

MEDIA RELEASE

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Ecology Action Centre is Expecting More for Long Term Energy Efficiency

Halifax – Today the Government of Nova Scotia announced an investment of almost \$92 million in Heat Smart programs. The government should be commended for its action to help Nova Scotians deal with rising energy costs through heating assistance and energy efficiency investments. However, this is not a comprehensive solution to the heating and climate crisis that Nova Scotians are facing.

Cheryl Ratchford, Energy Coordinator at the Ecology Action Centre says, "This is short term planning for the upcoming winter and we need to see more long term comprehensive solutions from the government." The most pressing issue with respect to energy efficiency in Nova Scotia is the creation of an independent energy efficiency administrator.

Long term planning includes the administration of energy efficiency programs and the Ecology Action Centre is very concerned that further delay of the creation of an energy efficiency administrator will jeopardize the success of energy efficiency programs in Nova Scotia. Ratchford expressed concern that "further delay could cost the province \$1 billion dollars in the form of a new coal fired power plant."

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