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Nov. 28, 2016

An Open Letter to the Prime Minister and First Ministers Challenging Assumptions of “Clean-tech” CEOs/ENGOS

Right Honorable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, P.C. M.P. Papineau
And First Ministers of Canada

As elected leaders, we ask you to act in the interests of Canadians and so we challenge the claims made in the Nov. 23, 2016 open letter, issued by a group of corporate and environmental group interests allied as “Smart Prosperity.”¹ Please reject the demands of this group. Please protect the interests of Canadians. There is nothing smart or prosperous about their proposals and claims; they are not supported by the global evidence.

In their letter, these groups claim the world’s ‘most advanced economies’ are ‘forging cleaner, more innovative economies’ and that a similar approach would have ‘huge potential’ for the Canadian economy. They do not provide any evidence to support this claim.

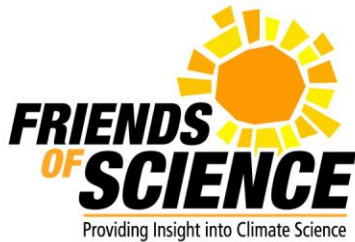
Summary of Facts Rebutting the CEO/ENGO Claims

The facts show that:

- 1) Canada already has the cleanest power grid in the world
<http://euanmearns.com/electricity-and-energy-in-the-q20/>
- 2) Canada is a leading nation in the reduction of noxious emissions from industry and transportation and has consistently improved air and water quality for over 30 years; in Alberta land reclamation is the law and there are national and provincial reclamation organizations www.YourEnvironment.ca
- 3) Based on figures from the International Energy Agency, the CEO/ENGO claims of a rapid transition to a low-carbon economy is a fallacy.
“In 2014, the shares of primary energy supply by energy source were: oil, 31.3%; coal, 28.8%; natural gas, 21.0 %; biofuels and waste, 10.3%; nuclear, 4.8%; hydro, 2.4%; and “other”, including all renewables energy sources, 1.4%. *Fossil fuels now account for 81% of the world’s energy supply and renewables just over one per cent. That situation will not change soon, easily or cheaply.*”
<https://friendsofsciencecalgary.wordpress.com/2016/11/14/facts-and-fallacies-on-world-fossil-fuel-use-vs-renewables/> There is no low-carbon economy on the horizon.²
- 4) Canada **cannot** meet the Paris objectives of greenhouse gas reductions based on the 1.5° Celsius “global warming target” without **destroying our economy. Here’s the devastation the previous 2° C target would have wrought.**
https://friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/climate_change_implications_Lyman.pdf
There is no such thing as a low-carbon economy as all manufactured items in the

¹ <http://www.smartprosperity.ca/activities/letter-first-ministers-major-business-and-civil-society-leaders>

² <https://friendsofsciencecalgary.wordpress.com/2016/03/06/about-that-low-carbon-economy/>



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modern world use fossil fuels. Many initiatives like urban transportation may facilitate movement of people, but do not reduce greenhouse gas emissions and are intensive users of fossil fuels on a scale that is unrecoverable vis a vis the ridership.³ One should not confuse these issues, the costs, or the real or alleged benefits – to the climate, environment or citizens.

- 5) Carbon pricing/cap and trade have been shown to push consumers into heat-or-eat poverty, send industry offshore to countries with fewer environmental regulations (thus defeating the point of such legislation), the only beneficiaries have been green crony capitalists and environmental groups clamouring that if you give them your money they will 'save the planet.' Many such initiatives, like food-to-fuel ethanol policies are actively destroying the planet and driving social chaos and the refugee crisis.⁴

UK European MEP Roger Helmer on the "Industrial Massacre" in the EU:

<https://youtu.be/0ZCIIWqsfV4>

Dr. Benny Peiser testimony to US Senate on the greatest wealth transfer in history due to the poor subsidizing rich green rent-seekers and the destructive cycle of subsidies:

