

Mr. Robert Varney
Chair, Joint Public Advisory Committee
Commission for Environmental Cooperation
700 Rue de la Gauchetière Ouest Suite 1620
Montréal QC H3B 5M2

Re: Advice to Council 19-02

Dear Mr. Varney,

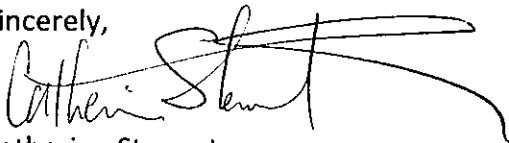
On behalf of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Council, I would like to thank the Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) for its advice to Council 19-02 titled *Council Request for Input to the Joint Public Advisory Committee: 2021-2025 CEC Strategic Plan*. This advice was provided in response to a Council request from October 2019, which solicited the early input of JPAC in the development process of the 2021-2025 CEC Strategic Plan.

The Council notes the emphasis the JPAC has placed on the responsibility of our three governments to preserve our biodiversity and ecosystems, take meaningful action on climate change, protect our water resources, and change our behaviour to respond to our global waste problem.

We were pleased to see that many of the recommendations overlapped with the four initial priorities under consideration by the Parties. In particular, JPAC's recommendations with respect to the preservation of biodiversity and marine and terrestrial habitats, as well as the recommendations related to waste and the circular economy, overlap with the identified priorities of "Shared Ecosystems" and "Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency" respectively. On the recommendations concerning climate change and water security, the Council will take these into consideration as we develop the strategic plan.

Once again, the Council would like to thank you for these timely recommendations. They will be helpful as we advance with the next steps in developing the CEC's 2021-2025 Strategic Plan. The Council looks forward to working with JPAC to develop a strategic plan that is reflective of the concerns of the North American public and is ambitious in its objectives.

Sincerely,



Catherine Stewart
Acting Alternate Representative of Canada

- cc. Mr. Chad McIntosh, Alternate Representative of the United States of America
Dr. Rodolfo Godínez Rosales, Alternate Representative of the United States of Mexico
Mr. Richard Morgan, CEC Executive Director
Ms. Marcela Orozco, JPAC Liaison Officer