

Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions

2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan

March 2025



For more information on the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions contact:

PO Box 9319, Stn Provincial Government, Victoria, BC V8W 9N3

250-953-0900

Or visit our website at

www.gov.bc.ca/ECS

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Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ADIX', positioned below the text of the accountability statement.

Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions
March 4, 2025

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Strategic Direction

In 2025/26, the Government of British Columbia will continue to prioritize delivering the services and infrastructure needed for people to build good lives in strong communities.

To support this objective, Government will focus on growing the economy, responding to the threat of tariffs, creating good paying jobs, improving affordability, strengthening health care and education, and making communities safer.

Government will also continue deepening relationships with Indigenous Peoples while advancing implementation of the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan](#).

This 2025/26 service plan outlines how the [Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions](#) will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the [Minister's January 2025 Mandate Letter](#).

Purpose of the Ministry

The [Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions](#) (Ministry) is responsible for British Columbia's (B.C.'s) energy resources, including electricity, alternative energy, hydrogen, oil, and natural gas sectors and related infrastructure. These sectors are made up of diverse interests that use and develop energy, low carbon fuels and electricity generation, transmission, and distribution infrastructure and that produce natural gas. The Ministry's actions support access to low-carbon energy that is affordable, while ensuring British Columbians receive a fair return on B.C.'s natural resources by administering subsurface rights and collecting royalties.

The Ministry also mitigates and manages the risks and consequences from climate change, including developing plans to meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets and responding to the impacts of climate change.

To support Government's coordinated climate, energy and economic objectives, the Ministry focuses on advancing energy efficiency and clean or renewable energy sources and technologies, making sure that the energy we use, develop and export is the cleanest possible.

The Ministry facilitates electricity, oil and gas, and clean energy sectors which are globally competitive, demonstrates leading environmental practices, and advances reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, while providing opportunities and quality jobs for British Columbians and a fair return on resources to support the province's priorities.

The Ministry carries out this work in support of the Province's climate goals, as well as commitments to Indigenous reconciliation including advancing the implementation of the [Declaration Act Action Plan](#). In fulfilling its mandate, the Ministry consults and collaborates with other ministries and levels of government, private sector stakeholders, Indigenous peoples, communities, regulators, environmental and industry organizations, and the public.

The Ministry supports the Minister in discharging responsibilities for the following Crown Corporations: [British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority](#) (BC Hydro), the [BC Energy Regulator](#), the [Columbia Basin Trust](#) and the [Columbia Power Corporation](#).

Operating Environment

The new [Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions](#) has been established in a period of economic and political transition. The Ministry has welcomed the Climate Action Secretariat and assumed leadership of climate policy across government, while the two mining divisions have now moved to a new, stand-alone [Ministry of Mining and Critical Minerals](#).

The rapidly evolving geo-political context has significant implications for North American climate and energy policy direction. The combination of US subsidies on domestic energy production combined with the threat of widespread US tariffs on Canadian energy exports could have profound negative consequences on B.C.'s electricity, clean energy, oil and gas, and biofuel sectors.

In Canada, the leadership transition at the federal level is already underway, which could result in substantive changes to federal climate policies and programs in the coming months. If confirmed, these changes would materially impact B.C.'s climate change policies and programs going forward.

While dealing with these external challenges, the Ministry is also directed to participate in the internal review of all existing ministry programs initiatives, led by the Minister of Finance, to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy and help keep costs low for British Columbians.

The Ministry will play a major role in working with industry, First Nations and communities to dramatically accelerate permit approvals for major job and revenue-creating projects, while maintaining world-leading environmental and labour standards.

The Province has also announced its intention to work with ministry partners, First Nations, local and federal governments, project proponents, and key stakeholders to accelerate permit approval for clean and low-carbon energy infrastructure across the province while preserving our world-leading environmental standards. To advance this priority, government will introduce legislation to enable the [BC Energy Regulator](#) (BCER) to act as a one-window regulator for permits necessary to support the North Coast Transmission Line (NCTL), other high-voltage electricity transmission projects, and renewable energy projects, such as wind and solar. Government is also proposing legislative and regulatory changes to remove environmental assessment requirements for current and future land-based wind energy projects and [NCTL](#).

Economic Statement

B.C.'s economy experienced moderate growth last year amid relatively high interest rates, persistent price pressures and ongoing global economic uncertainty. The labour market ended the year on a positive note, supported by high immigration and strong population growth. Inflation in B.C. continued to moderate as the price growth of goods eased, while inflation for services remained elevated. Consumer spending and home sales activity were weaker for most of 2024 in the wake of still elevated interest rates and high prices. Subdued global demand and lower prices for key commodities led to a decline in the value of the province's merchandise exports in 2024. Meanwhile, B.C. homebuilding activity remained relatively strong following record high housing starts in 2023.

The Economic Forecast Council (EFC) estimates that B.C. real GDP rose by 1.2 per cent in 2024. In the near-term, the EFC expects B.C.'s economy to grow by 1.8 per cent in 2025 and 1.9 per cent in 2026, in line with the national average. For Canada, the EFC estimates growth of 1.4 per cent in 2024 and projects national real GDP growth of 1.8 per cent in 2025 and 1.9 per cent in 2026. These projections do not fully include the impact of the evolving U.S. tariff situation.

Restrictive global trade policies, particularly potential U.S. tariffs, pose a risk to the outlook and there is uncertainty over the degree and timing of impacts on B.C.'s economy, and among the province's trading partners. Other risks include lower population growth due to changes to federal immigration policy, as well as the potential for renewed price pressures leading to interest rates remaining elevated for longer, weaker global demand, and commodity market volatility.

Performance Planning

Goal 1: An innovative, low carbon energy portfolio that advances climate goals and economic opportunities across all sectors.

The Ministry supports energy sectors which demonstrate leading environmental practices while providing opportunities and quality jobs for British Columbians. The first objective under this goal outlines the Ministry's efforts to electrify B.C.'s economy, which will contribute significantly to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The second objective outlines the Ministry's programs to incentivise British Columbians to decarbonize their energy choices to further reduce GHG emissions, as set out in [Powering Our Future: BC's Clean Energy Strategy](#), released in June 2024.

Objective 1.1: Accelerate efforts to electrify B.C.'s economy to support provincial climate goals.

Electrification of the B.C. economy supports provincial greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction targets set out in the [Climate Change Accountability Act](#).

Key Strategies

- Continue implementing legislation, policies, programs, and operations to meet provincial energy, economic and climate goals.
- Continue implementing the [B.C. Output-Based Pricing System](#) which aligns with federal carbon pricing rules and promotes a competitive business environment.
- Develop policy and measures to require new large industrial facilities to have credible plans to be [net-zero GHG emissions](#) by 2050 (or 2030 for new, large liquefied natural gas facilities that are already in or are entering into the environmental assessment process), and address government's 2030 and 2040 legislated targets.
- Work with [BC Hydro](#), First Nations, and the renewable power industry through frequent competitive calls for power to increase and diversify B.C.'s generation of electricity as the economy continues to grow.
- Pursue new Indigenous community partnerships (including ownership and/or equity interest) in clean energy and infrastructure with BC Hydro and support Indigenous leadership in community clean energy projects.
- Ensure BC Hydro is responsive to changing market conditions and demands for large load capacity from potential local and international investors to grow our economy and reduce our emissions while protecting residential ratepayers.
- Work with the [BC Utilities Commission](#) to advance B.C.'s clean energy transition to support the Province's climate goals and affordability objectives.

- Continue the development and implementation of the [Remote Community Energy Strategy](#) in collaboration with First Nations, BC Hydro and the federal government to reduce the use of diesel fuel for electricity generation and advance energy resilience.

Discussion

The strategies under Objective 1.1 focus on electrification, industrial decarbonisation, and energy efficiency, all of which support the transition to a low carbon energy system. The Ministry will work with First Nations and communities, to provide partnership opportunities in the green economy.

The Ministry will continue to work with the federal government, First Nations and stakeholders to expand electrification of industries of all sizes across sectors to fast-track their efforts to go green. The Ministry will work with academia, industry and all levels of government to support innovation of clean energy technology and systems.

