

ABSTRACT

This thesis aims to scrutinize the rationale behind local content requirement (LCR) being made as a prerequisite for the approval of feed-in tariff (FIT) Program 2009 in the Province of Ontario, Canada. The FIT is an incentive measure that offers premium rate above market price to renewable energy electricity suppliers, a popular instrument used by many countries worldwide to accelerate the investment and commercialization of renewable energy technologies. This thesis argues that LCR is deployed as the means to secure market share for Canada's clean-tech business players that would help them gain competitive edges and create local job opportunities especially amidst the global financial crisis 2008 that severely hits Canada's manufacturing industry. The green sector is seen as the strategic emerging industry that could mitigate the crisis and help the manufacturing sector to rise again.

Key words: *Canada, clean-tech firms, feed-in tariff, green industrial policy, local content requirement, renewable energy, protectionism*