



JUL 26 2013

Mr. David Angus, JPAC Chair  
Commission for Environmental Cooperation  
393, rue St-Jacques ouest, bureau 200  
Montreal, QC H2Y 1N9

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 the JPAC-led Public Consultation on the 2013-2014 Operational Plan (Advice 13-03).

This year, the Operational Plan was developed in a new way, allowing Council and the JPAC to provide early feedback to our trilateral Working Groups, thus allowing for a focused, high impact cooperative work plan. We would like to thank you for your early and ongoing contribution to this process. We are also pleased to see that your Advice 13-03, built on your consultations with the public, largely aligns with, and endorses the activities outlined in the draft 2013-2014 Operational Plan.

In response to your project-specific comments:

*Enhancing Environmental Law Enforcement in North America*

We were pleased to receive your March 2013 recommendations to expand the scope of the work undertaken by the Environmental Enforcement Working Group (EWG). Like you, we are keen to see your proposed initiatives included in our 2013-14 cooperative work. We therefore task our officials in the EWG to make the appropriate changes.

*Integrated Modeling and Assessment of North American Forest Carbon Dynamics and Climate Change Mitigation Options*

We welcome your suggestion of adopting an integral view for ecosystem services considering one carbon cycle. We will request the relevant working group to analyze the possibility of engaging with industry, specifically the forest sector.

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*Improving Conditions for Green Building Construction in North America*

We appreciate your strong endorsement of this project. We welcome your recommendation to consider financing alternatives and interactions with the construction and development industries to increase the impact of Improving Conditions for Green Building Construction in North America.

*Greening Transportation at North American Land Ports of Entry (POEs)*

We welcome your recommendation to review this project to avoid the impression of being government-driven and focused on security issues. The views of stakeholders, such as the trucking industry, corridor associations and border communities shall be considered by the relevant working group as suggested.

In response to your general comments, the Parties welcome your recommendations to consider including in the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan the outcomes of the Calgary meeting, as well as projects involving green energy such as solar and wind power generation for mitigating Climate Change and transitioning to a Low-Carbon Economy in North America. Regarding the budget for the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan and the 20-year anniversary of the CEC, funding will be allotted for these activities and should be drawn from the Strategic Communications and JPAC allocations.

Finally, on behalf of the Council I would like to reiterate our openness for the JPAC members to work closely with the working groups, and once more, 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. I take this opportunity to congratulate the JPAC on a successful public session on July 10, 2013 in Los Cabos, Mexico, and look forward to future collaborations leading up to next year's Council Session to be hosted by Canada.

Sincerely,



Dan McDougall  
Alternate Representative for Canada

c.c.: Michelle DePass, Alternate Representative for the USA  
Enrique Lendo Fuentes, Alternate Representative for Mexico  
Irasema Coronado, Executive Director, Commission for Environmental Cooperation  
Marcela Orozco, JPAC Liaison Officer