



MEDIA RELEASE

Saskatchewan Mining Association supports province's request to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal seeking clarification on constitutionality of federal government's carbon tax legislation

April 25, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Regina: The Saskatchewan Mining Association (SMA) supports the Government of Saskatchewan action, announced earlier this morning, asking the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal to answer the question on the constitutionality of the legislation the federal government has introduced to impose a carbon tax on the province.

While the Saskatchewan mining sector is a very minor contributor of total provincial GHG emissions (3%), it is very important for our sector to get clarity on this question, given the significant impact it will have on mining operations. The federal *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act (GGPPA)* as proposed would result in costs to the Saskatchewan mining industry in the order of hundreds of millions of dollars over the first five years that the Act is in force.

The Saskatchewan mining sector is particularly sensitive to a price on carbon as it represents an additional direct cost for producers that international competitors aren't paying. "Ensuring the mining sector remains globally competitive is vitally important to contributing to Saskatchewan's quality of life," said Pam Schwann, SMA President. Saskatchewan mining companies are already global leaders in the management of GHG emissions and as a source of clean baseload power, uranium from Saskatchewan mines plays a significant role in reducing global GHG emissions. "We need to be mindful that as we work to reduce GHG emissions, mining investments and jobs are not being exported to international jurisdictions such as Russia and Africa. These competitors do not have the robust environment and safety regulatory framework that exists in Saskatchewan and they do not pay a carbon tax."

The SMA encourages the federal government to work closely with the Government of Saskatchewan to come to an arrangement whereby Saskatchewan's Climate Resiliency Plan to address climate change would be "accepted" by the federal government. Schwann says, "Until the Court has provided clarity on the question of the constitutionality of the federal legislation, we ask that the federal government delay the implementation of the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act*".

About SMA

Saskatchewan Mining Association is an industry-driven organization representing the mining and mineral exploration industry in the province.

SMA advocates on behalf of members on issues related to provincial and federal regulatory changes, develops and supports educational outreach programs, and organizes and hosts public outreach and membership events. Please visit <http://saskmining.ca/>

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