are generated by the British Columbia Geological Survey and Geoscience BC, a non-profit society. This key knowledge infrastructure allows mineral exploration companies and prospectors to target areas for investment. The Province looks for ways to continue to deliver public geoscience to trigger the industry investment required to enhance the province’s mining sector, but greater investment is required.

Housing— The Province has a diverse and challenging housing market with several communities among the most expensive in Canada for home ownership and rental accommodation. Very little purpose-built rental housing is being constructed and, in our urban centres, rents are unaffordable for many people. Many people struggle to break the cycle of homelessness in British Columbia. Aboriginal people, in particular, have housing challenges; they are over-represented in the province’s homeless population and under-represented among homeowners. Demographics are an important
consideration related to housing needs, particularly the aging population and the growth of the Aboriginal and immigrant populations.

The recent economic downturn has placed additional pressure on the housing system, including greater demand for housing assistance during times of fiscal restraint. There are also positive impacts, including lower construction costs, continuing low interest rates and higher vacancy rates for rental accommodation.

**Opportunities**

Global Supply/Demand — British Columbia will remain a significant supplier of natural gas to North American markets and is looking to expand the Province’s market access to Asia with liquefied natural gas exports expected in the coming years. The Ministry works to promote exploration for new sources of unconventional gas, for example shale and tight gas. As British Columbia and other jurisdictions undertake actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a growing market is emerging for clean and renewable electricity. B.C.’s *Clean Energy Act* clearly identifies that one of the Province’s energy objectives is to become a net exporter of electricity from clean or renewable resources. British Columbia has large and diverse clean and renewable electricity potential, and is well positioned to serve western North American demand.

First Nations — First Nations increased collaboration with mineral exploration and mining companies is resulting in benefits from mineral exploration and mining for First Nations through jobs, contracts and resource revenue sharing opportunities.

Improving Regulation — The Government is continuing to focus on streamlining provincial regulations without diminishing B.C.’s high standards for environmental protection, while protecting the health and safety of industry workers and the public. This, plus major mine developments and expansions scheduled to occur, will help the industry remain strong over the longer term. The B.C. mining community is leading the way in protecting the environment and developing our natural resources in a sustainable manner. The B.C. Government and the Mining Association of British Columbia (MABC) have engaged key B.C. stakeholders to develop a made-in-B.C. framework for sustainability in mining and mineral exploration. The intention is to encourage the implementation of best practices and innovation that will improve social, environmental and economic performance while maintaining and/or enhancing shareholder value.

Housing — New green technologies and approaches to construction are quickly emerging to meet increased energy and water efficiency requirements. To keep up with the pace of innovation, the building and safety regulatory system is becoming more flexible, adaptive and objective-based. Improved trade relationships with North American and European partners is leading to new agreements on removing barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility. New trade agreements are focusing on harmonizing the regulatory environment across jurisdictions.

**Resource Management Coordination**

This Ministry is also working collaboratively with the ministries of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation; Agriculture; Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Environment; and Jobs, Tourism and Innovation to promote integrated and timely delivery of services to clients in all regions.
across British Columbia. Such collaboration is designed to support the competitiveness of natural resource enterprises and reinforce sustainable environmental management. Collaborative efforts offer the opportunity for alignment of government resources to advance economic development and community resiliency. Improving the efficiency of service delivery will also help address budget realities and demographic challenges facing the Province.

**Climate Change Adaptation**

The Ministry is supporting implementation of the Provincial Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, which calls on government agencies to consider climate change and its impacts, where relevant, in planning, projects, policies, legislation, regulations, and approvals, by assessing business risks and opportunities related to climate change adaptation. Adaptation is a vital part of government’s climate change plan. It means taking action now to prepare for a changing climate and its impacts on ecosystems, resources, businesses and communities.

The Gordon M. Shrum Generating Station, located next to the W.A.C. Bennett Dam on the Peace River near Hudson's Hope, in Northeast B.C., is a cornerstone of BC Hydro's generation system. Several projects are either underway, or planned to start soon, that will renew this facility's aging equipment. G.M. Shrum was the largest underground powerhouse in the world when it began generating electricity in 1968.
Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

A wide range of Ministry strategies are being implemented to facilitate family-supporting job creation in B.C. Some of these strategies include implementation of the Clean Energy Act, the BC Energy Plan and the BC Mining Plan, expanding opportunities for job training and placement, engaging stakeholders, as well as ensuring a secure, reliable supply of competitively priced electricity for British Columbians.

The Ministry promotes development and use of alternative energy technology and energy efficiency measures. The regulatory framework supporting the Oil and Gas Activities Act introduced new requirements that ensure exploration and development activities throughout the petroleum and natural gas sector are both planned and implemented in a manner that safeguards environmental values. Improving the effectiveness and timeliness of multi-agency federal and provincial reviews of proposed energy and mining projects is a high priority for British Columbia. The Ministry will maintain effective and efficient regulation of mines and mineral exploration sites aimed at health, safety and environmental best practices.

Through the BC Mining Plan, we are achieving our vision of a thriving, globally competitive, safe and environmentally responsible exploration and mining industry. The plan has four cornerstones: focus on communities and First Nations; protecting workers and the environment; global competitiveness; and access to land. We are working with First Nations, local governments, industry and community members to maintain British Columbia’s mining reputation as a world leader in social responsibility and environmental protection.

The Ministry is leading the promotion of energy efficiency measures to reduce the need for new energy supply, while delivering a healthier living and work environment for British Columbians. The BC Energy Plan provides made-in-B.C. solutions to the common global challenge of fostering the development of new, sustainable energy and technology industries. This will ensure more comprehensive and proactive approaches to energy issues in British Columbia for the next 20 years, and support the delivery of a secure, reliable supply of affordable electricity produced in an environmentally responsible way.

In March 2011, a Government-wide re-organization refocused the Ministry’s mandate on energy, mining and housing policy and programs. The Ministry has retained its energy-related policy and program responsibilities with regard to electricity, alternative and renewable energy, petroleum and natural gas, energy efficiency and conservation. Mining and mineral resource responsibilities, including the B.C. Geological Survey, policy and program development, mineral and coal titles, and mineral exploration and mine permitting and inspection, were transferred back to the Ministry from the former Ministries of Forests, Mines and Lands, and Natural Resource Operations. Responsibility for housing and homeless policy, transition houses, building policy, safety standards and inspections, and landlord-tenant dispute resolution were transferred to the Ministry from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General. The Ministry’s goals, objectives and strategies in this Revised Service Plan reflect these changes in government structure and responsibility.

Revised 2011/12 – 2013/14 Service Plan
Goal 1: Thriving and competitive energy and mining sectors

Objective 1.1: Increased energy sector investment, revenue generation and job creation for the long term benefit of all British Columbians.

Discussion

- Long term investment in the energy sector contributes to stability and predictability, allowing the industries to grow and prosper.
- A challenge to achieving this objective is that demand for energy can be cyclical, affecting the price of electricity, natural gas and other energy resources, and thus the level of investment in the sector. Financial costs and currency fluctuations also impact investment levels.

Strategies

- Attract investment by continuing to work with industry to develop and implement focused marketing and investment programs to showcase British Columbia as a centre of excellence for energy resource and technology development.
- Further establish British Columbia as a recognized centre for energy innovation and technology research, education and demonstration, in collaboration with industry, post-secondary institutions, the federal government and provincial agency partners.
- Improve the competitiveness of British Columbia's energy sector by providing leadership, information, investing in infrastructure, and developing new policies, regulations and programs.
- Support unconventional petroleum and natural gas development and exploration by modernizing the petroleum and natural gas rights disposition processes.
- Conduct energy related geoscience research and technical assessments to promote and support the petroleum and natural gas energy and geothermal industries in B.C. while also contributing baseline data to support the protection of environmental values.

Performance Measures 1 and 2: Annual investment in the energy sector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Investment in Petroleum and Natural Gas Exploration and Development</td>
<td>$6.3 Billion</td>
<td>$5.0 Billion</td>
<td>$5.7 Billion</td>
<td>$6.4 Billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Investment in Electricity Facilities</td>
<td>$2.5 Billion</td>
<td>$2.5 Billion</td>
<td>$2.6 Billion</td>
<td>$2.5 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 **Source:** Data analysis by Ministry of Energy and Mines based on Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers data for previous years. Estimates provided by calendar year.

2 **Source:** Data analysis by Ministry of Energy and Mines, BC Public Utilities. Estimates provided by fiscal year. Includes data from BC Hydro, Columbia Power Corporation, Fortis BC and Ministry estimates of private sector investments.
Discussion

Annual investment in petroleum and natural gas exploration and development consists of industry investment in petroleum and natural gas rights, geophysical and geological surveys, exploratory and production wells, pipelines, development roads and processing plants. Used in homes for heating and cooking purposes, natural gas also has a wide range of commercial and industrial uses. Natural gas can help reduce carbon dioxide emissions when it is substituted for coal or oil, as natural gas is the cleanest burning fossil fuel. In addition, petroleum and natural gas industry activity provides family supporting jobs for British Columbians, builds provincial infrastructure, and generates significant provincial government revenue which supports the provision of social programs such as education and health care.

Annual investment in electricity generation and transmission facilities measures the total investment in the electricity sector in British Columbia, including improvement and replacement to existing infrastructure by the major provincial electrical utilities and Crown corporations — BC Hydro, Columbia Power Corporation, Columbia Basin Trust and FortisBC — and clean and renewable electricity producers which supply electricity to the utilities. Capital expenditures in the electricity sector help ensure a safe and reliable electricity system to meet household, commercial and industrial needs. This investment supports the clean electricity goals in the BC Energy Plan. The electricity sector employs many British Columbians, and the dividends from electricity Crown Corporations, plus taxation, water rental and other revenues from all electricity market participants, contribute to important social programs. Planned spending in 2011/12 and 2012/13 is expected to increase as BC Hydro plans to spend $2 billion per year on upgrading and expanding B.C’s heritage electricity generation, transmission and distribution assets.

Through its strategies to improve competitiveness, and collaborative efforts with industry and other provincial and federal agencies, the Ministry continuously strives to attract investment dollars to British Columbia. Ministry policy direction to Crown Corporations that produce and distribute electricity has a direct impact on investment in this sector. These performance measures represent long term outcomes that are an indicator of the favourable impact of Ministry policies and initiatives.

2010 SALES OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS RIGHTS BRING IN $844 MILLION

For calendar year 2010, the sale of Crown petroleum and natural gas rights generated $844 Million in bonus bids for the provincial treasury, the fourth highest total in British Columbia history. The 2009 total was almost $893 Million and 2008 total was $2.66 Billion, the highest calendar year total ever.

The June 23, 2010 disposition of petroleum and natural gas rights resulted in over $404 Million in bonus bids. The average price per hectare for this sale was approximately $3,012. The sale offered 117 parcels in northeast BC covering 140,012 hectares, and sold 108 parcels covering 134,216 hectares.

Pursuant to Section 71 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act, the Ministry of Energy holds 12 dispositions of Crown-owned petroleum and natural gas rights each year.
Objective 1.2: Increase mineral exploration and mining activities in B.C.

Strategies

- Identify issues and opportunities facing the mineral exploration and mining industry in British Columbia and update the 2005 mining plan to address them.
- Gather and utilize information for informed decision making (e.g. Geoscience).
- Encourage mineral exploration.
- Remove barriers to mining investment and create the conditions that encourage investment and development of mineral resources.
- Support the implementation of initiatives that contribute to a globally competitive and sustainable sector.

Performance Measure 3: Sales Value of Products Sold from Mines, Pits and Quarries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sales value of products sold from mines, pits and quarries</td>
<td>$6.0 Billion</td>
<td>$6.1 Billion</td>
<td>$6.7 Billion</td>
<td>$6.9 Billion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Natural Resources Canada and Statistics Canada

Discussion

This is a new performance measure. The total value of mineral sales in B.C. is indicative of the productivity associated with the use of mineral and aggregate resources and also an indicator of the economic impact of mining on the provincial economy. It is measured through surveys conducted by Statistics Canada and Natural Resources Canada and includes the total value of all minerals sold including metals, coal, industrial minerals and construction aggregates.

Targets are heavily dependent on commodity price fluctuations and new mine developments; for example, in the last 12 years (1998 to 2009) this measure fluctuated annually by as much as $1.6 billion.

Performance Measure 4: Relative Ranking in Canada for Mineral Exploration Spending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B.C. share of Canada's exploration spending</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Natural Resources Canada Data analysis by the Ministry of Energy and Mines based on calendar year survey results from Natural Resources Canada, Statistics Canada and PriceWaterhouseCoopers
Discussion
This is a new performance measure. Exploration to identify mineral reserves is critical to sustain mining operations. The data are sourced from Natural Resource Canada’s Survey of exploration spending across all Canadian jurisdictions. This performance measure tracks exploration spending in B.C. by mining exploration companies and prospectors working within the Province’s regulatory regime. Exploration to identify mineral reserves is critical for sustaining provincial mining operations, as it impacts the number of mine permits, claims and eventually, future mine operations.

Data Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines. Note „2010e” denotes an estimate, as at January 25, 2011. For more information, please visit: www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/MineralStatistics/MineralSectors/MineralExploration/StatisticsSurveys/Pages/ProvCompMinExp.aspx

Annual spending in B.C. compared to overall spending across Canada as a “per cent share measure” is a reflection of B.C.’s competitiveness in attracting exploration spending to the province. Over the past 12 years (1998 to 2009) the per cent share has varied from 5.7 per cent to 18 per cent, and annual spending in B.C. increased by almost $300 Million from $55 Million in 1998/99 to $350 Million in 2010/11.
Performance Measure 5: Direct government revenue derived from mining.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct government revenue from mining* ($ Millions)</td>
<td>$ 376 M</td>
<td>$ 493 M</td>
<td>$ 490 M</td>
<td>$ 484 M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** Ministry of Energy and Mines. Forecast and Targets are based on the January, 2011 Blue Book Budget Estimates Forecast.

*Mining revenue figures are comprised of free miner certificates, mining receipts, coal tenure revenue, health and safety, inspections and mineral taxes which are collected by the Ministry of Finance.