This includes continuing to work with BC Hydro to ensure the Province's generation, transmission and distribution assets continue to deliver reliable and cost-effective service to all British Columbians, including those living in remote communities.

Objective 1.2: Effective policies and programs that support British Columbians to save energy and decarbonize their energy usage, by choosing greener homes, buildings and transportation.

The Ministry supports households and business to manage energy costs and switch to low carbon transportation and heating fuels in support of the province's climate goals.

Key Strategies

- Increase affordability and accessibility of clean transportation options through public awareness, skills training, research and commercialization, home and workplace charging, public charging and hydrogen fuelling infrastructure and fleets.
- Work with utility, private and public partners to install 10,000 public zero-emission vehicle chargers by 2030.
- Ensure costs for energy remain low for people through supports for home energy retrofits, including heat pumps, and innovative technology solutions.
- Continue to implement policies and initiatives to advance energy efficiency and conservation in the built environment, including equipment standards and the Home Energy Planner tool to provide energy performance and retrofit guidance to homeowners, home buyers and renters.
- Continue to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels through the Low Carbon fuel Standard, while supporting B.C. based biofuel producers.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	24/25 Forecast	25/26 Target	26/27 Target	27/28 Target
[1 a] Clean, renewable and low carbon energy as a share of total utility and transportation energy sales ¹	34%	35%	36%	37%

Data source: Compiled by the Ministry of Energy and Climate Change Strategy and includes data from BC Hydro and FortisBC.

¹ The following data is tracked to provide the performance measure: BC Hydro's performance in clean procurement; FortisBC's performance in deploying Renewable Natural Gas; relative sales of electricity and natural gas using data from the largest utilities; and transportation fuels data.

Discussion

This performance measure directly relates to the goal of an innovative, low carbon energy portfolio in B.C., by measuring the proportion of clean, renewable, and low carbon energy relative to GHG emitting energy sources. An increasing share of clean, renewable and low carbon energy will be achieved through measures such as increasing the proportion of biofuels in transportation, supporting fuel switching from fossil natural gas to electricity or low carbon alternatives (e.g., renewable natural gas) by gas utility customers.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2024 Forecast ¹	2025 Target	2026 Target	2027 Target
[1 b] Zero-Emission Vehicle sales per cent of new light-duty vehicle sales.	23%	23%	26%	40%

Data Source: Compiled by Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions staff from ZEV sales. Light-duty vehicle is defined here as one that weighs 4,536kg (10,000lbs) or less.

¹ ZEV data is reported on a calendar year basis in the legislated ZEV Annual Update.

Discussion

Performance measure 1b measures progress towards Government's target of increasing the number of light duty ZEVs in B.C

Goal 2: B.C.'s oil and gas industry reduces its carbon footprint in a manner that supports economic sustainability, advances Indigenous reconciliation and exhibits high environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance.

Objective 2.1: Policies, technologies and processes that support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the oil and gas sector.

Reducing the carbon footprint of oil and gas activities enhances the industry's ESG performance.

Key Strategies

- Lead supply-side policy for hydrogen, biofuels, geothermal, carbon capture, utilization and storage, and natural gas in support of an inclusive and sustainable energy transition.
- Work with the BC Energy Regulator on the development of a sector-specific approach to reducing methane emissions through world-class regulations and research, an integrated methane measurement and monitoring program, and the promotion of innovative technologies.
- Encourage industry to invest in emission reduction technologies through the development and launch of a new program that will repurpose deep well credits into a land-healing and emissions-reduction project pool and explore options for transitioning any remaining oil and gas subsidies to clean energy and tech sectors.
- Work with the BC Energy Regulator to ensure an appropriate enabling environment to support the deployment of carbon capture and storage to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the oil and gas sector.
- Work with the federal government to cap emissions from the oil and gas sector while attracting investment from producers that use best-in-class emissions reduction technology, create jobs for local workers, and build meaningful partnerships with First Nations.

Discussion

This objective and its strategies all focus on emissions reduction and the storage of carbon dioxide. GHG emissions reduction positively impacts the province's carbon footprint and supports its ESG credibility. This in turn contributes to long-term economic sustainability, ensuring that the sector can continue to provide high-paying jobs and revenue to the Province as it transitions to a low-carbon energy future.

The Province is committed to reduce (GHG) emissions produced by the oil and gas industry in line with its sectoral target of 33-38 percent reductions from 2007 levels by 2030. This includes a 75 percent reduction in methane emission from 2014 levels by 2030 and near elimination of methane emissions by 2035. Through its work with BCER, ECS will review and strengthen

methane emissions regulations to ensure achievement of the 2030 target and advance supportive research for the 2035 target. The BC Methane Emissions Research Collaborative will develop and implement a new three-year research plan, and focused methane measurement campaigns. This work will continue in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme and Carleton University.

Ensuring an enabling environment for carbon capture and storage helps advance a provincial approach to carbon capture, utilization and storage and negative emissions technologies. This work will be further advanced by Ministry supported research initiatives to assess the geological potential for permanent underground storage in promising regions around the province.

The strategies support actions to develop a regulatory emissions cap on oil and gas sector emissions to help meet sectoral emission reduction targets.

Objective 2.2: Value-added development of B.C.'s energy resources to maximize the benefits to all British Columbians and provide a fair return from our resources.

Oil and natural gas activities generate revenues to the Province that support services such as health care and education and facilitate reconciliation with Indigenous nations.

Key Strategies

- Help grow the profitability and success of our clean and low-carbon energy sectors by ensuring engagement and collaboration between business stakeholders and government policy makers, with particular focus on:
 - advocating against proposed tariffs from the United States and ensuring continued expansion of our energy export programs for the mutual success of British Columbians and our trading partners;
 - expanding global markets for our products to diversify and reduce trade risk; and,
 - preparing contingency plans for direct and indirect support of energy exporters, including BC Hydro, in the event the tariffs are imposed.
- Work with relevant ministries, First Nations, other governments, project proponents, and key stakeholders to dramatically accelerate permit approval for clean and low-carbon energy infrastructure across the province while preserving our world-leading environmental standards.
- Promote price transparency and public accountability in the gasoline and diesel market through the implementation of the [Fuel Price Transparency Act](#).
- Implement B.C.'s oil and gas royalty system that encourages additional oil and gas emissions reduction projects, supported by a new land-healing and emissions-reduction pool program.

- Drive clean energy investment in and provide regulatory certainty and project support for a wide range of clean tech sectors.
- Add value to B.C.'s abundant natural gas resources by continuing to work with industry, Indigenous Peoples and BC Hydro, to ensure oil and gas development and related infrastructure supports clean growth.
- Work to implement a cumulative effects and conservation management framework in Northeast B.C. with respect to oil and gas energy development, as part of the Province's commitment to meeting the B.C. Supreme Court declarations from *Yahey v. B.C.*

Discussion

The strategies focus on transparency, GHG emission reduction, and initiatives that support clean growth and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. This value-added approach supports the positive social outcomes envisaged by the goal and objective for the responsible development of B.C.'s oil and gas resources. A fair return provides revenue that supports valuable public services like health care and education. In addition to Relative annual investment in natural gas and oil exploration and development (B.C. as % of Canada) (measure 3b,) which reports our investment relative to Canada, the Ministry will work with its industry and regulatory partners to ensure that development occurs in a responsible manner.

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	24/25 Forecast	25/26 Target	26/27 Target	27/28 Target
[3a] Annual GHG reductions from infrastructure improvements under royalty programs	407,000 tonnes	500,000 tonnes	620,000 tonnes	700,000 tonnes

Data source: Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions

Discussion

This measure tracks the GHG reductions from oil and gas infrastructure royalty programs, which directly relates to the environmentally responsible development of oil and gas resources in B.C. The purpose of the programs is to help achieve the oil and gas sectoral targets and methane reduction targets, while also facilitating job creation, rural development and maintaining competitiveness. Through royalty deductions, infrastructure royalty programs partner with industry in projects to advance new technologies and processes that reduce methane emissions and promote innovative infrastructure including electrification projects to support reaching GHG emission reduction targets.

In order to receive royalty deductions under the infrastructure programs, project proponents for emission reduction projects must submit an Emissions Reductions Report that documents emissions reductions attributed to completion of the project and include a Verification Statement provided by an accredited third-party.

On May 19, 2022, the Province announced a new oil and gas royalty system. The new royalty system encourages additional oil and gas emissions reduction projects, which will be supported through a new Healing the Land and Emissions Reduction program. Projects continue to be completed under previous infrastructure programs resulting in emissions reductions and this completion of infrastructure will continue over the next several years. Previous infrastructure royalty programs are no longer being offered under the new royalty system, but the projects completed will continue to reduce GHG emissions.

Under the new program being considered, companies may transfer existing deep-well credits to fund healing the land and emission reduction work that goes beyond regulatory requirements. This new program would contribute to achieving the emission reduction targets under Performance Measure 3a in addition to the emission reductions achieved from projects approved under previous infrastructure programs as those projects are completed and emission reductions are verified.

Goal 3: A sustainable, clean economy

The ministry works to reduce greenhouse gas pollution, support clean and diverse economic development, and assist British Columbians to prepare for a changing climate.

Objective 3.1: Provide a pathway for B.C. to prosper economically while significantly reducing our greenhouse gas pollution.

Timely implementation of provincial climate policies and programs are expected to achieve significant progress towards our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets while supporting affordability and business competitiveness.

The Ministry will continue to monitor progress on its climate and clean energy policies and programs.

Key Strategies

- Identify innovative ways to help us meet our carbon emission goals in a manner that reduces cost burdens for B.C. families and businesses, grows our economy, and positions us for trade diversification and expansion in light of growing global economic and political instability and supply chain cost inflation.
- Continue making progress towards the GHG emissions reduction targets legislated under the Climate Change Accountability Act by:
 - working with the Climate Solutions Council to obtain strategic advice on climate action and clean economic growth establishing a new net-zero GHG emissions target for 2050; and
 - publishing annual accountability reports as required under the [Climate Change Accountability Act](#).
- Continue implementing the [B.C. Output-Based Pricing System](#) to replace the [Industrial Incentive Program](#), which encourages emissions reductions and promotes a competitive business environment.
- Develop policy and measures to require new large industrial facilities to have credible plans to be [net-zero GHG emissions](#) by 2050 (or 2030 for new, large liquefied natural gas facilities that are in or are entering into the environmental assessment process), and address government's 2030 and 2040 legislated targets.
- Establish policies that will reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector by 75% by 2030 (as compared to 2014 levels) and achieve near elimination of industrial methane by 2035.
- Work with the federal government to cap emissions from the oil and gas sector while attracting investment from producers that use best-in-class emissions reduction technology, create jobs for local workers, and build partnerships with First Nations; and

- Continue collaboration with proponents and First Nations to further development of new projects under the [Forest Carbon Offset Protocol](#) and finalize the [Carbon Capture and Sequestration Protocol](#) to accelerate climate action policy in B.C.

Objective 3.2: Effective management of the risks and consequences associated with a changing climate.

Climate change is already causing significant impacts to British Columbia's environment, communities, and economy. Adapting to a changing climate and managing climate risks effectively is key to maintaining a robust economy, healthy ecosystems, and safe communities.

Key Strategies

- Coordinate implementation of provincial climate adaptation strategies that support a thriving and healthy province that is resilient to a changing climate.
- In partnership with [Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness](#), complete a provincial disaster and climate risk and resilience assessment that is co-developed with Indigenous Peoples, applies an equity lens, and builds on local and regional input.
- In partnership with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, assess climate resilience priorities and options in light of evidence emerging from risk assessments and other sources.
- Build community and government adaptation capacity and resilience, including partnerships with First Nations.
- Further develop a climate risk reporting program that meets the requirements of the [Climate Change Accountability Act](#).

