



Office of the President and
Chief Executive Officer

Cabinet du président
et chef de la direction

Dear Senator:

Last month, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce contacted our members to voice our concern with Bill C-311, *The Climate Change Accountability Act*, which had First Reading in the Senate on May 6, 2010.

Our main concern with Bill C-311 is its commitment to reduce Canada's greenhouse gas emissions over the next ten years by 25 percent from 1990 levels. This represents an additional reduction of approximately 40 percent from the government's current target of 17 percent below 2005 levels. Bill C-311's target is considerably out of step with Canada's main economic partners and would seriously damage Canada's economy. Even more importantly, it would harm Canadian workers and their families, causing economic activity and jobs to move from Canada to other countries without achieving the global emission reductions that are needed.

The Canadian Chamber has called for a sustainable energy strategy for Canada that will respect the environment, provide secure and affordable energy and support the standard of living of Canadian families. This includes meeting our energy demand through the sustainable development of all energy sources, including non-fossil renewable energy and fuels. If you would like to read our discussion paper, released last October, it is available at:

<http://www.chamber.ca/index.php/en/policy-and-advocacy/C214/>

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce has long supported actions to reduce the growth in Canada's greenhouse gas emissions. Continued uncertainty regarding future climate change policy brings significant environmental and economic risks for business. It is important the federal and provincial governments act decisively and in a coordinated manner to produce a Canadian solution that addresses these concerns. Our formal position on climate change, approved by our membership at our 2009 Annual General Meeting, can be found at: http://www.chamber.ca/images/uploads/Resolutions/2009/E-Climate_Change.pdf

Our outreach regarding Bill C-311 has resulted in a letter from the Sierra Club Canada, in addition to emails from some of its members.

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The Canadian Chamber has replied to the Sierra Club and is also responding to the emails received from its members. I have attached copies of the club's letter and of our response, which I hope will be helpful in your consideration of Bill C-311. If there is any further information you require, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Perrin Beatty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Perrin Beatty
President & Chief Executive Officer
attachments