

January 31, 2018

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

We call on you to make good on Canada's burgeoning climate leadership by ensuring federal regulations for methane emissions in the oil and gas sector—set to be finalized this year—are ambitious, effective, fair and support Canada's clean growth objectives. We call on you to ensure final rules are at least as ambitious as draft regulations published in Canada Gazette I in May 2017.

We applauded the Pan Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change (PCF) upon its release in November 2016. Implementing these essential climate policies in a timely and rigorous manner is necessary to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions in line with our commitments under the Paris Agreement.

As your government first said upon election, Canada's 2030 climate target is a floor, not a ceiling on ambition. Unmanaged climate change runs counter to Canada and the world's economic, social and environmental interests — and it is therefore essential for all prosperous nations such as ours to step up and make emissions reductions in the near-term. The PCF, while vital, helps to put Canada on track to achieve its 2030 goal — but additional policies are needed to fully close the gap. Because of this, all Canadian climate policies must be designed and implemented in a manner at least as strong as first articulated in the PCF.

We are concerned that pressure from provinces and the oil and gas lobby may influence your government's approach to regulating methane emissions from oil and gas facilities. Many of us provided comments on the proposed regulations that strengthened them as we did not think they go far enough. We urge your government to strengthen the regulations or at a minimum to resist this pressure and ensure that the final methane regulations are as strong or stronger as those published in Canada Gazette I. Further, the federal government must ensure that provincial policy measures will deliver the same or greater cumulative greenhouse gas reductions as the federal regulations in order for the provincial regulations to be granted equivalency under the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999*.

Canadians are looking for their country to take leadership on climate change. Strong oil and gas methane regulations that meet or exceed Canada's 2025 reduction target are needed to create the incentive for the oil and gas industry to demonstrate how it can find solutions that can deliver deep greenhouse gas reductions. Reductions from the oil and gas sector are necessary to meet our international climate commitments and our responsibility to future generations, and to continue to advance economic opportunities.

Bowing to pressure from industry or provincial governments to weaken the methane regulations will erode public confidence in the federal government to deliver a climate plan that achieves our international commitments. But moreover, it reduces incentives to deploy clean technologies in the oil and gas sector — which otherwise present an opportunity to grow Canadian businesses and support clean innovation at home. We expect your government to remain resolutely committed to delivering strong oil and gas regulations that meet or exceed Canada's 2025 reduction target. We remain committed to working with you to make this happen.

Sincerely,

Jamie Kirkpatrick
Program Manager
Blue-Green Canada

Jerry Dias
National President
Unifor

Steve Cornish
Chief Executive Officer
David Suzuki Foundation

Mark Butler
Policy Director
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Tim Gray
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Duncan Kinney
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Progress Alberta

Gretchen Fitzgerald
Executive Director
Sierra Club Canada Foundation

Kim Perotta
Executive Director
Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE)

cc. Minister Catherine McKenna, Environment and Climate Change Natural Minister
James Carr, Natural Resources Canada
Minister Navdeep Singh Bains, Innovation, Science and Economic Development