



**MR. DAVID ANGUS, JPAC CHAIR
COMMISSION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION
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Dear Mr. Angus:

On behalf of the Council of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and the Alternate Representatives, I would like to thank you and respond to the valuable advice provided by the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) regarding Fostering Resilient Communities and Reducing Ecosystem Vulnerability in North America (Advice 13-01) and Sustainable Energy Economy in North America (Advice 13-02).

Advice 13-01 on fostering resilient communities and reducing ecosystem vulnerability in North America

Let me begin by commending you on your use of innovative technologies to engage North American citizens during the New Orleans and Merida workshops on enhancing community ecosystem resilience in 2012. It is evident that your resulting paper, *Resilient Future*, benefited from the rich and diverse views from across the continent.

In response to your recommendations, the Parties view the North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) as an ideal mechanism to continue our pledge to work hand-in-hand with communities in our three countries to increase resilience and address threats to community and ecosystem health. Over the past two years, the CEC contributed US\$1.4 million through the NAPECA to, among other initiatives; support climate change adaptation needs in indigenous communities in Canada and the United States and build a sustainable coastal community on Mexico's Magdalena Island. We look forward to launching the next phase of NAPECA at the 2013 Council Session to continue this important work.

The Commission's 2013-2014 Operational Plan will also further work to foster healthy communities and ecosystems through initiatives on biodiversity conservation and chemicals management. As you well know, this builds on our significant investment in this strategic priority in our previous cooperative work plan, including our efforts to Improve Indoor Air Quality in Alaskan Native Populations and Other Indigenous Communities in North America.

On behalf of Council, I would like to thank you for your valuable input, through formal and informal advice, as well as your paper *Resilient Future*. You have made an important contribution in shaping our forthcoming cooperative work program.



Advice 13-02 on the urgent need to shift to a sustainable energy economy in North America

I would also like to thank you for your comprehensive overview of your April 2013 Calgary workshop on greening the North America's energy economy. This high quality workshop offered North America's public an opportunity to engage on this timely issue.

We welcome your recommendation to include projects in the 2013-2014 Operational Plan that support North American emissions reductions and reinforce the Parties' climate change objectives. It is our hope and expectation that, among other initiatives, the North American Black Carbon Estimation Guidelines, North American Information Online Platform on Climate Change, our work to Improve Conditions for Green Building Construction, and the suite of initiatives to Green Transportation in North America will deliver on the priorities established in the Commission's 2010-2015 Strategic Plan.

Finally, we welcome the JPAC's early view on the next five-year plan. We look forward to discussing the Committee's recommendations once we begin the process of developing the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan for the Commission. Furthermore, the upcoming 20th anniversary of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation also provides an opportunity to work closely with the JPAC as we set the future course of this important organization.

Again, on behalf of Council and my fellow Alternate Representatives, I want to thank you and the entire Joint Public Advisory Committee for your ongoing commitment to engage with North American citizens and advance their interests within the framework of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation. We wish you a successful public session on July 10, 2013 in Los Cabos, Mexico, and look forward to meeting with you over the course of the Council Session.

SINCERELY,

ENRIQUE LENDO
ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEXICO

C.c. Michelle DePass.- Alternate Representative for USA.-
Dan McDougall.- Alternate Representative for Canada.-
Irasema Coronado.- Executive Director, Commission for Environmental Cooperation .-