



PRESS RELEASE

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Tory green plan

GILLES DUCEPPE SLAMS THE TORY GREEN PLAN, WHICH WILL CAUSE CANADA TO FALL SIGNIFICANTLY SHORT OF ITS KYOTO COMMITMENTS

Ottawa, Thursday, April 26 2007 – Bloc Québécois Leader **Gilles Duceppe** slammed the green plan unveiled today by Environment Minister John Baird. The BQ Leader pointed out, in particular, that the plan will cause Canada to fall significantly short of its Kyoto commitments and puts the interests of the oil and gas industry ahead of Quebec's interests. The following statement was issued by **Gilles Duceppe**.

“The announcement made today by the Conservative government will go down in history as a shameful day for Canada. The Harper government has announced what it claims to be a turnaround in its environment policy; in reality, it is nothing more than a mirage.

The plan stipulates no reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2012; instead, it allows emissions to increase. Far from enabling Canada to achieve its international commitments, the plan spells the death of Kyoto. It is a slap in the face of our partners, those countries that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol.

The plan is proof that Stephen Harper refuses to listen and still intends to tear up the Kyoto Protocol. Nothing has changed. This plan could have been conceived in Washington and drafted in Calgary. Yet, as recently as Tuesday, the Conservatives voted in favour of a Bloc Québécois motion, even though the proposed plan flies straight in the face of that motion.

The government has sought to protect the interests of the oil and gas industry, especially the big oil companies which will emerge as winners in their scheme. Once again, the ultimate losers will be the environment and the economic interests of Quebec. The plan leaves no room for a true territorial approach that would allow Quebec to act in its best interest and address its specific needs.

The plan, which proposes to reduce emissions with intensity targets, makes no mention of establishing a Montreal-based carbon exchange. The message is fairly clear: Quebec's manufacturing industry will be penalized. Furthermore, if

such targets are implemented, Canada will not be able to take part in the global carbon market.

The plan is a blow for the environment, a blow for Quebec and a blow for the planet.

Lastly, today's announcement explains why the Conservative government launched a fear campaign against Kyoto last week.

The reality is that the Conservatives wanted to justify abandoning Kyoto. They have proposed an anti-environment plan that takes absolutely no account of Quebec's economic interests.

*Gilles Duceppe
Leader of the Bloc Québécois"*

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