<https://youtu.be/uQ00-Lq8TQs>

Lessons can be learned from Germany:

http://www.finadvice.ch/files/germany_lessonslearned_final_071014.pdf

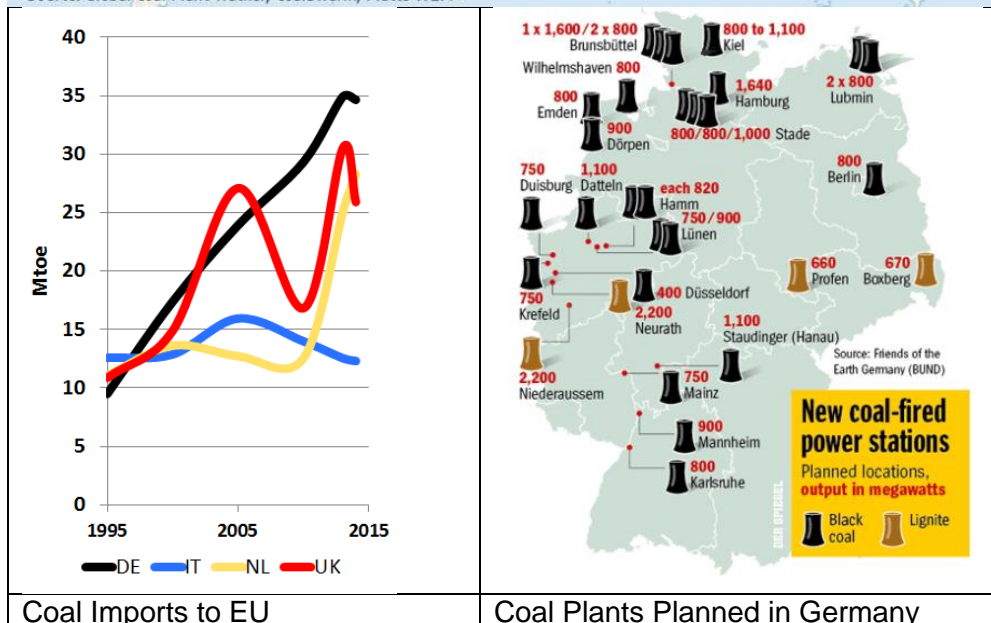
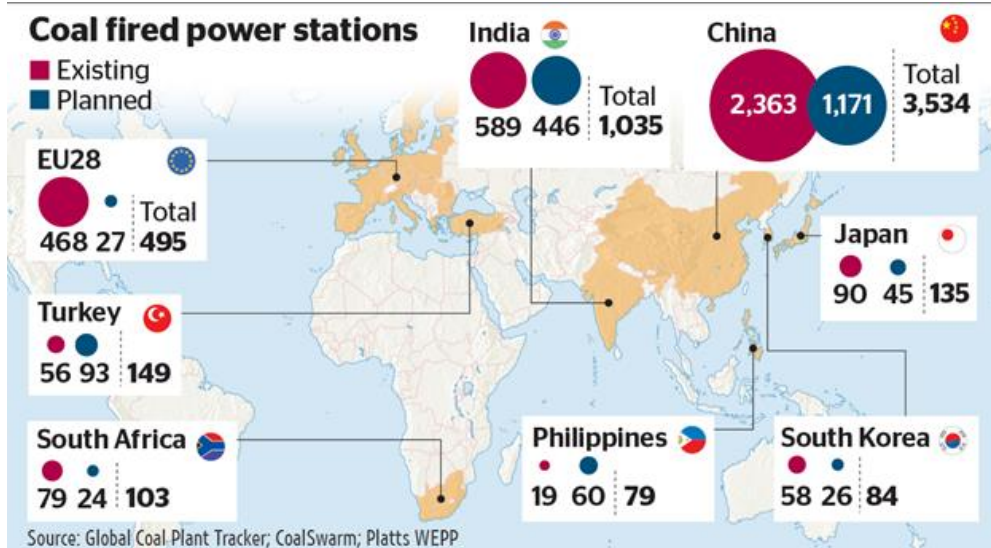
- 6) To be competitive, we should prudently wait for our largest trading partner, the US, and its new administration under President-elect Trump, to set their position on these policies.
- 7) The CEO/ENGO groups appear to have significant conflicted relationships. Some of the ENGO representatives have been funded by offshore interests with stated objectives of blocking Canada's resource developments and exports, and some like the Oak Foundation, which has funded vested interest ENGO groups like Equiterre and Pembina Institute, (the two ENGOs that first coined the slanderous term "dirty oil" for Canada's largest industry) have a stated motives of pushing cap and trade systems. The interwoven relationships of the various signatories is concerning to us.
(<https://www.kumu.io/RuNetwork/smart-prosperity>)

