

Embassy of Canada



Ambassade du Canada

April 22, 2009

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

In my capacity as Ambassador to the United States, I have had the opportunity to speak with you before on matters that are important to Canada and the State of California. These matters include the trade between our two countries and Canada's role as the largest trading partner of the United States.

Canada, being the largest exporter of crude oil and natural gas, uranium and electricity to the United States, is a key stakeholder in North America's economic and environmental future. Most recently the Government of Canada has been closely following California's pioneering AB-32 Legislation and associated regulations such as the Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) which could affect our energy relationship.

Both Canada and California are moving forward to set greenhouse gas (GHG) emission targets based on our respective climate change goals. Canada, like the rest of the world, is taking steps to reduce the use of fossil fuels in our economy and to develop and use fossil fuels more cleanly. This includes raising energy efficiency standards, making significant investments in wind, solar and other renewable energy sources, aiming to meet 90% of Canada's electricity needs from non-emitting sources, and investing in new technologies such as carbon capture and storage to make fossil fuel use cleaner. These steps involve close collaboration with our U.S. counterparts. In the transportation sector, for example, the Government of Canada has committed to setting mandatory carbon dioxide emissions standards for vehicles that will be consistent with U.S. fuel economy standards.

Canada's overall energy integration with the United States and our common goal of reducing GHG emissions makes it all the more important that our individual efforts to address climate change do not lead to the creation of unnecessary barriers between Canada and California or the United States, especially in this time of economic uncertainty. In this spirit, I ask you to review the following letter from the Honourable Lisa Raitt, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael Wilson".

Michael Wilson  
Ambassador

Canada