



NOV 10 2009

Ms. Lana Amirshadova  
edamigo@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Amirshadova:

The Office of the Prime Minister has forwarded to the Minister of the Environment, the Honourable Jim Prentice, your September 18 email message concerning the Government of Canada's proposed regulatory actions to address climate change, particularly the use of a cap-and-trade approach. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The Government of Canada remains committed to reducing Canada's total greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent from 2006 levels by 2020, leading to a 60- to 70-percent reduction from 2006 levels by 2050. Although the plan to reduce these emissions is on track, the economic downturn and renewed engagement by the new United States administration has required that Canada fine-tune its plan for tackling climate change.

The Government is working with the U.S. to develop a coordinated approach that will advance our respective environmental and energy objectives while renewing the North American economy. You may be aware that Canada and the U.S. recently agreed to establish a Clean Energy Dialogue to collaborate on the development of clean energy science and technologies that will reduce greenhouse gases and combat climate change.

As you mention, the U.S. administration is currently proposing an absolute cap-and-trade approach. In the 2008 Speech from the Throne, the Government of Canada voiced its intention to develop and implement a North American cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gases for post-2012. We will be closely following U.S. developments in this regard.

The content and timing of the regulatory actions to address climate change will be driven by Canada's national interests, while also accounting for what our trading partners, including the United States, are doing. Canada is developing a Canadian approach that makes sense for our circumstances, and will be working with the provinces/territories and stakeholders to finalize that approach.



I trust that my comments are of assistance, and extend my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Beale". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mike Beale  
Acting Associate Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Branch