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	24/25 Forecast	25/26 Target	26/27 Target	27/28 Target
3.2 Develop provincial and regional risk assessments	<p>1. In partnership with Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Resilience (EMCR), continue development of the provincial scale DCRRA and</p> <p>2, Initiate regional scale DCRRA in partnership with EMCR and in collaboration with First Nations Partners</p>	<p>1. Complete and publish the provincial scale DCRRA in partnership with EMCR</p> <p>2. Continue Development of regional scale DCRRA in partnership with EMCR</p>	1. Continue development of regional scale DCRRA	1. Continue development of regional scale DCRRA

Data source: Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, manually compiled.

¹ Targets for 2026/27 will be determined in future service plans and is dependent on continued funding beyond 2025/26.

Performance Measure 3.2 tracks progress toward completing provincial and regional Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessments (DCRRA). The Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions will support the [Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness](#) in this work.

The [Climate Change Accountability Act](#) requires the Province to assess and report on climate risk every five years. A preliminary climate risk assessment was released in 2019. The first legislated climate risk assessment is required by 2025. The Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk and Resilience Assessment (DCRRA) will include an assessment of climate risk and will fulfill this initial requirement. Subsequent regional disaster and climate risk assessments will add further detail and region-specific climate risk assessment to the information provided through the Provincial DCRRA.

Financial Summary

(\$000s)	2024/25 Restated Estimates ¹	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
Operating Expenses				
Climate Action	19,064	19,273	19,273	19,273
CleanBC Program for Industry and BC- Output Based Pricing System	5,661	5,661	5,661	5,661
Energy Decarbonization	37,651	37,784	37,784	37,784
Electricity and Utility Regulation	3,206	3,287	3,287	3,287
Energy Resources	18,821	18,941	18,941	18,941
Executive and Support Services	5,321	5,885	5,885	5,885
First Nations Clean Energy Fund	8,375	10,359	9,714	9,919
Innovative Clean Energy Fund	11,768	10,905	8,735	8,735
Total	109,867	112,095	109,280	109,485
Capital Expenditures				
Executive and Support Services	1	3	3	3
Total	1	3	3	3
Other Financing Transactions				
Climate Action Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets				
Disbursements	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Receipts	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
British Columbia Energy Regulator				
Disbursements	53,600	54,510	55,580	58,100
Receipts	(53,600)	(54,510)	(55,580)	(58,100)
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Total Disbursements	63,600	64,510	65,580	68,100
Total Receipts	(53,600)	(54,510)	(55,580)	(58,100)
Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

¹ For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2024/25 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2025/26 Estimates.

* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).

Appendix A: Public Sector Organizations

As of February 20, 2025, the Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions is responsible and accountable for the following organizations:

[BC Energy Regulator](#)

The BC Energy Regulator is a single-window regulatory agency with responsibilities for regulating oil, natural gas, hydrogen, methanol, ammonia, carbon dioxide storage and renewable geothermal operations in B.C. The BC Energy Regulator regulates activities from exploration and development to pipeline transportation and reclamation.

[BC Hydro](#)

BC Hydro is one of the largest electricity suppliers in Canada, generating and delivering electricity to 95 per cent of the population of B.C., and serving over four million people.

[Columbia Basin Trust](#)

The Trust is mandated under the *Columbia Basin Trust Act* to manage its assets for the ongoing economic, environmental and social benefit of the region. It is also mandated under the Columbia Basin Management Plan to include the people of the Basin in planning for the management of the assets and to work with others to coordinate activities related to the purpose of the Trust.

[Columbia Power Corporation](#)

Columbia Power Corporation (Columbia Power) is a Crown corporation wholly owned and controlled by the Province of British Columbia, existing under the *Business Corporations Act* and reporting to the Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions.

Columbia Power is located in Castlegar, near the mountains and valleys that characterize the Columbia Basin. The company owns and operates hydro power projects in the Basin.

Appendix B: Minister Mandate Letter



January 16, 2025

Honourable Adrian Dix
Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and
Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Dix:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions and Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs at a critical time for our province. Serving as a member of the executive council is a privilege and responsibility which I am confident you will fulfill with integrity and a commitment to the people of our province.

