

GORD MILLER

Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

Translating Water Science into Water Policy



This presentation will explore the role of science in government policy creation related to water quality and aquatic ecosystems. It will first examine the dominant paradigm within which water related policy decisions are made. This is coined the “mythology of water policy.” The existing method will be contrasted with the alternative approach of using scientifically generated information and a science-based decision mechanism to form policy. Finally the presentation will seek to resolve the conflicts between the two and determine if the public policy formulating system can be shaped or modified to produce results which are consistent with a scientifically sound worldview.