



Tuesday, February 03 2015

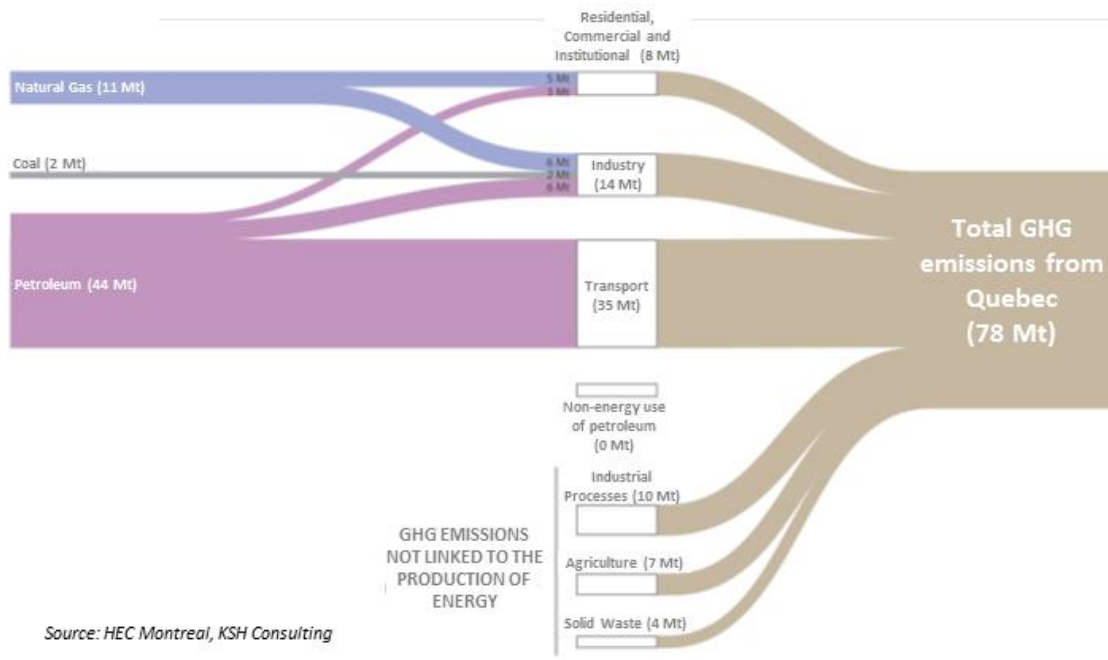
## Carbon Balance fir the Quebec Transport Sector

In December of 2014, researchers at HEC Montreal published a study on the status of energy in Quebec. This study proposes an overview of the entire energy system of the province, making the link between energy sources, their transformation to different energy products, their consumption in various sectors and the efficiency portrait of the system at large.

The graphic below shows the sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Quebec and how they contribute to total provincial emissions. Contrary to the vast majority of regions in the world, Quebec has the advantage of producing nearly the sum-total of its electricity renewably (hydroelectric, wind, and biomass), minimizing the impact that electricity production has on the province's carbon balance. The transport sector however, which primarily consumes petroleum products, accounts for 45% of all GHG emissions in Quebec.

Additionally, inefficiencies linked to the nature of combusting fossil fuels in vehicles results in 75% of the fuel energy being lost during consumption. This in turn equates to 40% of the total energy losses in the province originating from the transport sector. This suggests that any advancement in this sector will be related to stricter vehicular fuel efficiency standards.

Between 1990 and 2011, the fuel consumption (liters/km) and associated GHG emissions for vehicles has fallen 8% for light trucks, 16% for cars and 24% for heavy trucks. Concurrently, the total fleet of vehicles in Quebec rose 41% during the same period, and that at three times the population growth of the province (+14%), cancelling out the majority of these fuel efficiency gains.



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