**Discussion**

This indicator depicts what the Ministry can expect to generate as revenue to be included into the Provincial consolidated revenue fund, based on analysis of mining and mineral exploration activity under prevailing economic and forecast sector market conditions.

**Objective 1.3:** An increasingly secure, reliable supply of energy for the long term benefit of all British Columbians.

**Discussion**

- A secure and reliable supply of energy contributes to economic growth and stability for British Columbians.
- Energy supply is influenced by a number of factors outside the Province's control, including world economic growth cycles, regional and global market demand, supply and prices, interest rates, and exchange rates.

**Strategies**

- Work with BC Hydro to upgrade the Province's Heritage generation, transmission and distribution assets.
- Ensure electricity self-sufficiency through innovative, aggressive conservation, competitive power procurement programs, and BC Hydro’s own projects.
- Diversify and reduce the carbon intensity of British Columbia’s energy supply, including the use of biofuels, the implementation of a low carbon fuel requirement, expanded natural gas use, and increased supply of clean electricity from projects such as the 335 megawatt Waneta hydroelectric expansion project.
- Work with BC Hydro to advance electricity self sufficiency and respond to British Columbia’s other energy objectives through the development of its Integrated Resource Plan.
NEW ACT POWERS B.C. FORWARD WITH CLEAN ENERGY AND JOBS

On June 3, 2010, the legislature passed the Clean Energy Act which sets the Province’s policy direction for a new future of electricity self-sufficiency, job creation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions, powered by unprecedented investments in clean, renewable energy across the province. The Act advances 16 specific energy objectives by expediting clean energy investments, protecting B.C. ratepayers, ensuring competitive rates, encouraging conservation, strengthening environmental protection and aggressively promoting regional job creation and First Nations’ involvement in clean electricity development opportunities.

The new Clean Energy Act sets the foundation for three areas of priority:

1. Ensuring electricity self-sufficiency at low rates;
2. Harnessing B.C.’s clean power potential to create jobs in every region; and

The Clean Energy Act builds on the work of the Green Energy Advisory Task Force, appointed in November 2009 to provide insights and recommendations on a comprehensive strategy to put B.C. at the forefront of clean energy development.

Objective 1.4: Efficient and effective fiscal, legislative and regulatory frameworks and services that reflect the public interest, and enhanced social and economic benefits for all British Columbians.

Discussion

• An efficient and effective royalty and policy framework for the energy and mining sectors enhances competition and encourages the investment necessary to prosper.

• Competition with other jurisdictions for investment requires ongoing monitoring and progress in regulatory reform, fee and licence reviews, and policy development.

• Maintaining the balance between the interests of local residents and resource developers is a shared objective of residents, regulators, provincial ministries and industry.

Strategies

• In cooperation with other levels of government, continue to review regulations to ensure British Columbia remains competitive, while maintaining the integrity of environmental, health and safety standards.
- Expand and improve online service delivery, for example by leading the development of the Integrated Petroleum System that will replace current platforms.

- Manage the oversight of the Columbia River Treaty to ensure the value of downstream power benefits continues to be realized.

- Implement new regulations for renewable and reduced carbon intensity of transportation fuels under the *Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Renewable and Low Carbon Fuel Requirements) Act.*

- Consult with the Oil and Gas Commission, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, other government agencies, industry, First Nations and stakeholders to identify and resolve any issues arising from the implementation of the *Oil and Gas Activities Act.*

- Facilitate the efficient and effective implementation of the *Clean Energy Act* by developing and implementing appropriate regulations.

*Natural gas drilling rig in northeast British Columbia*
Objective 1.5:  Greater public awareness of the benefits of energy exports.

Discussion

- Increased awareness of the benefits derived from energy exports is one element that contributes to public acceptance of the energy sector and its role in a competitive, global economy. The energy sector contributes significant revenues to the government which are used to fund public services such as healthcare and education.

Strategies

- Provide information to, and foster engagement with, the public, stakeholders, industry and other government partners about the benefits of environmentally and socially responsible resource development and exploration, and opportunities for energy conservation.
- Work cooperatively with other ministries and partners to increase provincial awareness of energy development and exploration as well as export opportunities.
- Pursue financial and cooperative renewable energy partnerships with industry, such as those with clean and renewable electricity producers, the public and other levels of government.

NEW RULES SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE PETROLEUM, NATURAL GAS GROWTH

The implementation of the Oil and Gas Activities Act (OGAA) and its regulations on October 4, 2010, moves B.C. to the forefront of the petroleum and natural gas sector in North America by modernizing a regulatory framework that is almost 50 years old. The Pipeline Act, the Oil and Gas Commission Act and the regulatory provisions currently found in the Petroleum and Natural Gas Act have been repealed and replaced with OGAA.

