Great Lakes Binational Toxics Strategy Stakeholder Forum

June 4, 2008

Canadian Centre for Inland Waters

Burlington, Ontario

Mercury

Work Group Co-Chairs:

Alexis Cain, U.S. EPA

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Canada's Mercury Reduction Challenge and Progress

Challenge:

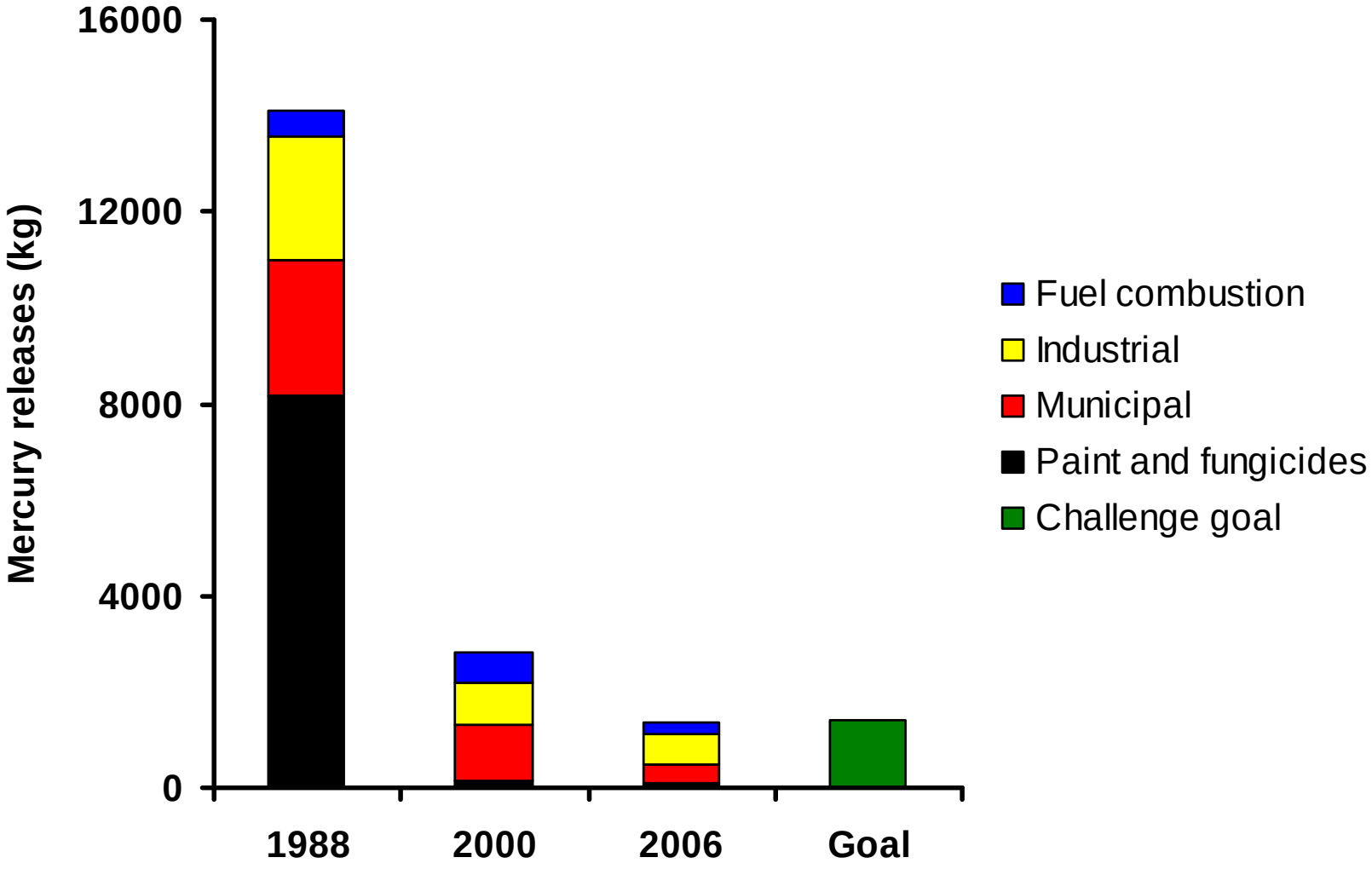
"Achieve by 2000, a 90% reduction in the release of mercury, or where warranted the use of mercury, in the Great Lakes Basin"

Baseline: 1988

Progress:

- **Reduction > 90% (as of 2006)**

Ontario Mercury Releases



U.S. Mercury Reduction Challenge and Progress

Challenge:

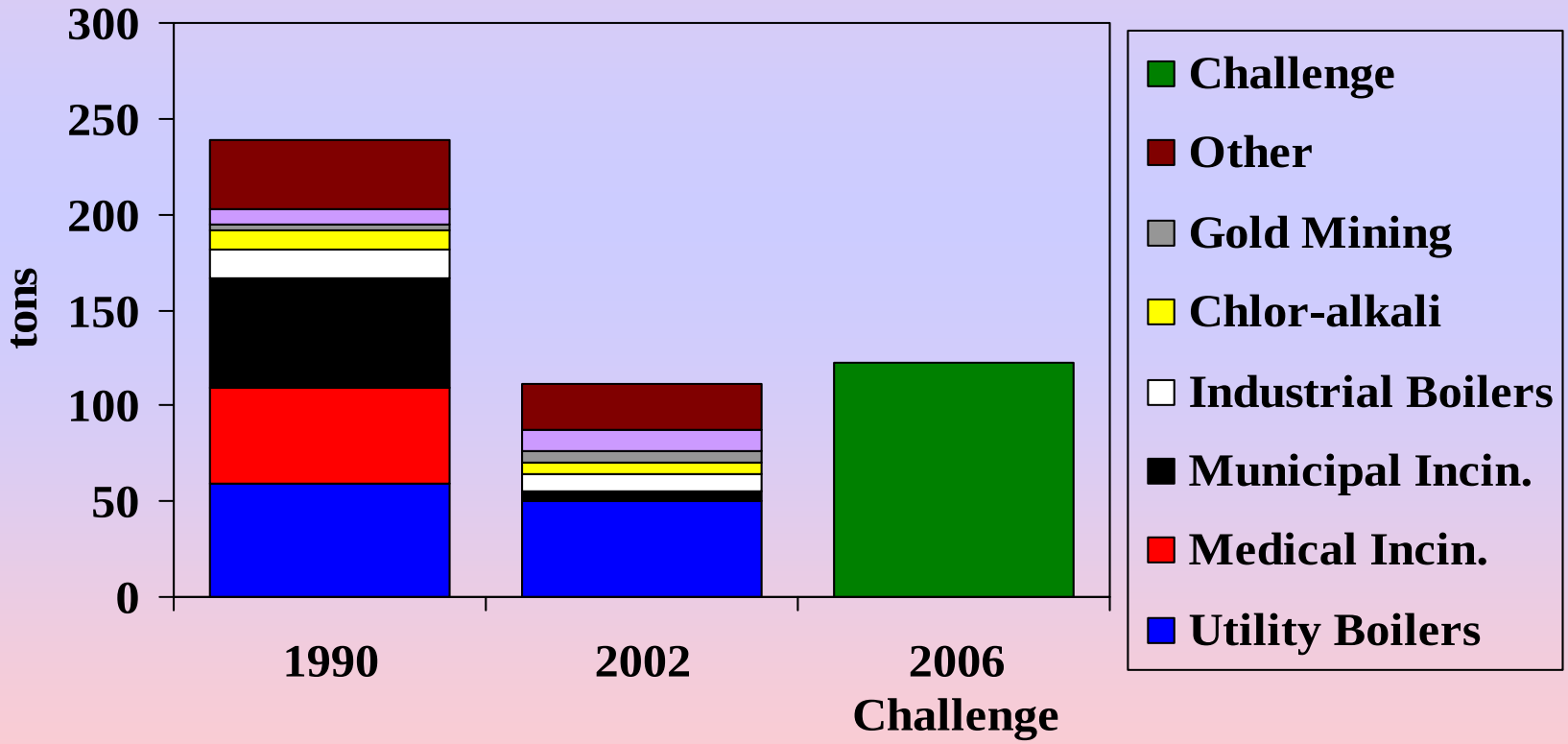
"Achieve by 2006 a 50% reduction in use and air emissions of mercury nationwide"

