

**KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE**  
**Climate Crisis**  
**Committee of the Whole—2022-2023 Operating Budget Review**  
**Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources—February 23, 2022**

And I'm looking at a document -- this is from a different department, but it was part of this consolidated climate change reporting from GNWT. You know, this government -- and ENR has the lead, apparently, on the climate change, climate crisis. And so this is a document from the Department of Infrastructure that actually calculates what the greenhouse gas emission reductions have been and predicts what they're going to be by 2025. So that's seven years into the agreement that we signed onto, the Pan-Canadian Framework, to reduce our emissions by a certain amount. We will -- by 2025, we will have only reached 20 percent of the target and that leaves, you know, another five years to do the 80 percent. Like I said at the time, this was a -- not a good strategy. We back end loaded it. And my predictions are coming completely true. We're going to fail to meet that target unless we change course now.

So I want to ask the Minister, as the lead on the climate crisis, what are we going to do to change to trajectory of this government, this Northwest Territories, to actually meet the Pan-Canadian Framework target? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Mahsi, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister.

**HON. SHANE THOMPSON:** Thank you. So as the Member has said, this is very much infrastructure, and that's part of it. As the lead, we work with the departments. But for detail, I'll turn to the deputy minister to explain how we are working collaboratively together on this very topic. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Deputy minister.

**MS. ST. ARNAUD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. So the GNWT working together is aware of, in particular, the timelines associated with Taltson and whether it'll be on -- be able to be in effect before the target -- that target timeframe. And because of that, we're working with other departments, including Infrastructure, for mitigation pathways for the next Energy Action Plan. They're the lead on the Energy Action Plan, but ENR is part of those discussions as well as some of the other departments. So there is work being done to look at other ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Mahsi, Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. So can we get any details on what the plan B is? Is that something that the Minister can share with Standing Committee and maybe even the public? Because plan A from the last Assembly's not going to do it. Thanks, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Mahsi, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister.

**HON. SHANE THOMPSON:** Yeah, that there, I would ask the Member to ask questions on that with the infrastructure minister, what plan B is, because I don't have what plan B is in front of me. But maybe the deputy minister may have further clarity on how we move forward on this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Deputy minister.

**MS. ST. ARNAUD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. I don't want to speak for another department but my understanding is that Infrastructure will do engagement on their next plan. That would be part of the work and that there needs to be -- they're working on their next energy strategy action plan, and they would engage on that. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Bonnetrouge):** Mahsi. Mr. O'Reilly.

**MR. O'REILLY:** Thanks, Mr. Chair. Just more of a comment I think at this point. This is systematic of what I've said about this government's approach to climate change, the climate crisis, all along. It's divided up amongst three ministries. No one seems to want to take responsibility for an overall coordinated approach. ENR is supposed to have the lead but doesn't really. And I don't detect any changes from what happened in the last Assembly, the last Cabinet's approach; it's failing. The stats show that. And we're not going to reach the Pan-Canadian Framework. So another plea to change course, please, to try to save the planet. Thank you, Mr. Chair, that's all I have on this activity.