With policy development led by the Ministry of Energy and Mines, and following extensive consultation with stakeholders, OGAA better defines and clarifies the role of the BC Oil and Gas Commission, the regulatory agency responsible for overseeing petroleum and natural gas operations in B.C. The Commission now has stronger compliance and enforcement powers to govern a modern industry. A new appeal tribunal will respond to challenges raised about the decisions made by the Commission.

Comprehensive environmental requirements are a key part of the new regulatory framework, with stronger, more consistent environmental guidelines and standards for industry, ensuring responsible management practices as the sector continues to grow. Requirements for stakeholder consultation have also been enhanced.
Goal 2: Safe and environmentally responsible energy and mineral resource development and use.

Objective 2.1: Practices that protect the public and the environment.

Discussion

- Operations at major mines, electricity generating stations and transmission facilities and petroleum and natural gas exploration, pipeline and processing sites can be hazardous, and can have an impact on the environment if not properly managed. Practices that safeguard the public and the environment contribute to environmentally responsible development and use of these resources.

- The threat of accidents, leakages and spills is always present, so ongoing policy development and education are necessary to ensure these are minimized.

Strategies

- Explore further opportunities to expand environmentally responsible energy and mineral resource development and exploration, in partnership with industry and other government organizations.

- In cooperation with industry, enhance collaboration to improve environmental and safety regulation compliance through inspections and audits.

Performance Measure 6: Toward Sustainable Mining Certification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of new or existing mine sites adopting (TSM) sustainable measures</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Association of Mineral Exploration BC

Discussion

This is a new performance measure through which the Ministry will begin tracking the application of sustainability principles. As of December 2010, the Mining Association of B.C. (MABC) has adopted and is encouraging its member mining companies to adopt the provincially developed “Toward Sustainable Mining” (TSM) check list. The list has multiple levels of “sustainable activities” at mine sites. Since 2011 will be the first year of adopting this tool, this measure counts the number mine sites, which have adopted TSM at any level and reported their results to MABC. TSM provides a way of finding common ground with communities of interest in order to build a better mining industry, today and in the future. TSM is based on a set of guiding principles that are in turn supported by performance elements and indicators that include operational, environmental and corporate...
sustainability. Projections are tentative, and once the TSM system has been in place for a year, targets will be reviewed and possibly refined.

![Coal mine site at Elkview, B.C.](image)

**Performance Measure 7: Short term injury rate at B.C. mines.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short term injury rate at B.C. mines</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** Ministry of Energy and Mines and WorkSafe BC

**Discussion**

The targets reflect the anticipated average number of accident claims per year at B.C. mines, including open pit coal and metal mines, quarries and underground mines per 100 person years. B.C.’s mining workforce is constantly evolving and is expected to have an incremental percentage of workers who are new to mining operations in the next ten years. Enhanced health and safety training and inspections are required to ensure that mining remains one of B.C.’s safest heavy industries. To provide context for this measure, using 2009 estimates, a 0.1 decrease in short term injury rate would result in approximately 10 fewer claims or an 8.6 per cent decrease in the number of claims. The claims cost for the three major mines subsectors was approximately $3.34 Million in 2009. Therefore,
an 8.6 per cent decrease in the number of claims would result in a $288,000 savings in cost. This illustration assumes that the types of claims are similar from 2009 to 2010.

Objective 2.2: Increased energy conservation and use of alternative, clean energy and fuels, and efficient technologies.

Discussion

- Retrofitting or constructing new energy efficient buildings, and promoting the deployment of alternative energy technology, contributes to environmentally responsible energy development and use. The Government plays a key role in providing information to the public about practical conservation initiatives, establishing new standards through the B.C. Building Code and Energy Efficiency Act, and encouraging the private sector to develop alternative energy sources.

- The up-front expense of retrofitting existing homes and buildings to conserve energy, as well as the expense of material and equipment for energy efficient new buildings, will be fully recovered over time through lower energy bills.

- British Columbia has a number of alternative energy options such as solar, tidal, biomass, wave, geothermal and wind power. These sources of alternative energy are renewable and can complement existing electricity generating facilities and heating and transportation fuels.

Strategies

- Support energy utilities with the implementation of cost effective demand side management measures.

- Participate in and support long-term clean energy planning initiatives at the regional and provincial level, including the Western Renewable Energy Zones initiative and BC Hydro’s Integrated Resource Plan.

- Work with the Climate Action Secretariat, other government ministries and agencies, Crown Corporations, the public, electricity producers and utilities across British Columbia to implement a coordinated and focused approach to energy conservation and efficiency measures and support deployment of alternative energy options to meet the province's energy needs.

- Continue to support energy efficiency in homes and buildings through the LiveSmart BC: Energy Efficiency Program which provides one-stop access to provincial and utility programs.

- Introduce a new LiveSmart Small Business program to reach more than 4,000 small businesses with energy assessments, direct installation and incentives.

