



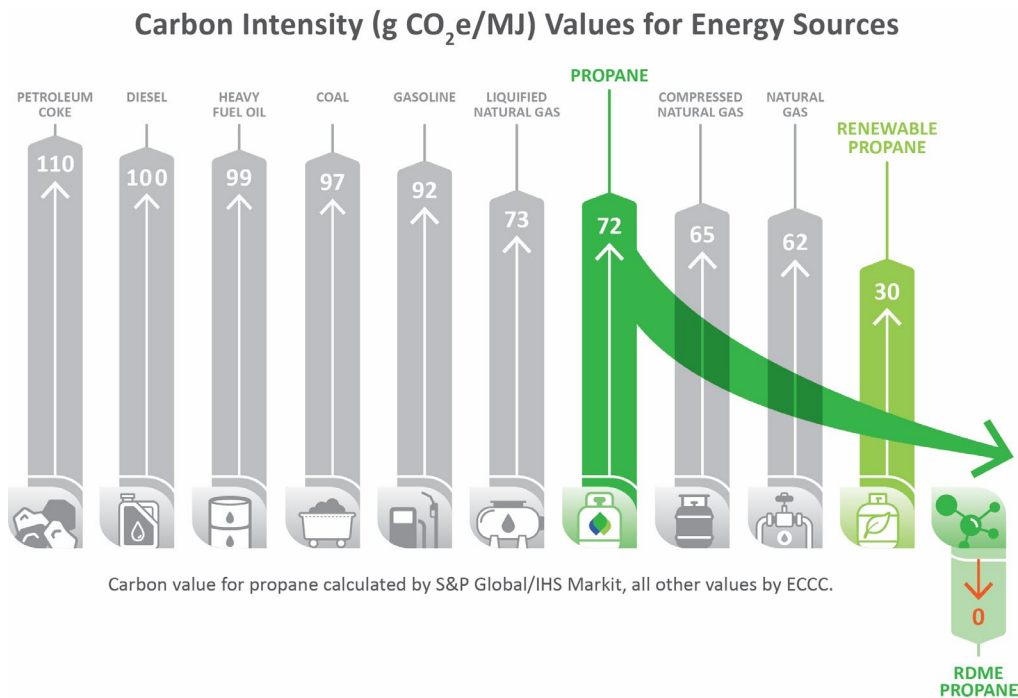
September 23, 2024

Premier Blaine Higgs  
Leader, New Brunswick Progressive Conservative Party  
364 rue York St. Suite 215,  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 3P7

Dear Premier Higgs,

In this election, affordability and affordable energy in particular, will be important issues for New Brunswickers to consider. On behalf of Canadian Propane Association members, I wish to bring to your attention the vital role that affordable and low emission propane can play in ensuring affordable energy choice for New Brunswickers.

As the chart below shows, the carbon intensity (CI) of propane is within the natural gas range. The CI of renewable propane and propane/RDME is even lower. Propane appliances have a 95%-97% efficiency. Propane emissions are 38% less than heating oil. Finally, propane is a much more affordable option than heating oil.



As a region without access to the natural gas grid, Atlantic Canada serves as a prime example of the challenges posed by limited energy choices.

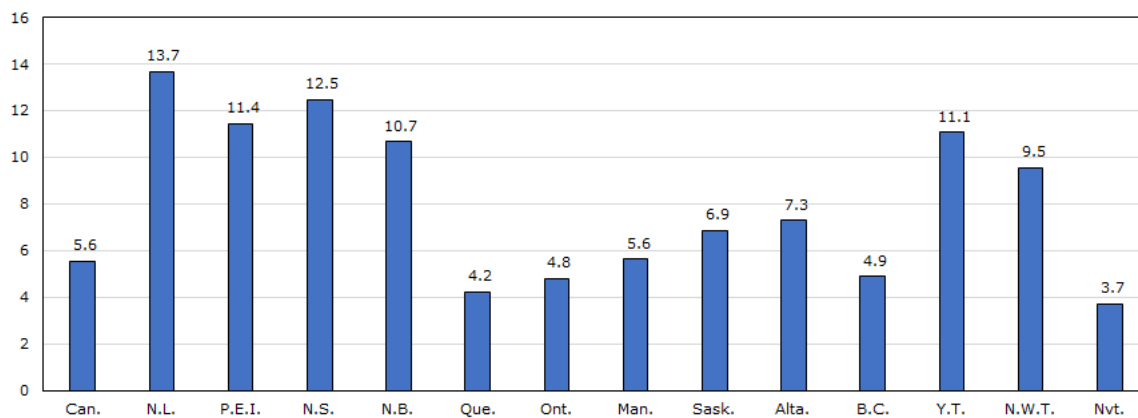
Atlantic Canadians face a unique challenge when comes to home energy. Unlike regions of Canada that are on the natural gas grid, affordable, low-emission natural gas is not an option for most consumers there. Because of that, Atlantic Canadians suffer the highest levels of energy poverty in the country.

A report by Statistics Canada commissioned by Natural Resources Canada found that affordable energy choice is not available equally to all Canadians. In fact, in areas of Canada that are off the natural gas grid, governments at all levels have been slow to encourage more affordable, low-emission energy options to heating oil like propane.

Among the findings, Statistics Canada reported that, “The 2021 Census showed that 822,000 households in Canada (5.6%) were energy poor, and this was more prevalent in the Atlantic provinces (ranging from 10.7% to 13.7%).”

**Chart 1**  
**Rate of energy-poor households for non-farm households with household after-tax income greater than zero dollars, Canada, provinces and territories**

percentage of households spending 10 percent or more of household after-tax income on energy



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021.

Propane should play a key role as we work to provide the most affordable energy options. Consider:

- Every New Brunswicker should have access to affordable, dependable, and sustainable energy security, regardless of where they live.
- Propane is not as susceptible to inflationary prices. For example, CPA members reported that in February 2023, a litre of propane in some parts of Canada was about **\$1 cheaper** than a litre of heating oil: \$1.09 for propane vs \$2.09 for home heating oil.
- In addition to providing space heating for homes, commercial buildings, rural hospitals and schools, propane is crucial for many industries including agriculture, school buses, police and courier fleets, construction, and mining.
- Since 2019, some students in the Moncton area have been transported by propane school buses. That fleet should be expanded to reduce emissions and realize cost savings.

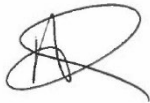


- Propane is increasingly being used by Canadian families for personal power generation during weather-related events.
- Propane also serves as critical backup energy for renewables when the sun is not shining, and the wind is not blowing.
- Dual fuel - propane in support of electric heat pumps can help address challenges facing electric grid capacity and the rising costs of electricity itself.

As you know, providing affordable energy in New Brunswick is anything but a “one-size fits all” approach. Propane can play a significant role in achieving both cost savings and reduced emissions immediately. On the horizon is renewable propane which is already commercially available in Europe and the United States.

I would be happy to provide more information about how low emission propane can provide New Brunswickers with affordable and low emission energy choice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AM', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Allan Murphy  
Sr. Vice-President, Government Relations  
Canadian Propane Association