Canada's Power Grid is the Cleanest in the World

Many of the world's most advanced economies, particularly in Asia, are building dozens of coal-fired power plants, while Europe, which has gone 'clean and green' faces economic decline and negative unintended consequences, and is rebuilding coal plants in a desperate attempt to recover.

³ "Portland's North Interstate Rail light rail line is estimated to save about 23 billion BTU per years, while its construction is estimated to have consumed 3.9 Trillion BTU...it would take 172 years to offset the extra energy needed for construction. Not only would this exceed the lifespan of the line but long before 172 years, automobiles are likely to be so energy efficient that light rail will offer no savings at all" Randall O'Toole of the Cato Institute: "Does Rail Transit Save Energy or Reduce Green House Gas Emissions?" April 14, 2008

⁴ <http://motherboard.vice.com/blog/a-complex-systems-model-predicted-the-revolutions-sweeping-the-globe-right>

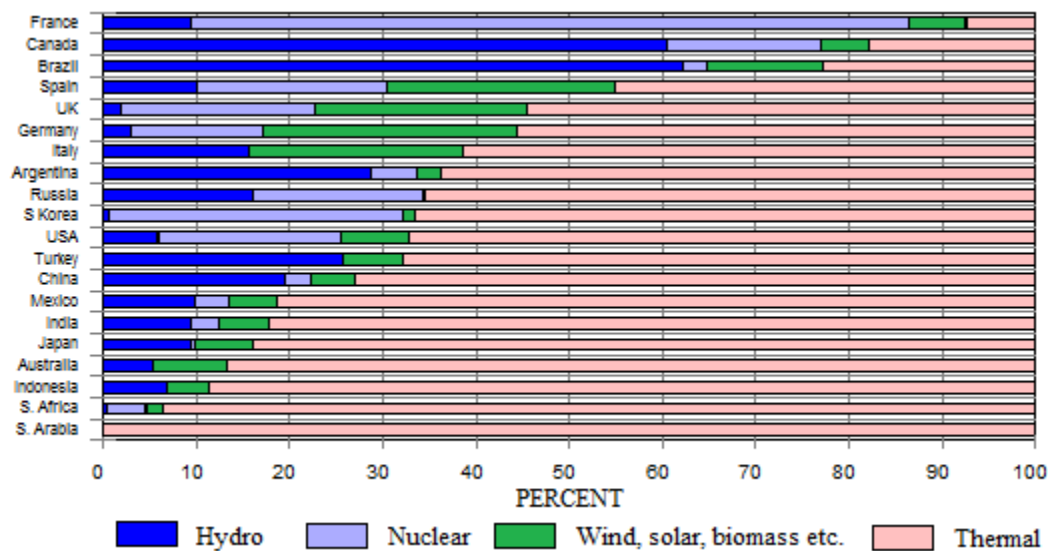


Unintended Consequences of Carbon Reduction Climate Policies

The evidence shows that Paris now has some of the dirtiest air quality in the world. ⁵ Why? It followed EU directives which incentivized diesel to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from transportation. While regular petrol/vehicle gasoline has higher carbon dioxide emissions than diesel, carbon dioxide is a benign gas which humans breath out at 40,000ppm (parts per million)