- Continue to implement the Energy Efficient Buildings Strategy: More Action, Less Energy which has among the most aggressive energy efficiency targets in Canada.

- Position natural gas as an abundant, clean-burning alternative to diesel and other hydro-carbon fuels, as natural gas has fewer pollutants and lower carbon dioxide emissions.
• Ensure the procurement of clean and renewable electricity continues to account for at least 93 per cent of total generation.

• Continue to advance the development of a hydrogen economy by promoting the hydrogen fuel cell industry and other technology that supports alternative energy.

• Continue to implement the BC Bioenergy Strategy to take advantage of B.C.’s abundant sources of beetle-killed timber, wood wastes and agricultural residues.

• Improve energy efficiency in homes, buildings and industry by implementing new standards under the Energy Efficiency Act to increase the minimum performance levels for manufactured building components and equipment.

• Work with industry to identify disposal zones for CO₂ sequestration.

• Work with industry and BC Hydro to promote greater use of electricity to power natural gas processing facilities in northeast B.C.

• Through the Innovative Clean Energy Fund (ICE Fund), accelerate the development of new energy technologies with the potential to solve real, everyday energy and environmental issues and create economic benefits for all British Columbians.

Performance Measure 8: Innovative Clean Energy Fund leverage ratio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2008/09 Benchmark</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investment leverage ratio</td>
<td>2:1¹</td>
<td>3:1</td>
<td>3:1</td>
<td>3:1</td>
<td>3:1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines Staff analysis

¹ Value based on data from First Call projects.

Discussion

The Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) Fund accelerates the development of new energy technologies that have the potential to solve real, everyday energy and environmental issues and create socio-economic benefits for all British Columbians. The ongoing target is to optimize government’s investment in clean energy technologies by encouraging project proponents to use the ICE Fund to leverage other sources of public and private-sector funding. The 2008/09 benchmark is calculated at 2:1 to be consistent with the leveraging calculation methodology applied by other funding programs: Total Project Value minus Total ICE Funding / Total ICE Funding. This methodology is also applied to forecasts and performance targets.
Performance Measure 9: Energy saved by LiveSmart BC Program participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy saved by LiveSmart participants</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** Ministry of Energy and Mines Staff analysis of Natural Resources Canada data.

**Discussion**

The LiveSmart BC: Efficiency Incentive Program provides financial support to households for energy assessments and energy efficiency building retrofits. Tens of thousands of British Columbians have displayed their commitment to home energy efficiency through their participation in the program. This performance measure forecasts the average percentage energy savings for program participants resulting from energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. Program participants have their homes assessed by federally-certified energy advisors both before and after efficiency upgrades are undertaken. Examples of eligible home improvements include space heating, water heating and wall and attic insulation.

*British Columbia based Lignol Energy Corporation is commercializing its patented biorefining technology to produce ethanol and biochemicals from cellulosic biomass. The technology is currently being demonstrated at Lignol’s pilot plant in Burnaby, B.C., which has received financial support from the Innovative Clean Energy Fund.*
Performance Measure 10: Total energy savings achieved each year through utility and provincial conservation policies, programs, and regulations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast(^1)</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total energy savings achieved each year through electric utility and provincial conservation policies, programs, and regulations (^1)</td>
<td>3,272,051 GJ</td>
<td>4,729,427 GJ</td>
<td>5,548,652 GJ</td>
<td>6,185,790 GJ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Ministry of Energy and Mines.

\(^1\) Measured in Gigajoules to include both gas and electricity savings. Excludes gas savings from FortisBC.

**Discussion**

This measure is driven by policy actions one through nine of the BC Energy Plan. Targets represent energy savings from the LiveSmart BC: Efficiency Incentive Program, regulated standards under the *Energy Efficiency Act*, green building code changes, and utility programs from BC Hydro’s and FortisBC’s demand side management programs and conservation/stepped rate participants. These utilities design and direct their energy efficiency programs to three main market sectors — residential, commercial and industrial.

The performance measure for energy savings has been improved by including natural gas savings to the extent possible, rather than only the electricity savings reported in previous years. In order to add two different forms of energy savings, the measure is now in Gigajoules rather than Gigawatt hours. The conversion formula is one Gigawatt hour equals 3,600 Gigajoules. By reporting both natural gas and electricity savings, this measure provides a more complete indicator of the performance of the total energy demand side management effort by Government and electric utilities and their customers.

The increase in the 2011/12 target is the result of the General Service Lighting Regulation coming into effect in January 2011. New standards for energy efficient alternatives to 75-100 W incandescent light bulbs sold in British Columbia apply, one year ahead of the federal requirement. Incandescent bulbs have a lifetime of less than a year, so all the new savings associated with transitioning from incandescent to compact fluorescent and other high efficiency light bulbs will occur in 2011/12, resulting in a lower growth in the 2012/13 target.
Goal 3: The Ministry, stakeholders, First Nations and industry working cooperatively for the responsible development and use of British Columbia’s energy and mineral resources.

