BUSINESS RENEWABLES CENTRE CANADA

Unlocking Corporate Renewable Energy Investment

Findings from *Powering Corporate Choice*

British COLUMBIA

Despite being seen as a climate leader, **BC is a laggard** on enabling corporate renewable procurement

BC has no functional pathway for corporate renewable energy procurement

BC is categorized as a "low-emissions" province but **still has corporate demand** and anticipated load growth

National context

7.7 GW of corporate renewable energy demand identified nationally

3.9 GW demand needed by 2030

85% of demand is concentrated in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec

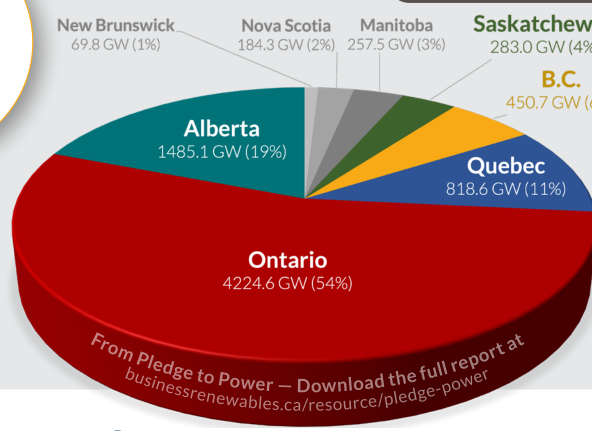
12 industries driving demand

1.86$m HOMES POWERED

15,246 JOBS CREATED DURING PEAK CONSTRUCTION

12.1$B IN CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Provincial demand



What happens when you enable corporate procurement?

Alberta's **3.3 GW** in corporate deals (2019–2025) generated **7,000** jobs, **$7.5B** investment and **$70M** in municipal tax revenue (2025). **BUT** Alberta's market has stalled (98% drop in new deals) due to regulatory uncertainty, **creating a window of opportunity for other provinces.**

Current status

- No corporate procurement pathway exists at all
- BC Hydro (Crown corporation) monopoly
- Companies operating in BC cannot procure renewable energy locally, regardless of their willingness to invest

BC's electricity demand is expected to grow significantly due to electrification and industrial expansion" works without needing a custom chart.

Key barriers

- BC Hydro Crown monopoly - no third-party generation or PPA market
- No regulatory framework for corporate procurement of any kind
- No vPPA mechanisms
- Already low-emissions grid (hydro-dominated) may reduce perceived urgency - but this misses the point

The opportunity

- **Corporate procurement can finance new renewable additions for anticipated load growth (electrification, data centres, industrial expansion)**
- **Companies in BC have climate commitments they need to demonstrate progress on - even in a low-emissions grid, renewable procurement matters for additionality and credibility**
- **BC risks losing investment and corporate interest to provinces that enable procurement**
- **Green tariff programs can work within Crown utility structures - the report documents models**

British Columbia policy recommendations

British Columbia should create a corporate renewable energy procurement pathway through BC Hydro. Even with a low-emissions grid, corporate procurement can finance the new renewable generation BC will need to meet growing electricity demand from electrification, industrial expansion and data centres. Without a procurement framework, companies operating in BC cannot demonstrate progress on their climate commitments locally, and the province risks losing investment to jurisdictions that offer clear pathways.