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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Poor climate change record

Dec 16, 2008 04:30 AM

A report released at the UN convention on climate change in Poland ranked Canada 56th of 57 developed countries (beating only Saudia Arabia) in efforts to control climate change. Environment minister Jim Prentice, representing Canada in the negotiations, has argued that this assessment is wrong and that Canada plans to reduce carbon emissions 20 per cent by 2020.

This, however, is baloney. Stephen Harper's government continues to disingenuously use 2006 as a baseline year, while all other nations employ the 1990 baseline of the Kyoto Agreement. By this yardstick, Canada's reduction targets are actually a meagre 3 per cent compared to the 25 to 40 per cent cuts climate change scientists say need to be achieved in order to avoid potentially catastrophic environmental consequences.

To the moderator: Canada seemed to get "most of the day" awards at the conference, but this is a story

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