

March 14, 2022 Our File: WEC-062L

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson Minister of Natural Resources The Government of Canada <u>Minister.Ministre@NRCan-RNCan.gc.ca</u>

## Re: Western Energy Corridor - The World Needs More Canada

Dear Minister Wilkinson:

In consideration of the devastating events that are currently unfolding in Europe, I am writing to you once again regarding the significant benefits that Canada can provide by pursuing the "**Western Energy Corridor**". In response to Western Energy Corridor Inc.'s March 23, 2021 request under IAAC for a Regional Assessment, as Minister of Environment and Climate Change, you replied on June 21, 2021 that you "*have decided not to proceed with such a regional assessment at this time*." In light of the global energy crisis, perhaps "<u>now is the time</u>".

As we previously identified, a proactive federal approach to approving the Western Energy Corridor will incentivize entities to build and operate high-value energy delivery systems to the Port of Churchill. The obvious use would be to transport either crude oil or natural gas resources to Canadian, European, and global energy markets. Beyond the obvious benefits to Canada, the completion of these systems will positively impact the world by offsetting unethical energy produced by Russia, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and other countries. We don't need to tell you that "the world needs more Canada" and, specifically, more of its ethically produced and environmentally conscious crude oil and natural gas.

We believe that the Federal Government's review of the proposed Western Energy Corridor should also include high-voltage DC power lines capable of delivering large quantities of renewable hydroelectricity from Manitoba to other western provinces. This aspect will improve Canada's overall GHG scorecard and provide long-term economic benefits. The development of this corridor will also greatly benefit Canada's communication systems, northern road and rail transportation, and sovereignty protection.

As stated previously, we also firmly believe that following Canada's approval to export crude oil or natural gas through the Port of Churchill, all such pipelines and related facilities should be capable of transitioning to future fuels, such as hydrogen.

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## Western Energy Corridor Inc.

Minister Wilkinson Page 2 March 14, 2022 Our File: WEC-062L

In the best interests of Canada and in support of our allies around the world, now is the time to approve an expedited regional assessment of the Western Energy Corridor as previously filed under IAAC. We await your early response to our letter and are willing to do whatever we can to assist in moving this initiative forward. Thank you.

Yours very truly, Western Energy Corridor Inc.

## <original signed by>

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C.C.:

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