Objective 3.1: A continued strong commitment to environmentally and socially responsible development through appropriate and timely engagement of First Nations, the public and stakeholders in energy and mineral resource development.

Discussion
- If the public, First Nations, landowners and non-governmental organizations are informed and participate in responsible resource exploration and development, they will have an opportunity to help identify and contribute constructively to the resolution of issues and become more aware of the benefits that resource development can provide to a community, such as regular employment for citizens.

Strategies
- Foster working relationships between industry, the public, First Nations and landowners by clarifying and simplifying resource exploration and development management processes, enhancing dispute resolution methods, and offering more support and information.
- Continually examine tenure policies and legislation, and, with the engagement of stakeholders and other ministries, develop new regulations in response to technological and societal changes.
- Work with industry, the Oil and Gas Commission and the public to manage the development of the Horn River Basin and other shale gas plays in a manner that establishes leading North American standards for unconventional gas resources.
- Exchange information with industry regarding Crown petroleum and natural gas rights disposition matters, resolve overlapping requests or parcels that are too large, and negotiate parcel configurations.

Objective 3.2: Enhanced stakeholder awareness of resource opportunities and the benefits of their responsible development and use.

Discussion
- Increased stakeholder awareness of the employment and business opportunities that result from responsible resource exploration and development can enhance cooperation among industry, the public and the Ministry.
The Ministry seeks to reach stakeholders and the public in key energy and mineral producing regions.

**Strategies**

- Continue to collaborate with other ministries, agencies and Crown corporations to provide information and engage stakeholders to promote awareness and greater understanding of the exploration and development of resources.
- Continue to improve the referral process for Crown petroleum and natural gas rights dispositions to be more responsive to industry, First Nations and community interests.
- Continue support for the annual B.C. Mining and Sustainability Award (implemented in 2006) to recognize the achievements of communities, industry, organizations and individuals.

**Goal 4: Safe and sustainable homes for all British Columbians**

**Objective 4.1**  **Access to safe and stable housing**

**Strategies**

- Provide policy and funding support for a continuum of social housing, including emergency shelters, subsidized units and private market rental assistance. The support needs of vulnerable citizens are further addressed through the Homeless Outreach Program, supportive housing, transition homes and assisted living.
- Work with local governments and other partners to address local housing challenges and increase the supply of affordable market rental and homeownership units.
- Provide policy development to ensure an effective strata regulatory system, including supporting strata residents with improved dispute resolution mechanisms and financial accountability requirements.
- Provide policy and funding support for transition house and safe house services for women and children who are fleeing domestic violence, as well as for a longer term enhanced continuum of safe housing options, such as second stage housing.
- Assist landlords and tenants to resolve disputes earlier in the resolution process by: increasing public education; working with partner agencies and organizations to expand the availability of consistent information regarding tenancies; and, expanding the triage process and scheduling to ensure landlords’ and tenants’ enquiries and requests are appropriately addressed.
Performance Measure 11: Priority groups in subsidized housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast¹</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage of clients belonging to priority groups in subsidized housing</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** The measure is calculated by taking the current inventory of subsidized housing and determining the percentage of units that are available for each of the designated priority groups.

**Discussion**

This measure is an indicator of performance in ensuring that those in greatest need receive priority assistance for housing. For the purposes of the measure, the groups considered to be among those in greatest housing need include: low income or frail seniors; people with physical or mental disabilities; people with mental illness; women and children who have experienced domestic violence; individuals facing alcohol and drug addiction challenges; Aboriginal individuals and families; and, people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The targets are set to reflect the number of social housing households that fall into one of the designated priority groups, as well as the anticipated number of new and acquired housing units, all of which are targeted to priority groups, during the service plan period.

Performance Measure 12: Residential tenancy dispute resolution requests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Measure</th>
<th>2010/11 Forecast¹</th>
<th>2011/12 Target</th>
<th>2012/13 Target</th>
<th>2013/14 Target</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of residential tenancy dispute resolution requests per 1,000 British Columbia adult population (over age 19)</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Data Source:** Results for this measure are derived from records of dispute resolution requests to the Ministry’s Residential Tenancy Branch, and British Columbia Statistics population data. The measure includes only those British Columbians age 20 and older because of the population data age categories used by British Columbia Statistics.

**Discussion**

Landlords and tenants can educate themselves about residential tenancy rules and legislation by accessing information through one of the many avenues provided by the Ministry. These information sources are designed to encourage positive relationships between landlords and tenants, thereby increasing the chances of successful tenancies. The Ministry therefore expects reductions over time in the number of landlords and tenants requesting help to resolve disputes.

The Ministry has no way of precisely determining the number of tenancies in the province, though it is estimated to represent approximately one-third of the adult population. Tying the number of dispute resolution requests to the adult population provides a comparable measure across fiscal years, as the number of tenancies increases with population increases.