- **Baselines:**
  - **Emissions: 1990**
  - **Use: 1995**

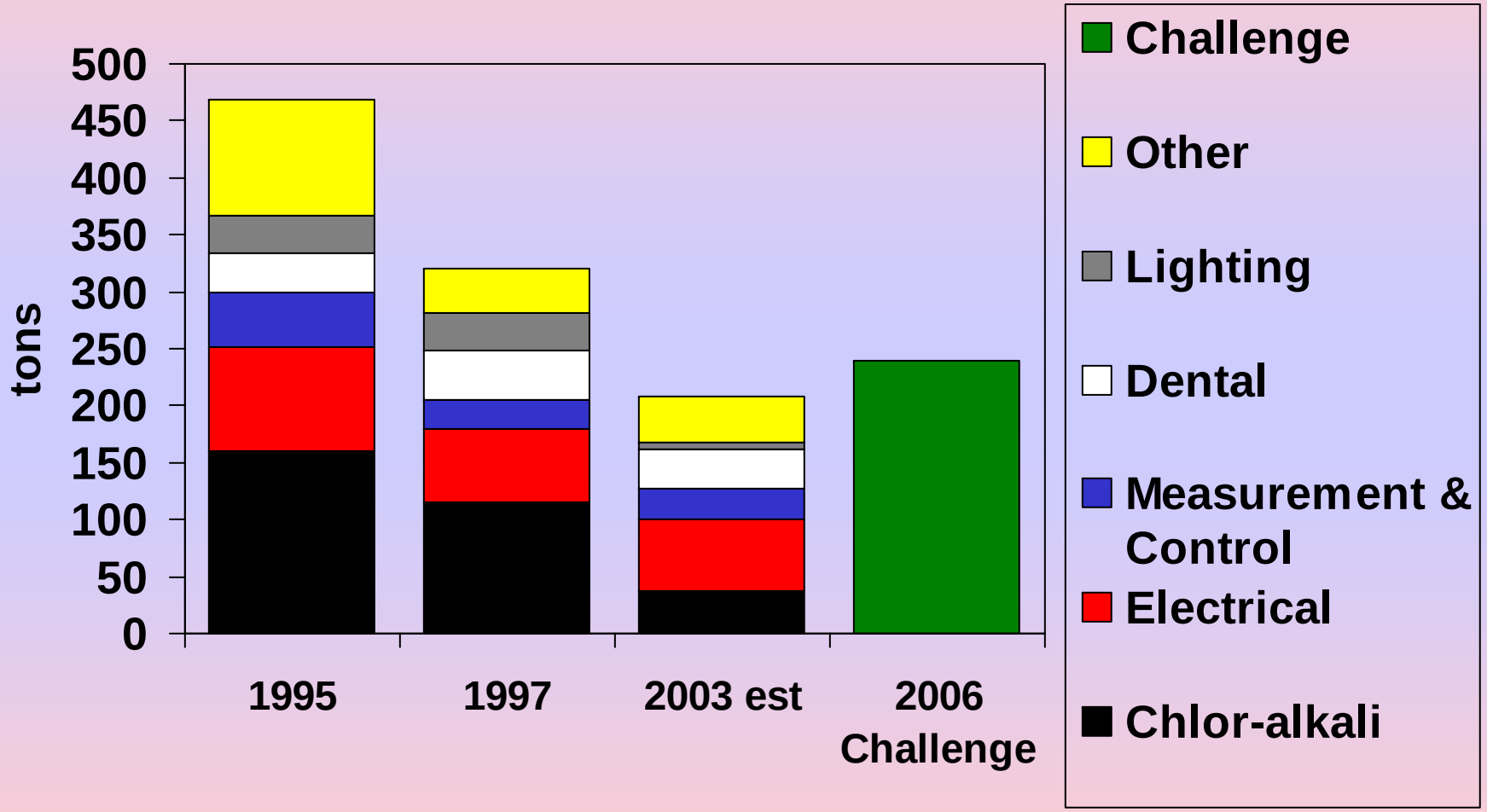
Progress (best guess):

- **Emissions: > 50% reduction (as of 2002)**
- **Use: > 50% reduction**

US Mercury Emissions: 2006 Challenge, 1990 Baseline



U.S. Mercury Use



Source: US Geological Survey, *Minerals Yearbook, 1996, 1997*. Chlorine Institute Annual Report to EPA, 2004; National Electrical Manufacturer's Association, direct communication, 2004.

Accomplishments

- Environment Canada's proposed Risk Management Strategy for Mercury-containing products – consultations completed

- Great Lakes Mercury in Products Phase-down Strategy under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration– public comments received

Accomplishments

- Recycling Council of Ontario launches Province-wide Fluorescent Lamp Stewardship Program
- "Switch the Stat" program launched for collection of thermostats in Ontario.
- CEPA P2 Plan requirement for switches
- National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program—now operating in all 50 states

Next Steps

- Continue information sharing about cost effective reduction opportunities
- Tracking of Environmental Progress
- Collect Stakeholder input on development of Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Mercury Emissions Reduction Strategy.
- Examine alternatives to face to face meetings for sharing of information.