

Clean Canadian Energy

Why aren't we using more of it?

Center for American Progress



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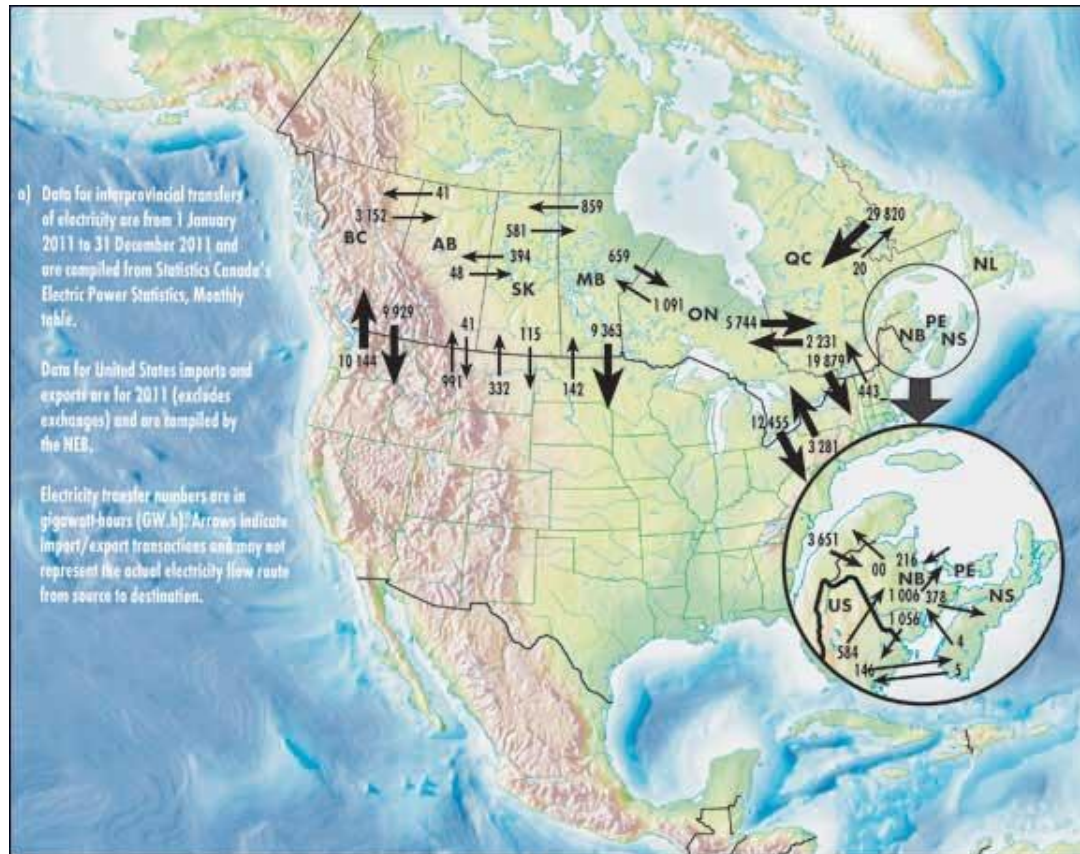
Director of Clean Energy Investment

The benefits of Canadian hydro

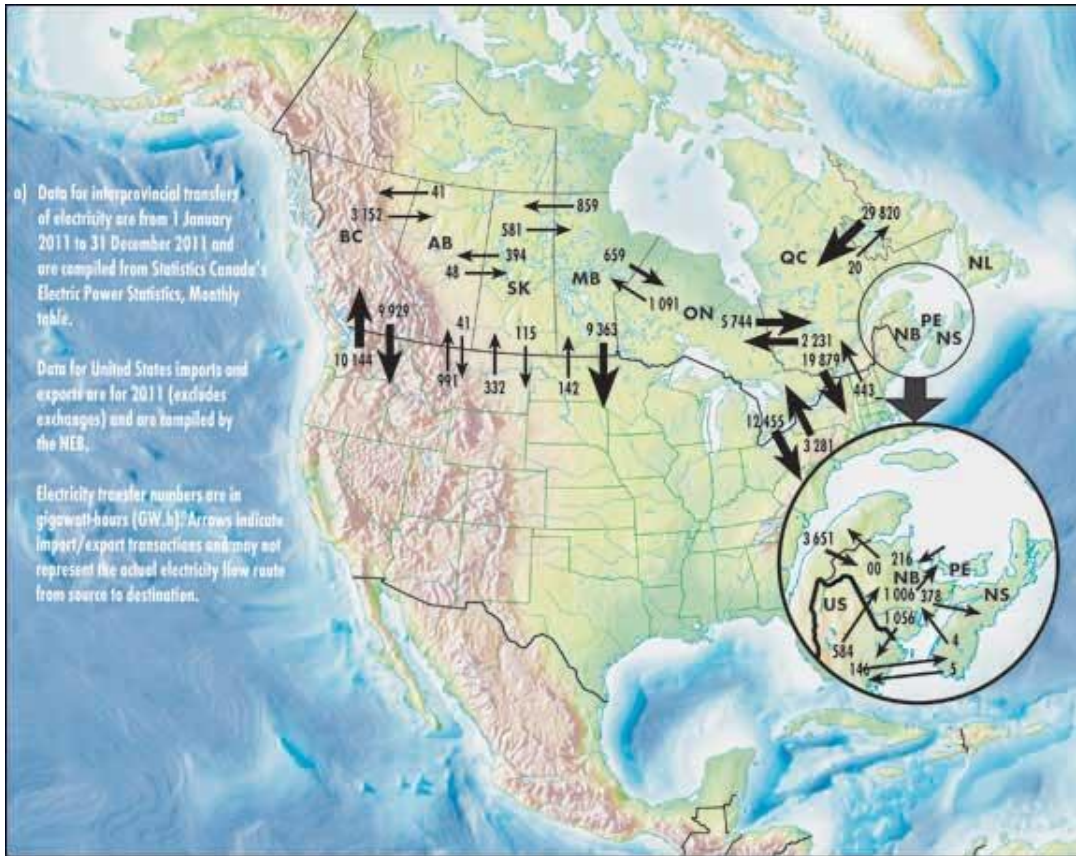
It's almost the holy grail of new electricity resources:

- Low-carbon
- Baseload
- Affordable

Electricity trade is happening now



But the trade is relatively small



In 2010, the US imported 43 TWh from Canada, which is about 1% of our total use.

Why aren't we using more?

All new generation is challenged:

- Low demand growth
- Cheap natural gas
- Uncertain climate policy

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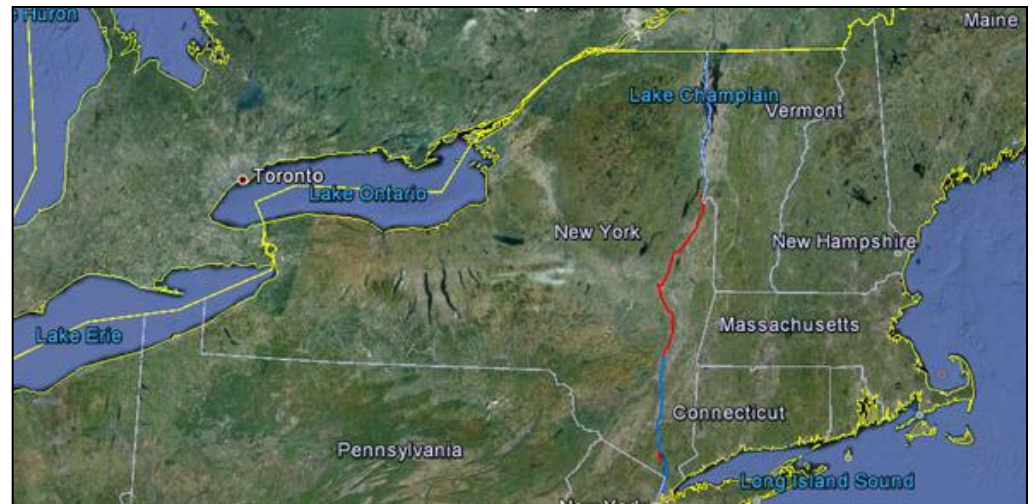
Canadian energy has other challenges:

- Transmission siting
- Threat to domestic jobs
- Environmental concerns
- Regulatory barriers

Case study: Champlain Hudson Power Express

"The proposed Champlain-Hudson Power express is nothing more than an extension cord from Quebec to New York City that won't create a single long-term job, while putting tens of thousands of existing jobs in mortal danger. Importing power is the wrong choice for our state's economy, and the wrong choice for our energy future. We don't need a job creation program for Canada; we need one right here in New York." – **NY State Sen. George Maziarz**

"The CHPE proposal is being falsely advertised as a clean, renewable energy source that will transport surplus Quebec wind and hydropower to meet NYS demand and renewable energy targets. Quebec, however, has no surplus green energy to export, and the touted hydro sources do not yet exist. They are tube built in the same environmentally destructive manner as previous James Bay proposals by Hydro Quebec." – **Sierra Club, Atlantic Chapter**



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Of course, support is widespread:

- New York League of Conservation Voters
- Long Island Association, Inc.
- North Country Chamber of Commerce
- New York State Energy Consumers Council
- International Union of Operating Engineers
- Laborers' International Union of North America
- New York State Laborer's Union
- Empire State Development Corporation
- New York City Economic Development Corporation
- New York City Councilman Peter Vallone, Jr.
- Coalition Helping Organize a Kleaner Environment (CHOKE)
- Middletown Times Herald Record
- Watertown Daily Times
- Hydro-Québec
- Rep. Tom Reed
- Rep. Paul Tonko
- Rep. Tim Bishop
- Rep. Peter King
- Rep. Steve Israel
- Rep. Carolyn McCarthy
- Rep. Gary Ackerman
- Rep. Gregory Meeks
- Rep. Jerry Nadler
- Rep. Ed Towns
- Rep. Yvette Clarke
- Rep. Mike Grimm
- Rep. Carolyn Maloney
- Rep. Charlie Rangel
- Rep. Richard Hanna
- Rep. Eliot Engel
- Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle
- Rep. Bill Owens
- Rep. Nita Lowey
- Rep. Louise Slaughter

The Path Forward: Overall Strategy

Being “good” isn’t good enough.
Canadian electricity needs to be *better*
than other choices.

The Path Forward: Sell the Benefits

- Reduced emissions, both locally and globally
- Reduced power prices (especially in the northeast and places that need to integrate wind)
- Comparably lower environmental impact than other choices

The Path Forward: Address the Challenges

- Jobs and economic development
 - Hydro complements (rather than displaces) variable renewables
- Siting for transmission
 - Siting needs to be fixed
- Regulatory and legislative
 - State RPS's need to include Canadian resources, but only if the overall target is raised

Thank you!

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