



ONEIA

Ontario Environment Industry Association

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Hon. Amarjeet Sohi
Minister of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Canada
580 Booth Street, 21st Floor, Room: C7-1
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0E4

Sent via email: NRCan.Minister-Ministre.RNCan@Canada.ca

RE: Our support of the Canadian Gas Association's recent policy proposal

Dear Minister Sohi,

On behalf of the Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA), I am writing in support of the Canadian Gas Association's (CGA) federal policy proposal for a Canadian Renewable Gas Innovation Program and encourage your full and fair consideration of the industry's funding request.

For the past 25 years, ONEIA has represented Ontario's growing environment and cleantech industry. With more than 3,000 companies, this industry generates more than \$8-billion each year and employs more than 65,000 people in our province. More than 45% of the country's businesses in this area call Ontario home, and like similar businesses in jurisdictions across Canada, they thrive when governments enact smart legislation, policies and regulations that encourage market-based solutions to environmental problems.

Natural gas currently meets 34% of Canada's energy needs and is the single largest fuel source for building and industrial facilities. Natural gas is also increasingly being used as an alternative low emission fuel for various modes of transportation and as a fuel for power generation. The National Energy Board forecasts natural gas will be the single largest source of energy in Canada by 2040.

ONEIA members know that natural gas has a role to play in Canada's long-term energy future and economic competitiveness, and an important component of this will be the advancement of renewable gases (renewable natural gas, hydrogen and synthetic methane). Renewable gases offer a solution for decarbonizing freight transportation, building heat and industrial use. Substituting just five per cent of Canada's gas supply with RNG would reduce GHG emissions by seven to 10 MT.

In developing their proposal, our colleagues at the CGA have conducted extensive stakeholder consultations. The proposed federal Renewable Gas Innovation Program addresses many of these needs and aims to stimulate

the Canadian RNG market to put Canada on track to achieve 5 to 10 per cent RNG content by 2030. This fund would advance the renewable gas market by supporting:

- \$150 million in renewable gas technology demonstration;
- \$15 million to CanmetENERGY to establish a global renewable gas hub;
- \$10 million for renewable gas R&D collaborations with academia; and
- \$575 million to support renewable gas projects with municipalities, Indigenous communities, forestry and agricultural operators.

Canada has a significant opportunity in the area of renewable gas. With this vast supply and our extensive interprovincial and local natural gas pipeline network, the federal funding proposed by CGA could help Canada become a world leader in renewable gases.

We believe CGA's RNG funding proposal could help create a thriving Canadian renewable gas market that would advance Canada's competitiveness and environmental objectives. We encourage the federal government to support this funding request in Budget 2019.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex Gill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alex Gill
Executive Director

Cc: Hon. Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine.mckenna@canada.ca

Cc: Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development ised.minister-ministre.isde@canada.ca

Cc: Ms. Kim Rudd, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources kim.rudd@parl.gc.ca

Cc: Mr. Timothy Egan, President and CEO, Canadian Gas Association tegan@cga.ca