



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A2

March 25, 2020

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

RE: Designation of Canada's Pipeline Industry as Critical Energy Infrastructure is Crucial

Please accept our appreciation for your efforts and those of your government during this extraordinary public health and economic crisis. Our members stand ready to assist in containing, eradicating and recovering from the COVID-19 virus. At present, our members are delivering important energy supplies that are heating hospitals, health care facilities, nursing homes and seniors' residences across Canada. Those energy supplies are also helping move food and other critical items to Canadians who need them.

The Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (CEPA) represents Canada's transmission pipeline companies who operate the majority of transmission pipelines in Canada, and large pipelines in the United States. Presently, our members are constructing and progressing new major infrastructure projects to support growth of the Canadian economy. Therefore, operation and construction activities must be deemed as critical energy infrastructure.

Our members strongly support the urgent need to immediately confirm the designation of Canada's pipeline industry as critical infrastructure, and the workers who operate and build the infrastructure as essential services personnel. This will ensure that we can continue to safely deliver the energy products and continue to deploy capital that Canadians require during this national crisis, and beyond. As you are no doubt aware, the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cyber and Infrastructure Security Agency has identified pipelines as a "National Critical Function" and we believe that Canada should follow suit. DHS has also published several guidance documents with respect to COVID-19 that might be useful to Canadian agencies involved in the response.

The industry remains aligned with the measures that governments have put in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. CEPA member companies have always treated the safety and wellbeing of employees, contractors, partners and the communities in which we work as our top priority. They are deeply concerned with the evolving COVID-19 situation and took early and proactive steps to provide a safe working environment that enables the continued operation of our businesses.

CEPA members' role is to continue to provide critical energy service and products to customers across the country and preserve public trust in the energy sector. Our members are continually adapting their emergency response and business continuity plans to ensure the safe supply of energy to their customers during this unprecedented time.

CEPA members remain concerned that, in the absence of the immediate confirmation of designation of our industry as critical infrastructure by Canada and the provinces, the safe operation, construction and maintenance of this infrastructure is jeopardized. In our view, designation of our industry as critical infrastructure must include at minimum the following:



- Federal and Provincial governments coordinate to clarify measures to enable essential services, specifically for Critical Infrastructure (CI) partners
- Federal and provincial governments coordinate to agree to allow movement of critical personnel and equipment across Canada's border with the United States, inter-provincial boundaries and within municipalities
- Access to COVID-19 testing and personal protective equipment ("PPE") for essential services personnel, as well as priority access to medicines and or vaccines for essential services personnel
- Ability for CEPA members to share essential services personnel, should it become necessary, as contemplated in CEPA's Mutual Emergency Assistance Agreement
- To prepare for the possible eventuality of more quarantined communities, local planning processes need to consider priority re-entry procedures for essential critical infrastructure workers in the event of an outage or emergency, or to maintain reliable operations.

From our industry's perspective, pipeline essential service personnel include:

- Control Room operations personnel
- Inspection and Maintenance personnel
- Construction personnel working on numerous projects across Canada – both on improvements to existing systems and expansions/new builds
- Emergency response and security personnel
- Third-party contractors used to support the above efforts
- The entire pipeline industry supply chain, i.e., all manufacturing, distribution and supply chain activities providing goods and services to pipeline companies.

Our industry continues to adhere to the guidance of federal and provincial public health agencies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We are committed to working with governments to ensure the safety of our workers, our contractors and all Canadians. Confirming the designation of pipelines as critical infrastructure will support these efforts and ensure our industry remains a vital contributor to Canada's economic recovery.

Thank you for your urgent consideration of our request. Should you require, CEPA and its members are available to provide further details on the various measures and health and safety protocols being followed both for day to day operations and ongoing construction activities. CEPA members stand with all Canadians, and we are ready to help ensure Canada recovers quickly from these extraordinary challenges.

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Bloomer
President & CEO

cc: Hon. Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta
Hon. John Horgan, Premier of British Columbia
Hon. Brian Pallister, Premier of Manitoba



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