⁵ <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-06-19/paris-smog-obscuring-eiffel-tower-threatens-diesel-car-dominance>

with every breath. By contrast, diesel is a larger emitter of nitrogen oxides and soot (PM2.5) – both of which greatly exacerbate smog and cause significant health issues, particularly in ground-level contamination where people breathe (as opposed to dispersed emissions high above the ground from factory smokestacks). Now about 80% of France runs on diesel and their air is significantly polluted. This is ironic because otherwise France has the ‘cleanest’ power grid in the world, using mostly nuclear, seconded by Canada which is primarily on hydro.⁶ Since hydro has no challenges related to disposing of radioactive nuclear waste, **Canada can be said to have the cleanest power grid in the world already.**



The open letter CEO/ENGO advocates of ‘clean’ energy do not define what they mean by this term. They do get one thing right. Canada has been very successful at reducing noxious emissions from industry and daily life. Every Canadian can see this for themselves at www.YourEnvironment.ca We are already a global leader in every way.

However, by the list of CEO/ENGO names, one sees that many have vested interests in wind and solar – neither of which are clean or efficient, and both of which are exceptionally wasteful of fossil fuels, turning power-full high density fuels into power-less low density, intermittent and unreliable power forms.

⁶ <http://euanmearns.com/electricity-and-energy-in-the-g20/>



DID YOU KNOW?


EVERY PART OF A WIND TURBINE DEPENDS ON STEEL

BLADES
STEEL HOLDS THE BLADES IN PLACE AS THEY TURN

GENERATOR
65% STEEL
35% COPPER

TOWER
90% STEEL
TUBULAR STEEL TOWERS

FOUNDATION
MADE FROM STEEL RE-INFORCED CONCRETE

 GLOBAL STEEL PRODUCTION IS DEPENDANT ON COAL

70% OF STEEL* IS MADE FROM COAL

1MW OF WIND TURBINE CAPACITY REQUIRES

220 TONNES OF COAL

 = 220 SMALL CARS!

* STEEL IS MADE THROUGH A PROCESS OF MIXING IRON ORE WITH COKING COAL

SOURCES: MCA COAL - THE HARD FACTS, WORLD STEEL ASSOCIATION

QUEENSLAND resources COUNCIL

Table 1. Energy densities of different fuels.

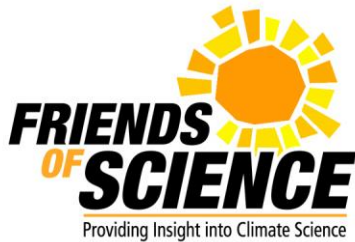
Fuel type	Energy density MJ/kg
Wind	0.00006
Battery	0.001
Hydro	0.72
TNT	4.6
Wood	5.0
Petrol	50
Hydrogen	143
Nuclear fission	88250000
Nuclear fusion	645000000

Wind is intermittent and unreliable, so it must be backed up 100% of the time by conventional power plants using coal, natural gas, hydro or nuclear. “Pumped storage” and batteries to meet the scale of power required by society are non-existent. A great deal of research and development and small scale projects need to prove this potential.

*This graph shows that petrol has an energy density of 50 megajoules per kilogram while wind (which is made from fossil fuels, as shown above) has little energy density. Wind farms also require both vast areas of land and tons of fossil fuels to manufacture, install, operate and maintain. **Where is the benefit?** (Source: Prof. MJ Kelly, Cambridge Press ⁷)*

Canada is a cold country with short days and dark winters. We need **prime power** from petroleum, natural gas, and coal for our industry and citizens. We have vast transportation distances and a wealth of resources that the world wants to buy – we need to be able to export to markets. There is no viable replacement for oil, gas and diesel for transportation.

Suggestions that critical investments using ‘targeted public funds’ urban systems, so as to ‘leverage private capital’ should be taken with a grain of salt. In 2013, Joseph Dear, then Chief



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Investment Officer of CalPERS, the sixth largest pension fund in the world, said that clean-tech was an “L-for-Loser” investment, and the only way to make it profitable was to raise the price of the alternatives (a \$50 carbon price/tonne killed coal for Canada) or raise the price of carbon....or both.⁸

The CEO/ENGO letter thus suggests that these groups are lobbying for a way to have the public bail out previous bad investments in ‘clean’ tech by spreading these L-for-Loser projects across the country, funded from the public purse. This is not in the public’s interest.

For example, a notion propagated by the LEAP Manifesto, McGill Trottier Institute’s report “Act on Climate,” and prominent activists like Tzeporah Berman is that of a national wind-hydro grid as proposed by geography professor Dr. Danny Harvey of the University of Toronto. However, theoretical wind and hydro resources outlined in a single paper by a geography expert, do not address the nuts and bolts of how a power generation system works. Independent power generation experts have provided a critical review of this idea and state it is:

- a) Technically infeasible
- b) Would cost billions of dollars and decades to implement for less reliable power
- c) Would put all of Canada at risk of national blackouts.

Critical review of proposal for a national wind-hydro grid

English:

<https://friendsofsciencecalgary.wordpress.com/2015/09/29/power-generation-information-on-difficulties-of-instituting-the-proposed-wind-hydro-national-grid-network-in-acting-on-climate-change/>

French:

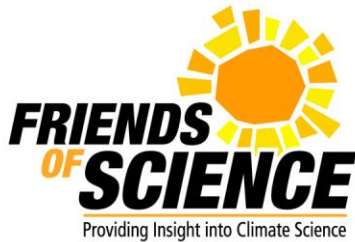
<https://friendsofsciencecalgary.wordpress.com/2016/01/23/un-reseau-national-hybride-energie-hydroelectrique-et-eolienne-le-plan-est-techniquement-irrealisable/>

Carbon Pricing and Cap and Trade Claims a Fallacy

The argument for carbon pricing (i.e. either taxes or cap and trade permit fees) is based largely on three key presumptions.

- 1) The revenues received will be recycled directly back into the economy through the reduction of other taxes, ideally ones that will stimulate more investment or consumption or both.
- 2) Governments will use the market-based instrument to supplant and replace the vast litany of subsidies, taxes and regulations that are now in place seeking to alter

⁸ <http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887324557804578374980641257340>



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consumption patterns or to stimulate the production and sale of low carbon or zero carbon energy sources.

- 3) There will be no danger of adverse competitive effects, largely because our competitors will take emission-reducing actions that impose the same levels of cost on industry.

None of the foregoing presumptions are true in the present case.

Only in British Columbia has the provincial government promised and delivered on the goal of a carbon tax regime that is revenue neutral. Critics say it is no success story⁹ and evidence indicates it has driven a significant rise in cross-border shopping for cheaper gas and products.

In all the other provinces contemplating a carbon pricing system, not one has made such a revenue neutral promise, except for the cynical one used in Ontario of promising to spend every dollar taken in on Infrastructure, "green energy" and other programs. No government plans to remove a single subsidy, tax or regulation originally introduced to limit emissions - the federal government just announced a major new one to regulate coal plants so as to phase them out by 2030. Why is this needed on top of a carbon tax?

Competitive? What of the 'elephant' next door?

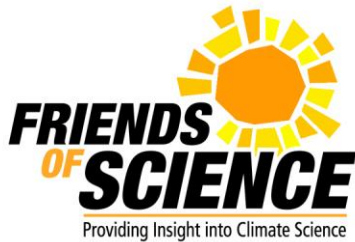
With respect to claims that the CEO/ENGO policies will make us more competitive effects, no one knows for certain what a Trump Administration will do, but it sure would seem to make sense to wait and find out just what it is. As was the experience in the EU, unilateral moves on such policies could place Canadian industry at a **serious competitive disadvantage**. (See Dr. Peiser's US Senate testimony in the opening summary to see what happened to the EU).

Conflicted Relationships

The CEO/ENGO signatories appear to have conflicted relationships. Most disturbing is the desire to draw Indigenous Peoples into this morass of long-term 'clean' subsidies where limited taxpayer funds will be diverted *for decades* from essential services for First Nations, like clean water, additional housing, employment initiatives, health and education, to the new 'glass beads' of wind and solar. An example is the recent visit of the *busy* green billionaire Mr. Thomas Steyer to the Fort Chipewyan band to help install a solar panel on the lodge to bring 'green jobs' to Canada and Canadian First Nations people.

Meantime his very expensive 'green jobs' initiative in California has reportedly foundered, at tremendous cost to industry and the public. Instead of the promised 11,000 jobs there are only "...1,700 jobs in three years — just under 600 jobs per year or roughly five percent of what was

⁹ <http://www.taxpayer.com/blog/bc--carbon-tax-no-success-story>



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promised, at the cost of \$175,000 per job.” No green jobs. Just lots of consultant fees being lapped up at taxpayers’ expense. ¹⁰

Perhaps the best solution for these avid Canadian authors of the open letter by CEO/ENGO advocates of ‘clean’ energy is that which the Washington Examiner suggested for Mr. Steyer and the green energy consultants and auditors who plumped for California’s failed green-jobs Proposition 39:

*“In short, **Steyer has handed California a fat lemon.**
What can Californians do? We have a modest proposal for the short term:
Purchase hundreds of electricity-producing treadmills and force Steyer and the
green consultants and energy auditors who are currently making bank to run and
generate electricity for schools.”*

Canadians live in a country burdened by winter cold and short dark days. We don’t need any fat lemons. We need affordable, reliable power for our homes, natural gas heating, and transportation suited to our population density, tax base and vast geography.

Carbon Dioxide from Human Activity is not a Control Knob on Climate

As Dr. Judith Curry explained to the US Senate, the IPCC case for human-caused global warming is not supported by the evidence, and “Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is not a control knob that can fine tune climate...”¹¹

As Dr. Roger Pielke, Jr. explained to the US Senate, there have been no increase in extreme weather events and while humans have some effect on climate, there is no imminent crisis.¹² For his efforts in attempting to establish a calm and reasoned approach to this issue, Wikileaks has reported that green-vested interest Mr. Steyer apparently funded numerous individuals/groups to destroy Dr. Pielke’s reputation.¹³

As Dr. Nir Shaviv, astrophysicist,¹⁴ and hundreds of other scientists in related research have explained¹⁵ - the Sun is the main direct and indirect driver of climate change.

Please question the conflicts of interests of the CEO/ENGO groups, please follow the money and the offshore influence, and Say NO to CO₂ Coercion.

FRIENDS OF SCIENCE SOCIETY

¹⁰ <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/no-one-showed-up-for-californias-green-jobs-rush/article/2570363>

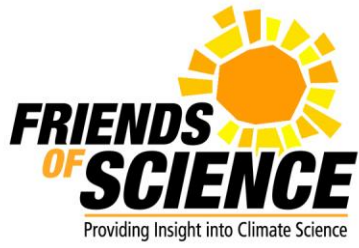
¹¹ <https://curryja.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/curry-senatetestimony-2014-final.pdf>

¹² http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/admin/publication_files/2013.20.pdf

¹³ <https://rogerpielkejr.com/2016/11/14/wikileaks-and-me/>

¹⁴ <https://youtu.be/VlpOPAVRV-k>

¹⁵ <http://chrono.qub.ac.uk/blaauw/cds.html>



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