British Columbians have trusted us with a mandate to deliver for them in ways that make a tangible difference in their daily lives. They expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and work together to make things better for everyone.

Specifically, we will tackle the challenges people worry about at the kitchen table:

- **Grow the economy by creating good jobs across British Columbia.** We will collaborate with businesses, workers, and communities to attract investments in both new and traditional sectors as well as emerging sectors of the economy. This approach will bring certainty for business, security for workers, and generate the wealth needed to support the essential services British Columbians rely on.
- **Reduce costs for families** including by helping people access homes they can afford through support for first-time homebuyers, increasing the supply of rental housing stock, and stronger measures to crack down on housing speculation.

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- **Strengthen health care** by expanding access to family doctors and recruiting and training more health professionals, ensuring that every British Columbian can access the care they need, no matter where they live. We will also increase access to addictions treatment and provide help for people whose struggles require intensive supports.
- **Make our neighbourhoods and communities safer** by working with law enforcement and social agencies to address street disorder, crack down on organized crime, and do all we can to ensure repeat offenders stay behind bars.

Our commitment to take action on climate change remains foundational and will be key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples. Advancing reconciliation, implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and working in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests is the responsibility of every Minister.

Over this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy, and help keep costs low for British Columbians. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints, our climate targets, and the threat of American tariffs.
- Develop ways to ensure costs for energy remain low for people, including through access to home energy retrofits and innovative technology solutions.
- Work with BC Hydro, First Nations, and the renewable power industry through frequent competitive calls for power to increase and diversify BC's generation of electricity as the economy continues to grow.
- Help grow the profitability and success of our clean and low-carbon energy sectors by ensuring engagement and collaboration between business stakeholders and government policy makers, with particular focus on:
 - advocating against proposed tariffs from the United States and ensuring continued expansion of our energy export programs for the mutual success of British Columbians and our trading partners;
 - expanding global markets for our products to diversify and reduce trade risk; and,
 - preparing contingency plans for direct and indirect support of energy exporters, including BC Hydro, in the event the tariffs are imposed.

- Work with relevant ministries, First Nations, other governments, project proponents, and key stakeholders to dramatically accelerate permit approval for clean and low-carbon energy infrastructure across the province while preserving our world-leading environmental standards.
- Work with the federal government to cap emissions from the oil and gas sector while attracting investment from producers that use best-in-class emissions reduction technology, create jobs for local workers, and build partnerships with First Nations.
- Ensure BC Hydro is responsive to changing market conditions and demands for large load capacity from potential local and international investors to grow our economy and reduce our emissions while protecting residential ratepayers.
- Identify innovative ways to help us meet our carbon emission goals in a manner that reduces cost burdens for BC families and businesses, grows our economy, and positions us for trade diversification and expansion in light of growing global economic and political instability and supply chain cost inflation.

As you are aware, we have established an accord with the BC Green Caucus that supports our shared commitment to ensuring stable governance focused on delivering progress and tangible outcomes for British Columbians. The commitments in that accord complement the direction in these mandate letters.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

The work we have ahead takes place in a profoundly challenging geopolitical environment. Close friends and neighbours to our south are contemplating imposing draconian tariffs on our products that would hurt both Americans and Canadians. Our allies internationally face governmental instability. Hate and racism are on the rise around the world. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs with unclear implications and astonishing potential are announced daily. Global inflation, snarled supply chains, and war are threatening global economic growth and prosperity as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

We have an obligation to protect and defend British Columbians, as well as seize opportunities, in these uncertain times.

The good news is that we have everything we need to succeed, and we will succeed. British Columbia's people – our workers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists, and innovators – are among the most talented in the world. We are home to world-class educational institutions and public services. Our natural beauty is unmatched, we have internationally envied resources, and we are one of the most diverse places on the planet. Your job is to help us leverage these advantages in perilous times.

Use this mandate letter to guide your work, and do not be afraid to challenge assumptions, or be innovative, bold and aggressive in achieving the goals set out for you and your Ministry by the people of this province.

Thank you for joining me in the work ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC
Premier