



June 27, 2018

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of Canada
200, Sacré-Cœur Blvd
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0H3

RE: Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce Energy Efficiency Strategy

Honourable Minister:

Attached for your reference is the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce's *Energy Efficiency Strategy* released in October 2017. The materials attached include a copy of the full report, and an executive summary that provides an overview of our recommendations. The Strategy represents a ratified SCC Environment Committee policy resolution on Energy Efficiency. We believe that our Energy Efficiency Strategy is key to progress on the climate change file in Saskatchewan.

The Chamber continues to maintain that neither a carbon tax nor a cap and trade program is the appropriate mechanism for reducing greenhouse gases in Saskatchewan, largely due to the negative impacts on the province's Energy-Intense and Trade-Exposed (EITE) industries. This is also consistent with the Government of Saskatchewan's current position on the matter.

For historical context about how the Task Force came about, in November 2016 the Chamber surveyed its members on the issue of carbon pricing. Our members made one thing clear – while a large majority of those surveyed believe that reducing greenhouse gas emissions is important, they also stated that the Chamber should continue to oppose the implementation of a carbon pricing scheme and instead support technological investments and incentives to reduce emissions.

In response, the Chamber created the Energy Efficiency Task Force during the fall of 2016. The mandate of the Energy Efficiency Task Force was to create a series of recommendations to advance the implementation of energy efficiency measures to reduce emissions. Task Force Members have specialized knowledge of available energy conservation and Demand Side Management (DSM) programs aimed at the commercial-industrial sector.

The primary objectives of the recommendations are to reduce GHG emissions and to increase industry competitiveness. The Task Force believes that reducing energy consumption per unit of production makes both business and environmental sense, and is the first step toward tackling climate change in this province.

We urge you to abandon carbon taxes, in favour of an energy efficiency incentive program aimed primarily at fuel use. We would appreciate an opportunity to discuss this with you and your officials at the earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R.J. Schutzman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "S" at the end.

R.J. (Bob) Schutzman, P.Eng.
SCC Environment Committee Chair

Cc:

Hon. Scott Moe, Premier of Saskatchewan
Hon. Dustin Duncan, Minister of Environment, Government of Saskatchewan
Lin Gallagher, Deputy Minister of the Environment, Government of Saskatchewan
Hon. Bronwyn Eyre, Minister of Energy and Resources, Government of Saskatchewan
Hon. Jim Carr, Minister of Natural Resources, Government of Canada
Hon. Ralph Goodale, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness