

To: Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Hon. Tim Hodgson,

I am writing as a concerned Canadian citizen about Canada's current approach to coal policy and what I see as a growing inconsistency in how climate commitments are being applied.

Canada is planning to phase out coal power domestically by 2030, which is an important and positive step. However, at the same time, Canada continues to support the export and transport of coal, including thermal coal used for electricity generation in other countries. This creates a contradiction between our domestic climate action and the emissions we are still enabling abroad.

Thermal coal is one of the most carbon intensive energy sources and is increasingly out of step with global energy trends. Many countries are moving toward renewable electricity, which makes continued investment in thermal coal infrastructure harder to justify. It would make sense to prioritize the phase out of thermal coal first, including its export and transit through Canadian ports and rail systems.

Metallurgical coal is used in steel production, which is more difficult to decarbonize quickly. However, expanding production of metallurgical coal is still inconsistent with long term climate goals. A more responsible approach would be to manage a gradual transition rather than support expansion.

Canada also plays a role in transporting coal from other countries, including the United States, through our rail and port systems. This raises environmental and health concerns and should be included in a clear transition plan.

If Canada is serious about meeting its climate commitments, our policies need to be aligned. It does not make sense to phase out coal use at home while continuing to facilitate its use and export elsewhere.

I would respectfully ask the federal government to establish a clear and time bound phase out of thermal coal exports and related transport, avoid expanding metallurgical coal production, and increase investment in clean steel technologies.

These steps would help ensure Canada's climate policies are consistent, credible, and aligned with our long term commitments.

Sincerely,