

# Canada plans 30% CO<sub>2</sub> emissions cut by 2030: minister

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Canada will aim to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2030, Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq announced Friday

Canada announced Friday it aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2030, after saying it would miss an earlier, less ambitious goal.

This new target would be reached in part by regulating methane discharges in the oil and gas sector, natural gas power plants as well as the chemicals and nitrogen fertilizer industry.

"This target is fair and ambitious," Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq told a nationally-televised press conference.

It follows an earlier goal, which Ottawa has said it would miss, of reducing emissions by 17 percent by 2020.

And it was immediately criticized by environmental activists as the weakest pledge—up to three times weaker—of any industrialized nation ahead of a Paris climate summit in December.

"Canada's climate target is less than meets the eye and another disappointing sign of its reluctance to fight climate change," said Danielle Droitsch of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Dale Marshall of Environmental Defense said the target "will further cement Canada's global reputation as a climate laggard."

French President Francois Hollande has set out an ambitious goal for the Paris meeting: an agreement to limit the rise in global temperatures linked to greenhouse [gas emissions](#) to two degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) from the pre-industrial age.

## **Canada, US diverge**

A recent government report noted that Canada is one of the highest per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emitters, due to "its size, climate (i.e. climate-driven energy demands) and resource-based economy," but added that it represents less than two percent of [global emissions](#).

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