



February 9, 2018

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

It has been a year and a half since CAPL approached you at the federal level on a topic of national interest, a letter to Minister McKenna and yourself in June of 2016 regarding the importance of national pipeline projects. For a week now we have been watching the unfolding situation regarding the permitted Kinder Morgan 'Trans Mountain Pipeline' and regulatory hurdles proposed by the Province of British Columbia. We believe this is clearly intended to be obstructionist and is unconstitutional and amounts to a jurisdictional challenge. Regardless of B.C.'s protestation of rights to managing their environment we believe one Province cannot infringe on federal rights. CAPL, representing nearly 1600 members, all working in the land side of the energy industry across Canada, directly understand the importance of completing this pipeline project, but more importantly, we recognize from past experience, the value of a Federal regulator carrying jurisdiction over Provincial jurisdiction. There is and has to be a national decision maker to ensure projects are vetted properly. Trans Mountain has been thoroughly reviewed and approved. Nothing can change that nor should there be an ability by a province to interrupt that. Our concern lies with you Sir. That your words appear to have little meaning to the Premier of B.C. Unintended consequences aside, this is an affront to Canada's Federal powers. We live and prosper in a country under a parliamentary system and usually every province respects this system, especially while decisions are being made in the national interest. The exception is Premier Horgan and his cabinet who appear more concerned about preserving their slim coalition government. This is no secret - we all know what is going on here. The B.C. coalition NDP government's intention is to prevent this pipeline, as they have stated, at any cost. Even to a contravention of constitutional powers. This must stop forthwith.

Although the jurisdiction over natural resources lies with the provinces, one of the roles of our Federal Government is to ensure the responsible development, which includes the sale of same, of our country's natural resources. Today and in this instance, we are losing that opportunity. Alberta's Premier Notley is under extreme duress to bring this pipeline to completion. This setback is compounded by the departure of many international companies from the western sedimentary basin largely because of regulatory uncertainty. Now, even in the face of our NEB approval, the B.C. government is accentuating that uncertainty. Premier Notley, her government, Albertans and many British Columbians are recognizing the foolhardy ways of the B.C. NDP government. We understand your opinions on these matters – big business versus the environment – but set the philosophical debate to one side. Pragmatism must be made to rule here and responsible sustainable development is the mantra. So the development must occur.

As Prime Minister of a great country, surely you can see the beginning of a slide precipitously backwards from investment that used to seek out a home here in Canada. Now we fear the message has already gone out to the world that Canada is not the opportunity it once was, despite having the best regulations in the world governing sustainable development. The ENGO's are winning as politicians across the country are desperate to curry favor with environmental protectionists. More than one national project has been stalled or cancelled due to movements sweeping the country. Any rational argument in favor of development can't be heard over the din and roar of protesters. And yet this country was built on national projects that have fueled our magnificent civilized life.

How some people in this country can think we can continue to prosper and provide the benefits we often take for granted by shutting down resource development is perplexing to say the least.

There is little need to make any arguments about the economic opportunity here and the need to build this pipeline; the jobs, the taxes, the royalty revenues. The arguments are so obvious the only argument you could make is why don't we build another line? We all live in a constitutional democracy under a parliamentary system. As a federation we have built this country with many national programs – the railways, the Trans-Canada highway, and yes even a national pipeline, the TCPL. Today we have this wonderful opportunity of building out another national advantage – the Trans Mountain Pipeline. It is fully permitted, and there are people on the ground. Let's not let one premier think he can appropriate national powers and stop this project with a sleight of hand regulatory trick. We mentioned earlier unintended consequences and letting this slip by won't go unnoticed by other premiers. Once one horse slips out of the corral others will follow. Please Sir - You have a duty to uphold the constitution and with it our national honor and heritage in mind.

Mr. Prime Minister, you need only to look as close as your lineage and find there the reserve to put a halt to this foolishness. Your father, while not always right, had the courage and the intellect to see things through. So summon Mr. Horgan to Ottawa, take him to task, offer him some Prime Minister's advice and teach him some manners in civil law.

Yours very truly,

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM LANDMEN



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