



MEXICO CITY, 15 OCT 2015

Mr. Gustavo Alanís Ortega
JPAC Chair
Commission for Environmental Cooperation
393, rue St-Jacques ouest, bureau 200
Montreal QC H2Y IN9

Dear Mr. Alanis:

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) for your **Advice to Council No: 15-03 in reference to the Advice and recommendations from the JPAC Workshop (April 2015) in Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico, on "Green Growth and Sustainable Competitiveness in North America"**

The Council recognizes the importance of the various themes and topics that were raised at the Monterrey Workshop and greatly appreciates you kindly bringing these to our attention.

For example, we agree on the importance of the effective management of water resources in the context of hydro-climatic change, as well as its associated social, economic and political impacts on our communities in North America.

As you are aware, Council dedicated resources under the 2015-16 Operational Plan to address water issues through our trilateral projects while respecting the binational agreements that govern our transboundary waters and watersheds.

The Council further concurs with the JPAC on the importance of best practices in land use, restoration and management to improve the quality and use of water that balances economic goals with eco-system conservation efforts, as demonstrated in our domestic policies.

In relation to clean energy, the Parties support the acceleration of energy efficiency, cost savings, and greenhouse gas emission reduction in North America's industrial and commercial sector which complement the Parties' overall efforts to develop green infrastructure and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Additionally, the Parties are well aware of the importance of developing strategic partnerships with key decision makers, academia, experts, and other constituents, as well as the value of disseminating knowledge in order to improve the local management of resources and assets by customers and key stakeholders alike.



With the consideration of environmental concerns and potential impacts, the three countries, through the CEC, will continue to support opportunities for green growth through innovation that encourages environmentally responsible economic development to enhance the competitiveness of key sectors in North America.

Furthermore, Council agrees enthusiastically with regard to the integration of environmental and economic considerations into everyday decision making. As you are aware, the CEC was created as part of a package that was first and foremost a trade agreement. Many activities undertaken by the CEC for the past 20 years have been related to this linkage, including supporting and encouraging efforts to build markets for green trade and pursuing the development and promotion of market-based instruments for addressing environmental issues in North America.

As always we appreciate the value JPAC brings to the CEC through its active participation. We remain committed to strengthening and promoting the efforts of the CEC and facilitating collaborative efforts and we will be opened to any further specific advice from the JPAC that will help us all move important activities forward.

Sincerely,

ENRIQUE LENDO
ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEXICO

cc: Ms. Louise Métiévier, Alternate Representative for Canada
Ms. Jane Nishida, Alternate Representative for the United States
Ms. Irasema Coronado, CEC Executive Director
Ms. Marcela Orozco, JPAC Liaison Officer