¹ A more detailed discussion of the methodology for this performance measure is included in the *BC Housing Service Plan 2011/12 – 2013/14*, available at: www.bchousing.org.
Objective 4.2  
Safety and environmental sustainability in the design, construction and occupancy of buildings

Strategies

- Increase the effectiveness of the building regulatory system through consistent application and enforcement of a uniform Building Code.

- Continue to engage stakeholders in the development of the next edition of the BC Building Code, and continue to develop projects for Greening the Code to support improvements in energy and water efficiency.\(^3\)

- Engage Ministry partners and stakeholders in discussions leading to a new vision for the built environment, including ways to streamline processes within the building regulatory system, and explore how technology could be used to increase efficiency.

The BC Oil and Gas Commission’s Victoria office is part of the Dockside Green Community, one of only 14 Platinum designated LEED\(^\text{®}\) building developments in Canada. All building materials and finishes at this office contain low volatile organic compound (VOC) and no urea-formaldehyde. There is in-floor heating for office areas and specified heat pump efficiency. None of the HVAC or refrigeration unit equipment contains hydro chlorofluorocarbons (HCFC’s) known as potent greenhouse gases.

\(^3\) For more information on the Greening the BC Building Code initiative, visit: [www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building/green](http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building/green).
## Resource Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Business Area</th>
<th>2010/11 Restated Estimates¹</th>
<th>2011/12 Estimates</th>
<th>2012/13 Plan</th>
<th>2013/14 Plan²</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating Expenses ($000)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil and Gas</td>
<td>10,321</td>
<td>12,042</td>
<td>13,819</td>
<td>13,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mines and Mineral Resources</td>
<td>10,253</td>
<td>10,084</td>
<td>10,084</td>
<td>10,084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Titles and Corporate Relations</td>
<td>4,809</td>
<td>3,753</td>
<td>3,753</td>
<td>3,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity and Alternative Energy</td>
<td>22,219</td>
<td>18,048</td>
<td>18,048</td>
<td>3,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive and Support Services</td>
<td>4,280</td>
<td>3,999</td>
<td>3,999</td>
<td>3,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>347,320</td>
<td>345,444</td>
<td>345,444</td>
<td>345,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Endowment Fund</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovative Clean Energy Fund</td>
<td>14,948</td>
<td>14,947</td>
<td>14,947</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>424,150</td>
<td>418,317</td>
<td>420,094</td>
<td>389,394</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive and Support Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Capital Fund   ³</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Other Financing Transactions ($000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Business Area</th>
<th>2010/11 Restated Estimates</th>
<th>2011/12 Estimates</th>
<th>2012/13 Plan</th>
<th>2013/14 Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oil and Gas Commission Receipts</td>
<td>34,530</td>
<td>40,750</td>
<td>43,230</td>
<td>45,680</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oil and Gas Commission Disbursements</td>
<td>(34,530)</td>
<td>(40,750)</td>
<td>(43,230)</td>
<td>(45,680)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Transmission Line Receipts</td>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>61,000</td>
<td>59,000</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Transmission Line Disbursements</td>
<td>(32,000)</td>
<td>(61,000)</td>
<td>(59,000)</td>
<td>(7,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Cash Source (Requirements)</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Amounts have been restated, for comparative purposes only, to be consistent with Schedule A of the 2011/12 Revised Estimates.
2. Fiscal year 2013/14 budget targets reflect the end of currently approved funding of the LiveSmart BC and Innovative Clean Energy Fund programs.
3. The grant for Housing Capital Funding meets the British Columbia Housing Management Commission’s objective to increase the supply of housing for those at risk of homelessness and to fund infrastructure projects to increase the supply of provincially owned housing for seniors and persons with disabilities.
Hyperlinks to Additional Information

A list of Legislation administered by the Ministry can be found at: www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/legislation/Pages/default.aspx

A list of Crowns, Agencies, Boards and Commissions reporting to the Minister, can be found at: http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Titles/legislation/Pages/Major_Agencies_Boards_and_Commissions.aspx

The BC Energy Plan can be found at:  www.energyplan.gov.bc.ca/


The Clean Energy Act and a complete set of backgrounders and factsheets are at: www.mediaroom.gov.bc.ca/DisplayEventDetails.aspx?eventId=490

Housing Policy and Building and Safety Standards

Contact and other information about Housing Policy and Building and Safety Standards can be accessed at: www.housing.gov.bc.ca

For information about Aboriginal Housing Initiatives, visit the website at: www.housing.gov.bc.ca/housing/AboriginalHousing

The Provincial Housing Strategy, Housing Matters BC, can be found at: www.housingmattersbc.ca

Residential Tenancy

Contact and other information about Residential Tenancy can be accessed at: www.rto.gov.bc.ca