

Minister
of Natural Resources



Ministre
des Ressources naturelles

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E4

May 18, 2021

Barry Singleton, P. Eng.
Director
Western Energy Corridor Inc.
barry.singleton@westernenergycorridor.ca

Dear Mr. Singleton:

Thank you for your correspondence of February 22, 2021, regarding the proposed Western Energy Corridor.

The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of infrastructure development to access new and growing markets for our resources. It is for this reason that we approved the Trans Mountain Expansion Project and the Enbridge Line 3 replacement project and have always supported Keystone XL. I appreciate the consideration you have put into this project to aid in the development of sustainable and renewable energy.

I am aware that the interest in the west-to-east transport of natural gas and oil is a longstanding one and has not diminished since TC Energy withdrew its application for the Energy East pipeline project in 2017. I would emphasize that Canada generally adheres to a market-based energy policy that relies on the private sector to decide when and where energy projects should be brought forward.

To encourage new projects, however, the Government of Canada has strengthened the project review process. Federal regulators provide a fair and rigorous review process, and the Government will consider whether to approve a project once the review is both complete and public and Indigenous consultations have been concluded. Better rules allow for more timely and predictable project reviews and encourage investment in Canada's natural resources sectors. The creation of the new Canada Energy Regulator, for example, is helping to restore investor confidence, build public trust, and advance Indigenous reconciliation—all while ensuring that good projects go ahead and that Canada's energy resources get to markets in environmentally sustainable ways.

Canada

I thank you again for sharing your initiative with us and for your efforts to date on the development of this proposal. My officials will be in contact with you to set up a meeting to learn more about your project.

Yours sincerely,

<original signed by>

The Honourable Seamus O'Regan Jr., P.C., M.P.