



Legislative Research
Information and Technology Services Division
Room 2520, Whitney Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A9
Telephone: (416) 325-3675
Facsimile: (416) 325-3696

Recherche législative
Division des services de l'information et de la technologie
Bureau 2520, Edifice Whitney
Queen's Park
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1A9
Téléphone: (416) 325-3675
Télécopieur: (416) 325-3696

200263

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MEMORANDUM TO: Standing Committee on Public Accounts

FROM: Laura Anthony
Research Officer

SUBJECT: **Jurisdictional Review of Greenhouse Gas
Emissions Reporting**

The Standing Committee on Public Accounts requested cross-jurisdictional research on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Specifically, the Committee wished to know how often other jurisdictions update and publicly report on GHG emissions estimates and forecasts in integrated emissions modelling (e.g., biannually, annually, biennially). This memo reviews public reporting of general GHG emissions and GHG emissions estimates and modelling in three national/supranational jurisdictions (Australia, New Zealand, and the European Union) and two provincial jurisdictions (Alberta and Quebec).

If you have any questions about the information presented here, please contact me at lanthony@ola.org.

SUMMARY

The national/supranational jurisdictions in this review are all Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), which has annual and regular (typically defined as biennial) GHG emissions reporting requirements.¹ These jurisdictions report on GHG emissions/inventories on an annual basis (in compliance with the UNFCCC).

¹ United Nations, [Framework Convention on Climate Change](#), 2013.

The frequency of reporting on GHG emissions estimates and modelling varies; while Australia and the European Union report annually, New Zealand includes updates to modelling in its biennial reports under the UNFCCC.

Provincial jurisdictions appear to report less frequently, if at all. Alberta does not appear to report publicly on GHG emissions or estimates and modelling. However, it refers to the federal government's annual air pollutant tracking (which includes emissions from Alberta). In 2019 Alberta implemented the Annual Emissions Inventory Reporting Program to assist industrial operators meet annual emissions inventory reporting requirements.

Quebec reports annually on GHG emissions, however the most recent report available is from [2017](#). Quebec's modelling appears in the [Plan d'action 2013-2020 sur les changements climatiques](#), though it is unclear how often the Plan is updated.

OVERVIEW OF GHG EMISSIONS REPORTING

Figure 1. GHG Emissions Reporting

	GENERAL	ESTIMATES AND MODELLING
AUSTRALIA	Annual: National Inventory Reports Quarterly: National Greenhouse Gas Inventory	Annual: Emissions Projections Report (includes a full methodology)
EUROPEAN UNION	Annual: Greenhouse Gas Inventory	Annual: Trends and Projections in Europe (includes methodology)
NEW ZEALAND	Annual: Greenhouse Gas Inventory	Biennial: Fourth Biennial Report (includes detailed updates to model and projections)
ALBERTA	No public reporting (cites federal annual Air Pollutant Emissions Inventory). Recently implemented the Annual Emissions Inventory Reporting Program (2019). Industrial facilities required to submit annual compliance reports (Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction System).	No public reporting
QUEBEC	Annual: Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions (most recent year is 2017)	2013-2020: Plan d'action 2013-2020 sur les changements climatiques