

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa K1A 0A6
via Email: Justin.Trudeau@parl.gc.ca

January 25, 2023

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

Your March 22, 2022 Supply and Confidence Agreement with NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh pledged to [“achieve significant emissions reductions by 2030 compared to 2005 levels.”](#) Canadians view this pact as proof of your commitment to climate action and they trust you and Mr. Singh to deliver on this promise.

However, Ontario Premier Doug Ford has announced plans that threaten your ability to follow through on your agreement. Premier Ford’s government has announced that it will build *new* gas-fired power plants while increasing the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the province’s *existing* gas plants by 375 per cent by 2030 and more than 600 per cent by 2040.

This new plan threatens Canada’s ability to meet its Paris Agreement climate targets. It will cancel out half the pollution reduction benefits Ontario achieved by phasing out its dirty coal-fired power plants. And it imperils the ability of you and Mr. Singh to deliver on the commitment you made to Canadians.

Fortunately, Ontario has realistic, achievable alternatives to the Ford Government’s ill-advised initiatives. Ontario can have a [clean electricity future and lower energy costs by 2030](#) by investing in energy conservation and efficiency, wind and solar energy, and by increasing its electricity cooperation with Quebec, including using its neighbour’s reservoirs as giant storage batteries for Ontario’s wind and solar energy.

According to a report released by Ontario’s Independent Electricity System Operator last September, Ontario can avoid the need for *new* gas plants and lower its electricity costs by up to **\$290 billion** [by investing in zero-carbon options](#) to keep our lights on, including solar power, energy storage and smart efficiency programs.

Ontario is well positioned to lead the way to a net zero electricity system. This will help grow the provincial economy by attracting businesses looking for clean energy. It will also create vast new economic opportunities in renewable energy development, district energy, load control technologies, cold climate air-source heat pumps, and bi-directional chargers allowing electric vehicles’ batteries to put power back into the grid during peak demand periods.

Now is the time to act.

I urge you to please establish federal Clean Electricity Regulations that will:

- **prohibit the building of new gas plants in Ontario effective immediately; and**
- **require Ontario to move to a net zero-carbon electricity grid by 2030.**

With strong leadership and continued climate action from your government, we can create a cleaner, safer, and more prosperous future for Canadians and the world. I am open and welcome the opportunity to work with the Federal government to ensure we meet our climate obligations.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mike Schreiner".

Mike Schreiner

Leader, Green Party of Ontario
MPP, Guelph

