



## Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario

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## NEWS RELEASE

Subject: **New options needed in electricity pricing and generation for farmers**

Guelph, February 2004. The Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario is supportive of continued regulation of the electricity market but welcomes marketplace incentives to encourage both conservation and new electrical generation.

"Access to reliable electricity has become a necessity in today's farm economy," said John Kikkert, the CFFO's president. "But we need to even out price spikes and encourage entrepreneurs to develop additional power generation."

The CFFO affirmed its commitment to continued regulation in the electricity market at its recent meeting of delegates from across the province. A position statement adopted at that meeting calls for a three-step graduated scale of pricing for electricity, incentives for energy conservation, and additional incentives for environmentally-friendly generation facilities.

"We need to move away from subsidies that encourage electrical consumption," said Jenny Denhartog, a CFFO vice-president. "Subsidized energy prices tend to encourage the industrialization of agriculture at the expense of the family farm."

"Price spikes in response to peak load demand or generation difficulties create too much instability and destroy confidence in the electrical system," added Henry Stevens, a CFFO vice-president. "A graduated scale of price levels, starting at a family and working upwards, will help to create reliability and effectiveness."

For a copy of the CFFO position statement, log on to [www.christianfarmers.org](http://www.christianfarmers.org).

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