

April 16, 2021

To: MP Shipley,
48 Alliance Blvd Suite 104
Barrie, Ontario

Sent via email

RE: Clean Fuel Standard

Good day,

At its regular meeting on April 7, 2021, Council of the Township of Springwater passed resolution C146C-2021 endorsing the following letter presented by the Township of Springwater's Agricultural Advisory Committee regarding the Clean Fuels Standard:

Dear Mr. Shipley,

The purpose of this letter is to discuss the Proposed Clean Fuels Standard that is being considered for legislation. As members of the Springwater Township Agricultural Advisory Committee, we have serious concerns with this proposal. This proposal in its current form, has the potential to be catastrophic to the Canadian farmer. The proposed rules and regulations for restrictions on land use are detrimental to the long-term viability of Canadian agriculture.

If this proposal goes ahead, Canadian farmers will be unable to make improvements to their land to make it more efficient for the use of crop production, thus making them unable to meet the needs of food supply needed for the ever-growing population. Making improvements to land for crop production is essential to the growing demand in food supply for our country and should not have restrictions placed upon it. Instilling restrictions in this manner is no different than telling a homeowner that any renovations made after a specific date disqualifies any future renovations.

The restrictions being imposed through the Clean Fuels Standard will make it so Canadian farmers are unable to recoup costs that they are spending in order to meet the needs of the growing population in Canada. Having these restrictions in place, will have buyers seeking products elsewhere, out of country. What will this do to Canada's economy?

The ideas proposed, 'setbacks from watercourses and woodlands,' would come at a tremendous cost to the Canadian farmers who have purchased, paid taxes, and cared for, for generations, are suddenly unable to use the land for renewable fuel purposes.

How will these costs be recovered if the farmer is unable to utilize this land for crop production? Is a farmer going to have to build separate grain storage to store products that are ineligible for renewable energy at a cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars? Isn't it important that the Canadian Government work with Canadian farmers, not impose unworkable rules and regulations that hinder crop production and create a competitive disadvantage with other countries?

The Canadian Government has shown little regard for Canadian farmers in some of their policies and proposed legislation in recent years. The Clean Fuels Standard combined with the recent Carbon Tax, has the potential to put many Canadian farmers out of business. We need our governments to work with Canadian farmers in order to provide for the growing need of food supply in our country.

Please contact Chair David Spring to discuss this further at (705) 730-4033. We look forward to your support on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Don Allen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Don Allen
Mayor, Township of Springwater

David S. Spring
Chairperson of the Springwater Township Agricultural Advisory Committee

Cc:
Hon., Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Environment and Climate Change;
MPP Doug Downey,
Hon., Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
All Ontario Municipalities