

Minister of Small Business,  
Export Promotion and  
International Trade



Ministre de la Petite Entreprise,  
de la Promotion des exportations et  
du Commerce international

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

February 16, 2021

Ms. Julia Levin and Co-signatories  
Climate and Energy Program Manager  
Environmental Defence  
[jlevin@environmentaldefence.ca](mailto:jlevin@environmentaldefence.ca)

Dear Ms. Levin and Co-signatories:

Thank you for your correspondence of December 21, 2020, and for the subsequent discussion held with members of my staff. I value the opportunity to receive direct feedback on Export Development Canada (EDC). As Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, it is my priority to establish the highest possible levels of human rights, environmental and social due diligence across my portfolio.

EDC is the largest provider of financial solutions for Canadian clean technology companies looking to expand their business internationally and has made significant efforts to enhance its environmental practices, including a revised climate change policy in support of the Government of Canada's broader commitment to responsible business conduct. In particular, I am proud of EDC's work to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, and its leadership in financing the clean technology sector in Canada, including facilitating over \$2.5 billion in business in this sector. I am committed to building on these successes as we strive to maintain EDC as a leading practitioner of environmental due diligence among its peers.

In addition to EDC's current environmental practices, I have instructed EDC to update its approach to climate change policy by aligning investments across its portfolio with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and to develop a strategy to meet Canada's objective of net-zero emissions by 2050. I have asked that this approach demonstrate a commitment to inclusivity and diversity by including a framework for consultations with Canadian Indigenous peoples, civil society groups, as well as with federal and provincial governments, when supporting domestic energy projects.

Canada 

I look forward to an ongoing dialogue with you and other stakeholders as we work toward establishing world-leading environmental practices in Canada and abroad.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Ng".

The Honourable Mary Ng, P.C., M.P.